

## Life is Like a Box of Chocolates: Navigating Cloud Computing Risks

“Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you’re going to get.” Forrest Gump perfectly captured the essence of moving your business services to the cloud. Cloud computing offers benefits and surprises.

### The Sweet Benefits come with Bitter Risks

Moving all your services to the cloud, such as using Microsoft 365, offers the ability to work and collaborate from almost anywhere. Imagine the variety of chocolates in a box—each one offering a unique flavor and experience. Similarly, the cloud provides diverse tools and services that can enhance your operations. However, just like you might bite into a chocolate candy you don’t like, the cloud can also present some unpleasant surprises. Here are some potential security risks to keep in mind:

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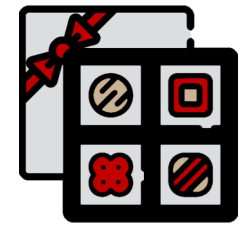
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**Data Breaches and Loss.** Storing sensitive business information in the cloud can be a target for hackers. If they get in, it could mean big trouble for your finances and reputation. Plus, there’s always the risk of losing data by accident or due to system failures, so having good backup solutions are necessary. Even more important is to consider employing innovative technologies that offer Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA Solutions) acting like a “firewall in the cloud” to limit/secure access to all your cloud services.

**Compliance and Legal Issues.** Keeping up with various laws when your data is in the cloud can be tricky. If you don’t comply, you could face hefty fines or legal issues. Make sure your cloud provider follows the necessary legal standards and protects your data properly.

**Insider Threats.** Employees or third-party vendors with access to your cloud services can accidentally or intentionally cause data leaks or misuse

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### Take Note

**February 26**

WEBINAR

Tech Talk:

Microsoft Teams “How Tos”

[www.it-radix.com/webinar](http://www.it-radix.com/webinar)

Starts @ 12:10pm sharp

Talk Nerdy to Me



Looking for some useful tips to make your tech experience productive and safe? Sign up here to receive our weekly tech tips directly in your inbox! [www.it-radix.com/tntm](http://www.it-radix.com/tntm)

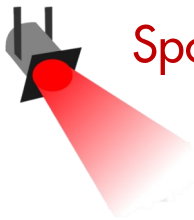
### Core Value: WOW Service

“Working with people to develop, maintain and support information technology in business is our passion. At IT Radix, we put that passion to work for you to ensure that you’ve got the right computer support solutions in place and are leveraging them to benefit you most.”

— Cathy Coloff,  
Owner, IT Radix

*Cathy*





## Spotlight on AI:

### RunwayML

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RunwayML is an AI-powered creative toolkit that enables users to easily create and manipulate media.

From generating realistic images to enhancing video content, RunwayML simplifies complex AI workflows for creators without requiring deep technical knowledge. It offers a range of tools, including video editing, text-to-image generation, and machine learning model integration, making it ideal for artists, designers, and marketers.

Whether you're a beginner or an expert, RunwayML provides an accessible platform to experiment with cutting-edge AI technology and bring your creative ideas to life more efficiently. It's transforming the way content is made in the digital age!

Reach out to IT Radix for more ways to make technology work for you.

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Proudly folded & sealed by Central Park School

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## Navigating Cloud Computing Risks

information. To prevent this, it's important to have strict access controls, regular monitoring, a cloud firewall and proper employee training.

**Downtime and Reliability.** Relying on cloud services means that any downtime or interruptions can affect your business operations. Even though providers like Microsoft 365 are pretty reliable, no system is perfect. Have backup plans to keep things running smoothly if something goes wrong.

**Email Account Attacks.** This is a huge risk. Cybercriminals target email through phishing scams, tricking users into revealing login credentials or clicking on malicious links. With access, they steal sensitive information, spread malware, or even impersonate the user to trick others. It's crucial to use strong, unique passwords, enable multi-factor authentication, and educate employees about recognizing phishing attempts.

### A Box of Chocolates

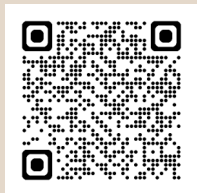
Just like a box of chocolates, cloud computing offers a mix of experiences. You might find a Milk Chocolate Truffle providing seamless collaboration, or a Dark Chocolate Caramel with robust data storage. But you might also bite into a nasty Peanut Cluster that turns into data breach. Be aware of these potential security risks and take steps to address them. Then you can enjoy the benefits of cloud computing while keeping your data safe and your business running smoothly.

Remember, just like in a box of chocolates, it's all about being prepared for whatever comes your way. Contact IT Radix today to ensure your business has sweet success.

## Security Spotlight: Managed Detection and Response (MDR) for M365

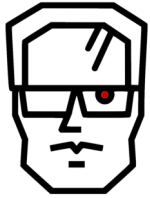


The #1 cyberthreat to businesses today is a compromised email. You need **Managed Detection and Response (MDR)**! It is the most effective cybersecurity service combining sophisticated technology with informed human expertise. It literally hunts for and investigates each threat, neutralizing and remediating in real time.



[www.it-radix.com/mdr](http://www.it-radix.com/mdr)

**Special Offer: Enjoy 50% off installation charges for MDR for M365 through 2/28/25**



We make IT work for you



## The Machines Are Taking Over

“The Machines Are Taking Over” is the ominous line from the movie, *The Terminator*. These days that means AI! Like most innovations, it’s both exciting and scary and will certainly revolutionize business. This is especially true in the Information Technology arena where AI carries both benefits and risks. With careful management, businesses will allow AI to propel stronger growth. Let’s dive into the perks and pitfalls:

### Awesome Benefits:

1. **Improved Efficiency:** AI minimizes staff involvement in routine, boring, repetitive tasks. This gives your team enhanced capacity to focus on the big stuff. This means heightened productivity, smoother operations, and happier employees!
2. **Better Decisions.** AI crunches vast amounts of data quickly, delivering game changing insights that help businesses make better and swifter decisions. That’s a win for SMBs with limited data resources.
3. **Reduced Costs.** By automating processes and reducing the need for manual intervention, AI can significantly cut operational costs. This is a crucial cost savings advantage for SMBs.
4. **Loyal Clients.** AI-powered chatbots and tools can help your customers 24/7, making them happier and more loyal.

### Risky Downsides:

1. **Privacy Concerns.** With AI systems handling tremendous amounts of sensitive data, the risk of data breaches and privacy violations increases. Robust security measures are vital.
2. **HR Considerations.** Automation may lead to job eliminations, particularly in routine, repetitive roles. It’s essential to continually retrain and upskill the team.
3. **Bias and Fairness.** AI systems can inadvertently perpetuate and reflect biases present in originating data. Keeping an eye out for any potential biases that might be inherent in your data and algorithms.
4. **Dependence on Technology.** Over-reliance on AI, like any technology, can increase vulnerabilities to system failures and other disruptions. Always have a backup plan!

AI is here, and the future is bright. By partnering with IT Radix, you can navigate these challenges. We’re here to ensure your business stays secure, efficient, and ahead of the curve. So, while “The Machines Are Taking Over,” they can be your best allies in achieving success. Let’s embrace this tech revolution together!

## Let’s Connect!

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Craig Ferguson, the comedian and talk show host, gave some great advice on communication that fits well with social media: “Ask yourself three things before you say anything:

- 1) Does this need to be said?
- 2) Does this need to be said by me?
- 3) Does this need to be said now?”

When you’re posting on forums, message boards, or commenting on any site, think about using a pseudonym. Avoid sharing the names of real businesses, clients, friends, or family. Just like a treasure hunter wouldn’t post a picture with the location of a huge gold find, you shouldn’t share any photos or documents with confidential, financial, legal, or other sensitive information.

Having a good social media policy at work now can save a lot of trouble later. IT Radix is here to help!

## Welcome!

A warm welcome to our newest Management and Support clients:

BNE Real Estate Group  
Emacx Systems, Inc.  
Greenberg & Company  
Tolerance Bio

Remember, **IT Radix** is here to service all of your technology needs!

## Inside This Issue

- How to enjoy the benefits of cloud computing while keeping your data safe and your business running smoothly
- The perks and pitfalls of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Enhance your media content with RunwayML

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IT Radix Family and Friends  
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Geekville, NJ USA

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*"The best thing to hold onto in life  
is each other."*

— Audrey Hepburn

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## Staying Secure in a Social Media World: Hey, Let's Connect!

In today's world, we're more connected than ever with social media, smartphones, and almost unlimited internet access. It feels like the world is smaller and more connected. We can build and maintain relationships, find like-minded friends, and share our thoughts and feelings in ways that weren't possible before. We stay updated with our friends and families using these apps, and it's literally changed how we communicate daily. Even simple posts can get lots of comments from people we don't know who might never say something to our face but feel free to comment online.

But is it all good? Like any big change, this interconnectedness isn't always sunshine and rainbows. The speed at which things can be shared should make us think twice before posting. Once something is shared, there's no turning back. There's no delete button, and in many ways, whatever is shared is forever. Nothing is private; everything is public and eternal. Something that feels great now might not feel the same later.

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