How to Empower Your Employees to Work Remotely

At Sharp, the health and well-being of our customers, employees and communities is our top priority. We understand the concern and uncertainty you may be experiencing surrounding the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, and we are committed to being responsive to the needs of our customers and associates as the situation progresses.

We wanted to share a few IT Security tips and best practices that your organization can take advantage of to stay productive, while empowering your staff to work remotely without jeopardizing the security of your company’s IT infrastructure.

- **Use a VPN to access the office network**
  A VPN connection can help provide a more secure connection to your company’s network and the internet, if you’re working remotely. Make sure your remote workers have up-to-date antivirus software on the computers from which they are connecting and that a good Firewall is in use when possible.

- **Move your files & Microsoft Office applications to the cloud with Office365**
  Because Office365 is entirely cloud-based, email and Office programs (including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.) can be accessed from any location and any device. Document repositories like SharePoint and OneDrive ensure your data is easily accessible and secure.

- **Enable Multi-Factor authentication to your online accounts**
  Multi-factor authentication is an authentication method in which a user is granted access only after successfully presenting two or more pieces of evidence to an authentication mechanism – usually an additional code needs to be entered after entering your password.

- **Use a Password Manager**
  At a basic level, a Password Manager is a service that allows people to secure all of their account log in information with one master password. The biggest advantage it offers to remote workers is secure access to every password they need, from anywhere they are.

- **Consider protecting your staff’s home computer against Ransomware**
  Now that your employees will be accessing company data from their personal devices, it’s important to protect those devices against malware as well. Modern security solutions include next-generation protection that works in tandem with traditional anti-virus to further protect your computer.