![Voice & Data Systems, Inc. logo]

Steve Sawtell
President

Voice & Data Systems Protects Customers with the Best First Line of Defense Against Cyber Attacks

Leading MTSP Implements Multi-Factor Authentication, which 72% of Organizations Lack

OMAHA, NE AND COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA – April 28, 2025 - Voice & Data Systems, a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), is reinforcing the critical importance of Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) to protect organizations from cyberthreats, employee error and network vulnerabilities. MFA is still the single most cost-effective solution to reduce network risk. In fact, according to a 2023 Microsoft study, 99.9% of compromised Office 365 accounts lacked MFA, whereas only 0.1% of the companies with MFA-enabled were negatively affected by a breach. The exponential returns for minimal security effort highlights MFA as an obvious cybersecurity solution for organizations. Voice & Data Systems is protecting businesses, institutions and non-profits alike by implementing this incredibly simple extra security step that can make a real impact.

MFA requires users to verify their identity with a second factor—like a code sent to their phone, a fingerprint scan, or a face ID—before logging in. This extra step makes it exponentially harder for hackers to break into accounts, even if they have a stolen password. Despite its effectiveness, most organizations still don't require it. Why?

- **Resistance to Change** – Organizations worry about adding an extra step to logins, fearing employee complaints.
- **Misplaced Confidence** – Many assume their passwords are already strong enough, despite the rise of sophisticated phishing attacks and credential leaks.
- **IT Providers Not Pushing It** – Most IT providers hesitate to enforce MFA.

"If you knew that putting a lock on your front door would prevent 99.99% of break-ins, would you voluntarily leave it unlocked? How often do you wear a seatbelt even though it's only 45-60% effective?," said Steve Sawtell, President at Voice & Data Systems. "The same logic applies to MFA. Yet, many businesses still don't enforce it, leaving their networks wide open to attacks. Even though people don't like added steps, this offers such a strong benefit to your organization that we believe your IT provider or IT staff are morally obligated to demand you enable 2-Step Verification. If you don't have MFA, you should reassess what caliber of IT support you actually have safeguarding your business."

While some users find traditional MFA methods slightly inconvenient, the technology is evolving to become even simpler. In the next several years, the user experience (UX) will improve through features like; biometric authentication – face scans and fingerprints replacing text message codes, touchscreen-based approvals – instead of typing a code, users will tap a button on their device, or password less logins. All of these will make it even simpler to prevent cyber-attacks.

"The good news is that MFA will only get easier and more seamless in the future," added Sawtell. "But until then, businesses still need to take action, now."

ABOUT VOICE & DATA SYSTEMS

Voice & Data Systems provides state-of-the-art technology solutions for businesses throughout the Midwest and Great Plains from their headquarters in Omaha, Nebraska. The company implements strategies and customizes solutions that are specific to their customer's requirements for Managed IT Services, Business Phone Systems, Surveillance, Access Control, Wireless and Cabling Infrastructure.

Voice & Data Systems serves a diverse customer base that includes Private Business, Commercial, Educational, Health Care, Public Utilities, Hospitality, Industrial, Utilities, Religious Entities, Local, State and Federal Government including the Military. Their mission is to provide specific technology solutions that increase their customers' profitability, improve employee productivity, and give them a competitive advantage in their marketplace. For more information, please call (402) 5719049 or visit www.voicendata.net.