

Physical controls

In our past articles, we have discussed the importance of firewalls, routers, and several other important security measures that help prevent those prying eyes out of your data. Another very important aspect of security is one of the more obvious ones: physical security. Physical security balances out everything. For example, imagine if you had a very expensive router, with all the best security on it, with no physical security on it. What's to prevent someone from just going up to it and simply plugging in an ethernet cable and doing all sorts of nefarious things on it (or just simply stealing it)? In this week's article we will dive in depth on some great physical controls you can implement to make your network more physically secure.

Help and Support

Help Desk

Homepage

The first (and easier of the physical controls) is user management. Educating your users to properly lock their computers when away, preventing other users from either messing around with documents they don't have access to or just to look at information they don't need to see. The term for looking at another user's screen is appropriately called shoulder surfing, and the best way to deal with it is either to invest in a privacy screen (so that you can't see the monitor unless you are looking directly at it), or just simply lock the screen when not in use.

Locks are another incredibly valuable tool. Having a key fob system on your more critical areas (such as server rooms), makes it much harder for malicious users to get in those valuable areas. Always being aware who is following you can help as well. A key fob doesn't help block users if people are letting them into restricted areas in the first place. Keeping locks on laptops at your workplace is a good solution for preventing thieves, and most laptops have built in loops for this purpose.

The last (but not least) physical control that shouldn't be overlooked is cameras. Not only are they a theft deterrent and detector, but in extreme cases, can be used in defense in case of lawsuit. However, with more and more technology today being connected to the internet, there is always the danger of someone snooping on your network, looking at cameras. Making sure your firewall and network security is up to par can help prevent this from occurring.

Syncing up your cybersecurity and physical security is paramount. These two compliments and support each other in numerous ways. Without a strong base on both, the bridge of security will fall.

If you have any questions about physical security, please give us a call at 509.433.7606 or submit a service request online at <http://support.simplepowerit.com/>