

Responsive Technology Partners

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RESPONSIVE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS, INC. TO PARTICIPATE IN GREATER VIDALIA® CENTER FOR RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Greater Vidalia® Chamber held a groundbreaking ceremony at Ronnie A. Dixon City Park in honor of the new Greater Vidalia® Center for Rural Entrepreneurship on Monday April 17th. The large gathering included the Greater Vidalia® Chamber team and board members, local business owners, as well as elected officials and community members.



(Pictured L-R: State Senator Blake Tillery; Sean Moxley, President, Garbutt Construction; Toombs County Commissioner Chair David Sikes; City of Vidalia Mayor Doug Roper; Matt Richardson, Pre-Construction Manager, Garbutt Construction; Kevin Palmer, Architect, DPR Architecture; Michele Johnson, President/Executive Director, Greater Vidalia® Chamber/Toombs County Development Authority; Toombs County Development Authority Chair Tim Truxel; Representative Leesa Hagan, Greater Vidalia® Chamber Chair Mike Hagan; and Steven McComas, CEO, Responsive Technology Partners)

“This is a milestone day in rural Georgia,” said Steven McComas, MPA, MBA, CPA, CGMA and CEO of Responsive Technology Partners, Inc. Four years ago McComas, along with Michele Johnson, President of the Greater Vidalia® Chamber / Toombs County Development Authority, jointly developed the vision to construct a regional center that fosters, promotes and accelerates existing and new start-up businesses through incubation, coworking, mentorship and funding and strategic support in rural Southeast Georgia. With the unwavering support from the State of Georgia, City of Vidalia, The Greater Vidalia® Chamber, Toombs County Development Authority, and area private sector companies, the historic groundbreaking took place.

“Six years ago, Responsive Technology Partners started its humble beginnings in Vidalia, Georgia. With the mission to provide world-class customer service through industry-leading IT solutions that make every customer feel as if they are our only customer, RTP has been blessed to grow throughout the Southeast. Clearly, with a defined vision, mission, core values and business plan, one can start and grow a business from anywhere. That is why today I am pleased to announce our Southeast Georgia RTP team will be a prominent tenant in this visionary Center with goals of growing its talented engineering staff to work not only on area projects but also with those clients around the United States remotely,” said Mr. McComas.

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"With the continued flight of hometown young talent to urban opportunities, the Center is a place where our best will see a true chance to stay home, start/grow a business and raise their families in our region. 97% of all State of Georgia businesses employ fewer than 50 workers. Furthermore, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, approximately 50% of small businesses fail within the fifth year. Our prayer is that this new facility will foster required resources to positively address these facts to deliver a vibrant economic activity in the Greater Vidalia region," said Mr. McComas.

The groundbreaking ceremony included speakers John Koon, Emcee/Greater Vidalia® Chamber Chair 2021; Tim Truxel, Toombs County Development Authority Chair 2023; Mike Hagan, Greater Vidalia® Chamber Chair 2023; Doug Roper, Mayor, City of Vidalia; David Sikes, Chair, Board of Commissioners of Toombs County; State Representative Leesa Hagan; State Senator Blake Tillery; Michele Johnson, President/Executive Director, Greater Vidalia® Chamber/Toombs County Development Authority.

The Greater Vidalia® Center for Rural Entrepreneurship is a Southeast Georgia regional initiative designed to stimulate the establishment and growth of entrepreneurial companies by providing co-working, incubation, mentoring, technology tools, strategic support in a collaborative downtown environment. Future entrepreneurs can have direct access to the guidance and expertise of the Greater Vidalia® Chamber, the Toombs County Development Authority and IT technology provider Responsive Technology Partners, all of whom will be anchor tenants.

Atlanta Cyber Summit 2023



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THE HACKERS!

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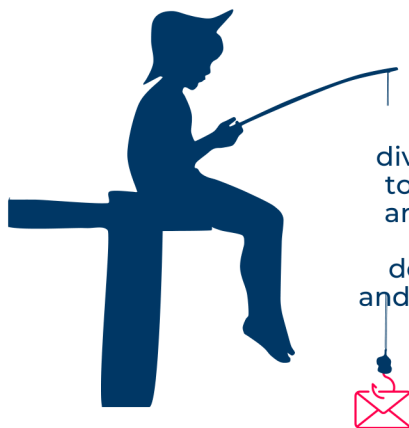
SUMMER CYBER SECURITY



Summer is full of travel, sun, and fun. However, traveling over such a busy season leaves you vulnerable to cyber-attacks if you don't take precautions. This summer, avoid cyber-attacks by following this guide.

1. Never Use Public Wi-Fi

Public Wi-Fi leads to unexpected cyber-attacks. Hackers can gain access to information through the connection. To avoid cyber-attack, consider encryption. "Stick to apps with proper encryption, and if you only use websites with URLs that start 'https://', short for "secure HTTP". This scrambles the data before it leaves your laptop or phone, and (in theory) only unscrambles it after it reaches the other end." (Naked Security). This way, hackers can't access your data through wireless connection. Alternatively, use mobile hotspots and private networks to avoid public network cyber-attacks.

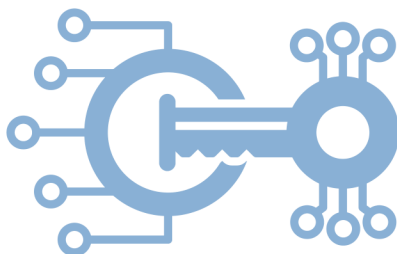


2. Beware of Phishing While on Vacation

Phishing is when a cyber-criminal poses as a legitimate source either through email, text, or phone call and tries to get you to divulge sensitive information. Always check the address or number to verify whether the source is legitimate. Check for spelling errors and other formatting discrepancies. This could be a clue that it is a phishing message. "For added protection, consumers can also download security protection such as Lookout, which can monitor and identify URL scams in email and text messages as well as on the internet." (Travel Pulse). Links can be malicious, so never click on them. Cyber hygiene is the best way to avoid phishing scams.

3. Pack Up & Back Up Everything Before You Go

Make sure that your data is properly stored before you leave home this summer. This prevents cyber criminals from performing ransomware, and also ensures that nothing is lost while you're away. "Backing everything up reliably before you set off also means you are free to strip down the amount of digital content you keep loaded on your devices, and thus to reduce the quantity of data you might have to declare or reveal at a border crossing." (Naked Security). This means your travels will be less stressful.



4. Encryption

Encrypting your data is the best way to prevent cyber-attacks. Its essential that your lock code is sufficient to keep hackers out and prevent them from accessing your data. "Pick a nice, long lock code (we recommend 10 digits or more, and we don't mean 00000 00000 or 12345 12345), and practice using it regularly for a few days before you leave, until you can remember it easily." (Naked Security). This way, your data will be locked away safely and won't be vulnerable during travel.

5. Do Your Research

Make sure that the destination you are heading to doesn't have any requirements regarding your data. Some requirements include the types of data you can bring into the destination. "Prepare yourself before you go by checking up on the entry requirements of anywhere you're planning to visit." (Naked Security). Don't bring all of your devices or data with you anywhere you go either.



With these steps your vacation will go cyber-smoothly this summer. Protect yourself and your data from cyber-attacks by being aware and having good cyber hygiene. Have fun and safe travels!

CONQUERING YOUR TO-DO LIST: 2 Reasons You're Not Making Progress

Have you ever gone to work and felt like you couldn't get anything accomplished? It's a problem that regularly plagues business leaders. You have a list of projects you need to complete, but the end of the day arrives before you can even make a dent. It can be difficult to pinpoint exactly what's preventing you from accomplishing your tasks, but some common culprits exist. Here, you'll find a few reasons why you can't get anything done at work and how to overcome them.

Out Of Sync Work-Life Balance

Working too much is bound to come back and haunt you. It might give you a substantial head start, but over time, you'll find difficulty focusing, and you may even experience the symptoms of burnout. Stop before it's too late and ensure you're giving yourself enough time to enjoy other aspects of your life.

Many business leaders have a hard time passing off tasks to other employees, but it's imperative that you delegate less important projects to other employees. It's hard to maintain focus when you have too many things to do. Allow your team to take control of certain tasks so you can focus on what's most important.

Too Much On Your Plate



HOW TO EXCEED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS AND CREATE LOYAL FANS

Strong customer service is at the core of every successful business. There may be times when it feels like you can't please every customer or meet every expectation, but there are things you can do to create a better chance to wow your customers. Perform these strategies well enough, and you may create lifelong, loyal customers.

Personalizing The Experience

Don't treat every customer the same. Build and develop a relationship through your interactions.

Having Fun With Your Work

Customers do not want to be helped by someone who acts as if they hate their job. Try to have fun while you work, as it will create a more enjoyable experience for your customers and co-workers.

Underpromising And Overdelivering

Many businesses promise their customers the world but fail to live up to expectations. Promise what you know you can do. Anything extra will appear as a pleasant surprise to your customers.