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Artie recently lost half of his customers to competitors. One of his estranged staffer robbed him of the customer transaction database stored in office server and sold them off to his competitors. Server was tightly secured from online threats. However, it was accessible to staffs over FTP; and that was the hole. That guy skimmed off a large part of it through USB drive. Artie can't do anything now and he can't even sue that thief.

Artie could have saved his fortune if he had taken proper data loss prevention measures in time.

Your IT framework is vulnerable to all sorts of risks related to data loss. Generally we face 5 types of data loss.

1. Due to deliberate or intentional action
2. Due to unintentional or unplanned action
3. Due to system related failure
4. Natural calamities and disasters
5. Crime

We cannot help enterprises and individuals with intentional loss. Training and clear computing knowledge would offer better data protection from unintentional loss, caused by mishandling of storage and system.

You can simply protect data from systemic failure by taking regular back up of data at different independent server locations. That will allow you to retrieve data from other locations if one fails. Natural calamities are beyond our control; systematic back up can protect your data from this problem too.

However, data crime is cropping up as the most challenging problem of data loss everyday. The common tricks criminals practice to steal data are,

1. Theft, sabotage and hacking
2. Infecting systems with malicious software; better known as malware.

Malware can enter your system in different routes. You open a tainted email and it infects your personal system immediately. There from it starts spreading tentacles. USB drives are another vulnerable route. You access the system or allow others to access with already infected USB drive and end up welcoming malware to your network. There are too many vulnerable end-points today in our office networks that can seriously threaten data security.

Solution is efficient and well planned data loss prevention system or DLP. Do you own a small home based office? Secure your stand alone system with suitable DLP. In case you manage a network of PCs running 24X7 hours, you can rely on more advanced enterprise standard DLP. There are 3 types of DLP you can rely on depending upon your need,

1. Network DLP

2. Storage DLP

3. Endpoint DLP

For more on this issue you can visit Checkpoint, Trendmicro and www.dataresolve.com. They offer complete endpoint security solution for data protection.

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[Yogita Bali](#) - About Author:

Author's Bio: Yogita has penned down different write-ups on technology & software. In this article she briefly describes many things concerning a [data protection](#).

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