


TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP BASICS

for Government Policy Makers and Managers

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WHAT GOVERNMENT LEADERS THINK ABOUT:

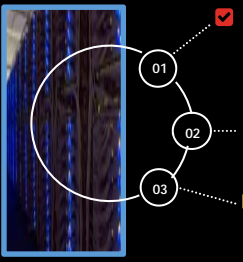
- Why am I constantly being asked to spend more money on IT?
- Is our system secure from hacking?
- Who would try to hack us anyway? We are a small government.
- How can I be expected to make decisions on complicated technology?
- How should we be managing our Facebook account?
- Why don't my IT guys take care of the risks?"
- How can technology screw up my re-election?

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TECHNOLOGY IS EVERYWHERE
DATA IS SOMETHING

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TECHNOLOGY IS HARD

It's constantly evolving

- Creates uncertainty – managing uncertainty is harder.

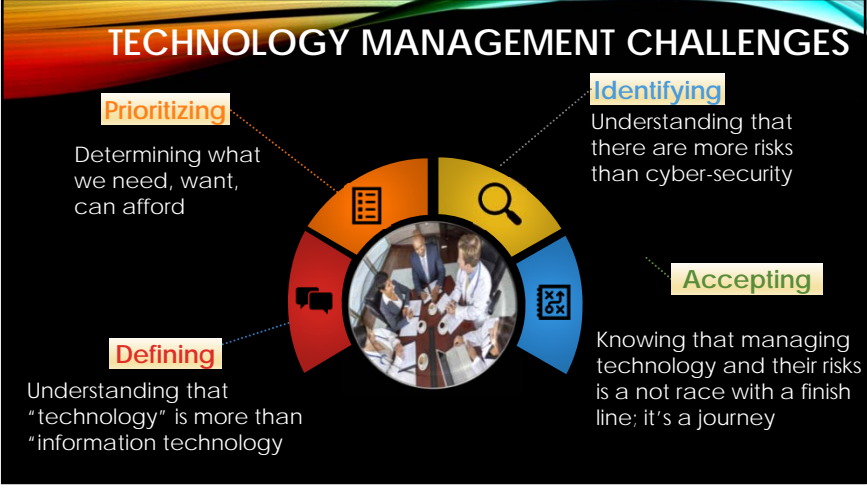
Integrating new technologies into a government environment

- Competition for time and attention of leaders concerned with a lot of other issues

Dynamics that work against long-term planning

- "We can defer that purchase for another year, can't we?"

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WHAT ARE CYBER SECURITY RISKS?

 Theft Criminals use every tool available to get information they can monetize: passwords, PII, email addresses	 Network Access They infect with ransomware, use your system to attack others (botnet)	 Everyone No target is too big or too small; targeted and random
 Limit access They disrupt operations, compromise the agency – ransomware!	 Financial Harvesting logons and passwords leads to identity theft, financial compromises	

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AND COMPLICATED BY...

- Limitations On Resources of
 - Time
 - Attention
 - Money
- Endless barrage of news and marketing, that...
- Promotes fear, uncertainty, and doubt...
- And creates confusion

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THIS MEANS THAT TECHNOLOGY...

 Is Constantly Changing	 Has Risks to manage	 Costs Time, Attention & Money	 Requires Expertise	 Needs a decision-making process
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SO HOW DO WE GO ABOUT MANAGING THIS?

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BY BECOMING A TECHNOLOGICALLY PROFICIENT ORGANIZATION

Which is an organization that:

- ...Understands its technology needs
- ...Is assured that the technology will work when it needs to, including routine and emergency situations
- ...is protected against tech-generated risks, including protecting and responding to cyber threats

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MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY STANDARDS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL PROFICIENCY

Do you meet them? If not, start moving!

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BUT FIRST.,

Do you meet the rock-bottom, basic things you should not be without?

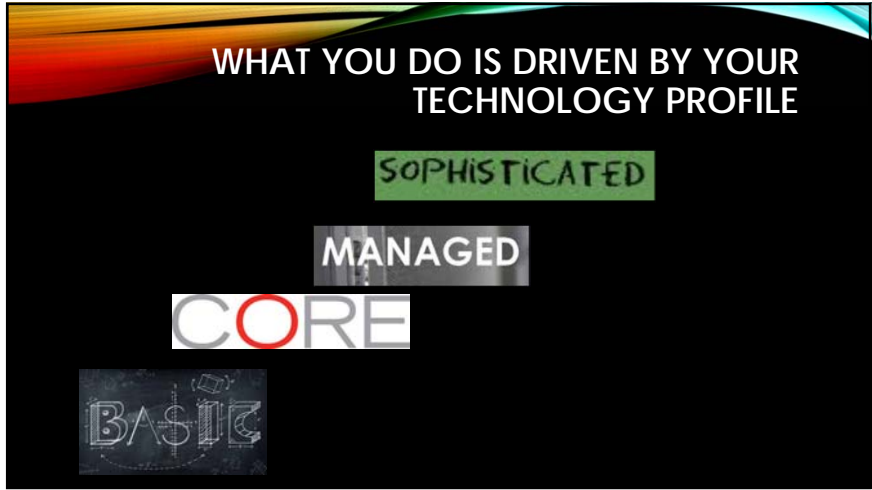
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YOU MUST HAVE...

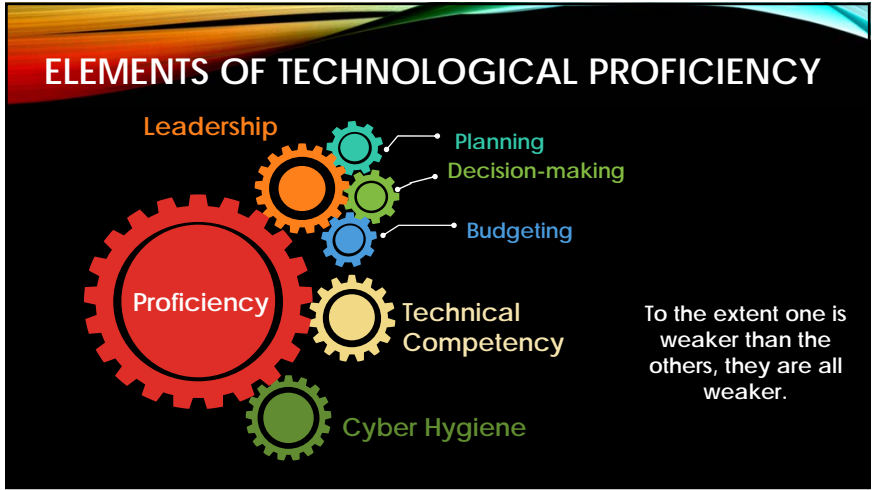
- System and data backups and assurance that they will work when you need them to; and,
- Someone you trust to give you advice on your technology.

- If you don't have both of these, you need to fix that first.
- Then you can start meeting (and exceeding) the minimum standards.

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REGARDLESS OF PROFILE, THERE ARE BASIC THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE

- Provide technology guidance concerning needs and risks to the organization (aka, planning).
- Plan, implement and manage applications to serve the organization's needs.
- Supervise information systems and communications network.
- Manage technology resources: human, physical, and fiscal
- Meet user support/training needs
- *And more, depending your profile*

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IMPORTANCE OF PLANNING

 **Planning**

- Process has to be led and have buy-in from senior management
- Plan over 1-3 years
- Set up a team

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THIS IS NOT A PLAN




DILBERT
By Scott Adams

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WHAT SHOULD BE IN A PLAN?


- Tech plans need an...
- **Inventory:** Know what you do and have
- **Evaluation:** apply what you learn to identify needs
 - Meet internal needs and those driven by citizens
- **Risk Assessment:** Are there poorly managed or unmitigated risks to manage?



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FILL THE GAPS

- **Conduct** a gap analysis
- **Identify** gap-filling options,
- **Establish** plan review cycle
- **How's your resiliency?**




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MAKE DECISIONS AND FUND THEM!




Decision-making

- **Set up** a process to balance needs, wants, and capacity
- **Meet** Minimum Technology Standards
- **Make** decisions



Budgeting

- **Link** planning and decision-making to budget cycle
- **Think** 1-3 year plan
- **Consider** operating vs. capital spending challenges



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THERE'S MORE: THE OTHER MINIMUM STANDARDS



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CYBER HYGIENE BASICS:

- Train (and retrain) employees in safe cyber hygiene
- Adopt policies to make sure
 - Sensitive Information is protected
 - Appropriate password use
- Network with experts
 - Join MS-ISAC, the NJ-CCIC and GMIS!



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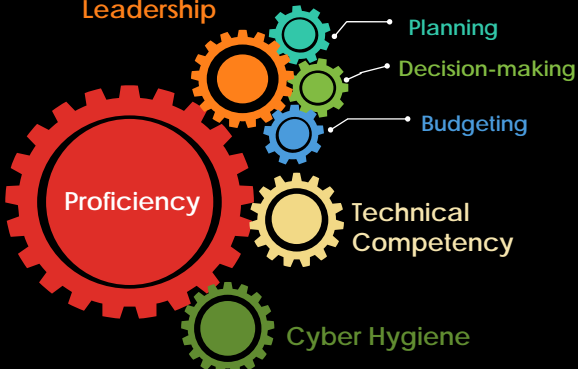
ENABLE TECHNICAL COMPETENCE



Sound backup regimen	Servers and devices are patched
Defensive software installed	Access to servers is controlled
Least privilege policies in place	Support is available
An incident response plan that works	Infrastructure capacity exceeds needs

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THEN IT ALL COMES TOGETHER: TECHNOLOGICAL PROFICIENCY



And there's much more that sophisticated or higher risk places can do. This doesn't end; it just evolves!

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DO YOU MEET THE MINIMUM?

- **Great...**now you can do more and reduce risks even more:
 - Do risk assessments of your third-party providers who have access to your network
 - Conduct a full inventory of your devices and software; and refresh it at least annually
 - Secure internet usage with filters and white listing of applications
 - Limit social media access to those who need it
 - Implement wifi controls over segmented networks
 - Ramp up technical training of tech staff and cyber hygiene training of everyone else
 - Formalize all critical policies
 - Apply the balance of the CIS Top 20 and implement a framework (larger places)

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Bloustein Local Government Research Center Products

MANAGING TECHNOLOGY RISKS THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL PROFICIENCY
Guidance for Local Governments

Use Date: 01 November 2015
Revised and Approved: Research Center

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SUPPLEMENT TO: MANAGING TECHNOLOGY RISKS THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL PROFICIENCY
Guidance for Local Governments

Use Date: 01 November 2015
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BEST PRACTICES AND RESOURCE GUIDES

Managing Technology Risks Through Technological Proficiency: A Leadership Summary

Research and Guidance for Local Governments to Assess and Manage the Risks Presented by Digital Technology

Prepared by:
Bloustein Local Government Research Center
Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
Rutgers University

501 316
New Jersey Municipal Excess Liability Fund Insurance Fund

TECHNOLOGY RISKS IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Bloustein Local Government Research Center for Technological Excess Liability Fund for NEW TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES

TECH CHALLENGE
Understanding what we need, what we don't need, when we do, how to manage it. Understanding that technology is never just software technology, but also includes specialized services, risks, responsibilities, and ethics. Understanding what risks are associated with that technology and how to manage them. Understanding what other risks that need to be managed and how to manage them.

THE 606 TECHNOLOGY RISKS

Cybersecurity
Operational
Legal
Financial
Reputational
Service

Understanding the importance of digital technology:
1. Digital technology presents a constant threat to the security of local government information.
2. Open source (often security based) software is often used and presents a constant threat to the security of local government information.
3. Open source (often security based) software is often used and presents a constant threat to the security of local government information.

Full details at <http://blousteinresearchcenter.org/technology>

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N.J. Municipal Excess Liability Fund (njmel.org): Cyber Risk Management Plan

NJ MEL Cyber Risk Management Program
Minimum Technology Proficiency Standards

Understanding the NJ Municipal Excess Liability Fund Cyber Risk Management Program: The program establishes a minimum set of technology proficiency standards and provides implementation guidance for all NJ MEL member municipalities. These standards are subject to periodic review and update as the needs of the state evolve.

Minimum Technological Proficiency Standards
Bloustein Local Government Research Center, Rutgers University

Subject	Requirement	Comment
Minimum backup practices	1. Daily incremental backups or the use of standardized system images or virtualized desktops, with at least 14 days of versioning on off-network device for data files	"Versioning" is where a backup system stores multiple copies of files going back in time. This permits a file encrypted by ransomware to be recovered by going to an earlier version of it.
	2. Weekly off-network full backups of all devices:	
	a. Use of non-versioned, synchronized cloud-based drives are not acceptable as backup solutions. Cloud-based drives used for backup must have a minimum of 14 days of versioned files	Cloud-based backup solutions include services such as Carbonite, Mozy, and Crashplan that include several weeks of versioning or similar ransomware protection.
	b. A full backup of non-networked/standalone (desk and laptop) computers must include all storage drives	Most Office 365 and Google Drive users have at least 14 days of versioning for data files; but it should be verified as being active before using it as a backup plan. If these are used, a separate backup or imaging plan for system and applications files must be in place.
	Alternative: consult with technology professional to assess and make recommendations for agency backup needs.	
	3. All backups are spot-checked monthly	
	4. Consult with third party application providers to ensure their data files are part of a backup practice	
Patch	Patch all operating and application software with latest versions as released (use automatic updating where practicable), particularly as related to security patches. Outdated or non-supported operating systems and software are not used	Security patches should be applied immediately unless testing shows the patch will create application problems. System administrators need to coordinate patch upgrades with applications residing on systems managed by third parties to ensure upgrades will not disable their applications.
Defensive software is used and regularly	1. For all desktops and laptops: antivirus, firewall enabled 2. Mail server: anti-spam and anti-virus filters	Microsoft Windows 10 includes a built-in firewall (as do earlier versions) and anti-virus software. Third

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QUICK PERSONAL CYBER HYGIENE DON'TS

- **Don't** click on links in email that is offering you something, or making you worried or concerned about an account you have; **Do:** Go to the website of the company separately and check your account.
- **Don't** open attachments from people you don't know, or were not expecting from people you do know; **Do:** If you know the sender, check separately with the sender to see if they sent it
- **Don't** open zip files from anyone you don't know - just delete it
- **Don't** open zip files from someone you know, unless you separately positively confirm with them they sent it
- **Don't** click on pop-ups; be careful on clicking on links on cluttered screens
- **Don't** click on text message links from people you don't know; or reply to people you don't know

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QUICK CYBER HYGIENES ALWAYS'S...

- ...Use lock screen on all devices, use a separate password manager, and use biometrics and 2-factor authentication whenever possible
- ...Use separate passwords for email and banking; work and personal
- ...Keep operating systems and apps up-to-date and set systems for automatic updates
- ...Be suspicious of any email that's not "normal." You probably don't need whatever it wants
- ...Run antivirus on all desk and laptops as a minimum and don't download apps from 3rd parties unless you know they are safe.
- ...Make sure you have some kind of backup plan, and test it periodically to make sure it works

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SOME PERSONAL TECH RESOURCES

- www.Malwarebytes.com
 - Excellent "freemium" software to keep your machine clean
- www.StopThinkConnect.org
 - US DHS site with security resources for all ages and groups
- <https://HaveIBeenPwned.com>
 - Can tell if you your email related password has been stolen
- <https://go.rutgers.edu/o230c0an>
 - Crash Course (YouTube) video series on "Navigating Digital Information"

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AND FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION...

- www.gmis.org
 - Professional association of public sector IT managers
- www.cyber.nj.gov
www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac/
 - NJ Cyber Communications and Integration Cell and MS-ISAC the free federal state/local IT security support groups
- OUCH Newsletter (search for it)
 - SANS Institute free monthly employee cybersecurity newsletter and Security Awareness Tip of the Day

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BEST TECH PRODUCT RESOURCE/REVIEW SITES: WWW.

- pcmag.com
- thewirecutter.com
- tomsguide.com
- theverge.com/reviews
- cnet.com/reviews/

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AT-HOME BACKUP CHALLENGE

- You need to backup because bad things can happen
 - Cloud backup backs up files constantly, and can do system back-ups
- You need a plan based on what you store at home, what you keep in the cloud, and your skills.
 - Local storage needs an external hard drive and good software
- Backup your operating system and data files automatically
 - Phones and tablets: sync to a home computer, or enable online/cloud backups (may have small cost)


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SAMPLE ONLINE BACKUP SERVICES


- Acronis
- Backblaze
- iDrive
- Carbonite
- Mozy
- For data files/images only: Microsoft Live and Google Drive

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FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION & COMMENTS



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More Information

- Technology Risk Management Papers
- Find them online with a web search for "Bloustein Technology Risk"

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