WIRED for the FUTURE

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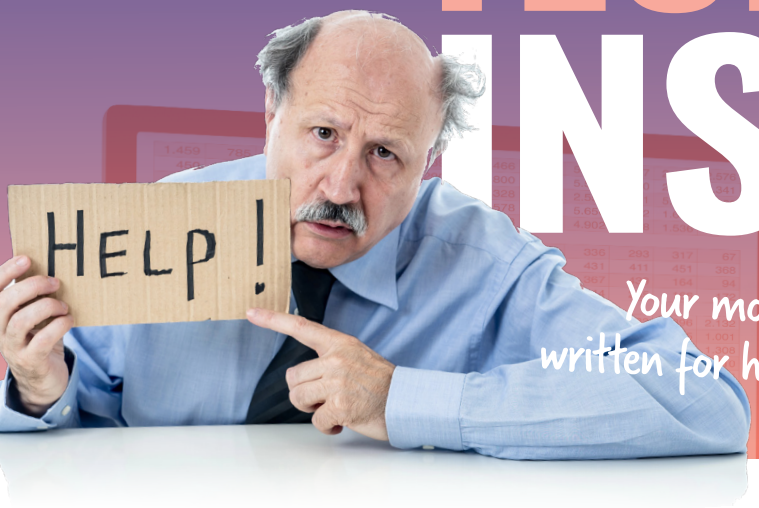

Your monthly newsletter, written for humans not geeks

Can tech cure **your team's "data dread"?**

You've just wrapped up a busy week and your team shares the latest report. It's packed with numbers, spreadsheets, and charts.

But instead of feeling excited about what the data could reveal, your heart sinks.

Where do you even start?

This is a growing challenge for businesses of all sizes.

New research shows that while companies are gathering more data than ever, most employees don't feel confident using it.

In fact, almost 9 out of 10 people now handle spreadsheets daily. But over a quarter say they'd avoid them if they could.

And this isn't just a dislike of spreadsheets. It's what experts are calling "data dread." People feel anxious, not because they don't care, but because the tools and training they've had so far haven't helped them make sense of it all.

Good news: Technology can help. This is where modern tools can make a real difference.

Today's best data tools don't only crunch the numbers. They're designed to help ordinary people - not just analysts - turn those numbers into clear, meaningful insights.

For example, many platforms now let you build charts, graphs, and dashboards with just a few clicks, making it easier to spot patterns and share findings with others.

And because visuals are often easier to understand than rows of figures, your people feel more confident presenting their ideas and making decisions.

What's more, the latest tools don't expect everyone to master complex formulas or wrestle with clunky spreadsheets. Instead, they focus on user-friendly features that guide people through tasks and highlight what's important.

That means less time fiddling with data and more time acting on it. Boom.

Your business doesn't need to turn everyone into a data scientist. But with the right tech tools, you can help your team stop fearing data and start using it to power smarter decisions.

We can help you find the right tools to help your people get over the data dread.
Get in touch.

DID YOU KNOW... to be cautious of resumes?

Scammers are posing as jobseekers on LinkedIn to target business owners with dangerous malware.

They create fake profiles and realistic resume websites that seem safe but are designed to trick people into downloading a hidden backdoor called "More Eggs."

This malware can steal passwords, run commands, and install more malicious software. It's a sophisticated scam that relies on gaining trust first.

So, if you're hiring, be cautious about clicking on resume links or downloading files from people you don't know.

Get to know your artificial intelligence: Generative AI vs. Agentic AI

Artificial intelligence seems to come with a new buzzword every week. You'd be forgiven for getting lost among the jargon.

Generative AI… agentic AI… large language models… it's no wonder many business owners feel overwhelmed.

But at the heart of it are two types of AI that could change how businesses like yours work:

- **Generative AI**
- **Agentic AI.**

And no, they're not the same thing.

Generative AI is the type most people have come across by now, such as ChatGPT. Simply put, it creates something when asked, whether that's writing text, generating images, or summarizing reports.

It's great for saving time on routine tasks. But it's reactive. It waits for instructions. You ask, it delivers.

Agentic AI takes things further. This is AI that doesn't just wait for a prompt, it acts. Give it a goal, and it can figure out what to do, plan the steps, and get on with the job.

Imagine AI that helps reduce customer churn by spotting patterns in data, testing ideas, and even launching follow-up campaigns, all without your constant input.

Both types of AI can be powerful tools for businesses:

Generative AI boosts productivity by helping create content or ideas faster.

Agentic AI helps businesses work smarter by taking initiative and handling tasks more independently. But with that extra autonomy comes the need for more oversight. Agentic AI relies on good data and clear guardrails to make sure it acts in the right way.

So, is it for you?

Whether it's AI that creates or AI that acts, these tools can support your team and help your business run more efficiently… so long as they're used thoughtfully.

If you're interested in seeing how AI could boost productivity in your business, we can help.
Get in touch.

NEW TO MICROSOFT

Edge makes sharing passwords safer

Microsoft Edge for Business has a new feature to make shared passwords safer.

If your team has ever shared passwords by email or (we can't believe this still happens) sticky notes, this is for you.

The secure password deployment tool lets people log into approved websites with autofill. But they can't see, edit, or export the passwords. Everything is encrypted and tied to their work account.

So, you stay in control of who can access what. It's an easy way to keep credentials safe without making life harder for your team.

Q: Can we rely on email filters to stop phishing attacks?

A: Email filters help, but they're not foolproof. Staff training and awareness are just as important to stop someone clicking on a dangerous link.

Q: How long should we keep old employee accounts active?

A: You shouldn't. Unused accounts are a security risk. They should be disabled or deleted as soon as someone leaves.

Q: Is it OK if staff share logins for tools we only have one license for?

A: No. It's risky and could breach licensing agreements. It's better (and safer) to have proper accounts for everyone.

This is how you can get in touch with us:

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