THE HIDDEN RISKS IN YOUR DOCUMENT WORKFLOW:

WHY SECURING YOUR PRINT AND SCAN ENVIRONMENT IS CRITICAL FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

Canon

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THE REALITY OF THE MODERN BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IS ONE OF CONSTANT FLUX AND CHANGE. IT IS A RAPIDLY EVOLVING LANDSCAPE WHERE ISSUES ON COMPLIANCE, SECURITY, AND WORKFLOW PROCESSES CHANGE ALMOST QUARTERLY.

This shifting landscape has caused many companies to focus their attention on digital transformation and data protection, two crucial areas for any business looking to secure their data. However, this emphasis neglects an overlooked but equally critical part of your vulnerabilities: your print and scan environment.

As attackers continue to find new ways to steal data and crucial business information, securing your print and scanning infrastructure is a huge step towards maximum security for your business.

As workers continue to work both in the office and abroad, it is paramount that every facet of your business is secured, not just the main areas. This overlooked aspect of your security measures has already cost many businesses dearly and can affect your compliance. Protecting your business data, ensuring compliance, and maintaining operational continuity are vital for success.

This eBook will examine how unsecured print and scan environments can pose a risk to your business and explore why investing in resilient solutions is crucial for your business' continuity, brand reputation, and financial stability.

UNDERSTANDING THE DOCUMENT WORKFLOW RISKS

HOW VULNERABLE IS YOUR PRINT AND SCAN INFRASTRUCTURE?

We all know about the obvious points of entry for cyberattacks, your cloud systems, email servers, and web applications to name a few, but so many of us neglect another clear point of access. Your **printers, scanners, and document workflows** are all just as vulnerable to attacks. Many businesses neglect these areas, effectively leaving a high traffic area unsecured. With so many documents moving through your printers and scanners, anyone who has uninvited access to this undefended area could see hundreds of documents in a day.

Many businesses mistakenly think that print and scan infrastructure is a low-risk area, but the hard truth is that they are open entry points for **attacks, data leaks, and non-compliance fines**. Your documents contain sensitive information, everything from financial records and deal closures all the way to customer data. Without secure processes in place, you're putting this data at risk every time it moves from **creation to printing, scanning, or archiving**.

Without securing your document workflows, your business is at risk of:

- **Brand Damage:**
  46% of organisations have suffered reputational damage as a result of a data breach.
- **Data Leakage and Loss:**
  68% of businesses have experienced data losses in the last 12 months due to unsecure printing practices.
- **Unforeseen Costs:**
  On average, a data breach can cost an SME anywhere between £100,000 and £300,000.

THE FINANCIAL COST OF INACTION

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T SECURE YOUR PRINT AND SCAN ENVIRONMENTS?

The above risks are just the beginning. Ignoring the security of your print and scan infrastructure can lead to **devastating financial consequences** for your business. This cost of inaction has harmed many businesses who overlook this critical part of their business. The results are catastrophic, and can include:

Without securing your document workflows, your business is at risk of:

- **GDPR Fines:**
  The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) impose fines of up to €20 mission or 4% of global turnover, whichever is higher, for non-compliance.
- **Operational Disruptions:**
  A data breach can cause operational downtime of 8-12 hours on average, costing businesses like yours huge revenue and productivity losses.
- **Harmed Reputation:**
  52% of businesses report a loss of customer trust following a data breach, with the average cost of regaining that trust ranging from £50,000 to £150,000.

Securing your email and cloud is just the first step to fully defend your business. The cost of inaction is steep, which is why aware and savvy businesses are changing how they operate.

THE SHIFT TO ZERO TRUST SECURITY

WHY ZERO TRUST IS THE FUTURE OF DOCUMENT SECURITY

Businesses around the world are beginning to wise up and move towards an innovative approach to securing their devices. This new **Zero Trust Architecture** is a model that assumes no device or user, whether they work inside the organisation or outside it, is trusted automatically. Instead, only **authorised users** can access print and document infrastructure, dramatically reducing the risk of cyberattacks across their businesses. Gone are the days of letting any employee access printing and scanning infrastructure, and in its place is a new securer model built for the future of IT security.

Canon's Uniflow Online and 360 Device Security are built with this principle in mind. The Zero Trust model is applied here to separate printers and scanners from your core network. A handful of the key benefits to this approach include:

MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION:

Your business has the power to verify individual users and prevent any unauthorised access from inside or outside your organisation and across multiple locations.

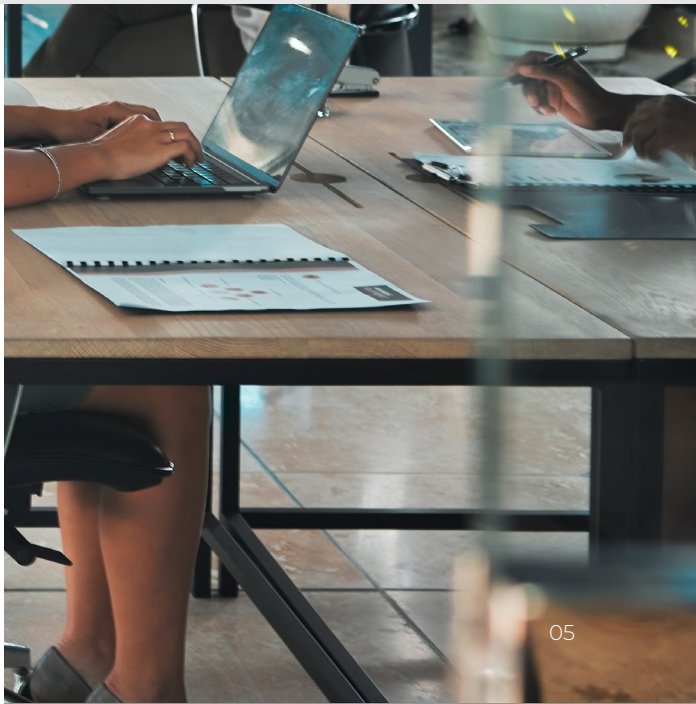
DEVICE LOCKDOWN:

Uniflow Online and 360 Device Security stops malware or ransomware from accessing your business through your printing infrastructure.

DOCUMENT ENCRYPTION:

Sensitive information remains entirely encrypted and stored throughout a document's lifecycle for maximum security.

By adopting a Zero Trust model, you can futureproof your business and your entire way of operating against the constantly changing threat landscape. Your business will be safe from internal and external threats by keeping your printing and scanning stations locked against all but your most trusted team members with the flexibility required for hybrid and remote working.



HOW CANON'S SOLUTIONS SAFEGUARD YOUR BUSINESS

CANON'S APPROACH TO TOTAL DOCUMENT AND DEVICE SECURITY

Canon's solutions are designed with a security first mindset at every stage to ensure your business remains fully compliant, defended, and efficient. Our solutions deliver a fully scalable and secure cloud-based software that adapts and grows with your business needs. If your team works remotely, in the office, or a combination of the two, Canon gives you a new approach to print and scan security without inhibiting your team's flexibility.

Uniflow Online and the 360 Security Suite offers you a comprehensive solution that:

PROTECT SENSITIVE DATA:

No matter what stage of your team is in, our solutions protect your data at every stage of the document workload both on premise and in the cloud.

FULL ENCRYPTION:

All your print and scan jobs are fully encrypted to prevent data leaks and keep your business fully compliant with GDPR regulations.

COMPLETE INTEGRATION:

Our products fully integrate with your existing business processes to enhance productivity while maximizing your security position.

With Canon, you can completely centralise the management of all your devices and ensure complete visibility into document usage and costs. More than that, by using Canon's suite of solutions to your benefit, you will meet the highest industry standards like ISO 27001. Everything you need to secure your printing and scanning infrastructure is included in one package ready to help your business move safely into the future.

STAYING COMPLIANT WITH CANON

AVOIDING THE PITFALLS OF GDPR AND OTHER REGULATIONS

As we mentioned above, the cost and risks associated with non-compliance are great. Security regulations like GDPR or the Cyber Resilience Act can lead to heavy fines, operational restrictions, and legal actions. Additional costs come from a loss of trust with your customers, loss of revenue and productivity, and additional unforeseen costs. For companies working in highly regulated environments like healthcare and education, data protection and non-compliance aren't a negotiable addition to your business, they're crucial aspects of your organisation.

Canon's certified security solutions are built from the ground up to help businesses like yours maintain compliance and avoid these costly penalties. By securing your printing and scanning infrastructure, you can save your business from unnecessary legal complications and reputational losses. And, as a bonus, Canon's solutions can fully integrate within your existing processes for ease of adoption across your entire organisation.

SECURE YOUR FUTURE WITH CANON

As we all know, a business is only as strong as its weakest link. For many SMEs, that link comes in the form of a printer. Document workflows are an often under supported security vulnerability that has already impacted countless businesses.

By investing in a secure, Zero Trust print and scan environment, you can protect your business against cyberattacks, safeguard your sensitive information, and maintain compliance according to your regulatory requirements.

Are you ready to reinforce your print and scan environments?

Contact us today to learn how Canon's Uniflow Online and 360 Device Security solutions can protect your business from risks while ensuring total business continuity into the future.

It's time to reinforce your weakest

Get in touch

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