

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION



DTI eSecurity News — Be Safe and Carry On

Devices Go Back to School



As summer begins to wind to a close, families are squeezing in a few more vacation days and the hallways at work are a little more quiet. As you shop back-to-school device sales, here's how to keep them safe.

Tablet/Laptop Safety for All

- **Treat Your Device Like Cash** - You wouldn't leave your wallet out in the open or let it out of your eyesight. The same should hold true for your tablet and other devices.
- **Use a Security Cable** - When traveling or working in a public place, attach your laptop with a security cable to something immovable or heavy like a desk or table.
- **Watch How You Carry Your Device** - Laptop bags are nice but make it clear what you're carrying. Backpacks can be a pickpocket's dream. Walking with your phone in hand, head down, makes it easy for anyone to snatch it. Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- **Don't Leave Your Tablet or Laptop on the Conference Table** - Sure, the conference room at the seminar seems safe with lots of fellow attendees always around...easy for anyone to blend in and walk out with your machine.
- **Don't Put Your Device on the Floor** - Not only are you making it available for thieves, it's easy to forget it's there and simply walk away. If you must take it off the table, put it back in your carryall.

Off to College

The Internet is forever and students need to be aware that posting inappropriate photos or videos might cause a future employer to question their judgement and select another candidate for a coveted internship or job. Social activities are a special part of the college experience but don't need to be posted all over the Internet.

Colleges often use social security numbers as student identifiers. While it's necessary to provide social security numbers on official applications/documents, students should take care to safeguard theirs'. Nothing makes a cyber scammer happier than to steal a social security number, opening the door to nearly all that person's data.

Free Wi-Fi at coffee shops, libraries and restaurants make these great places to hang out and study. However, free comes at the cost of security. Unsecured networks create the risk of identity theft and other personal information being stolen.

Look into specialized property insurance for students. These policies cover students whether they live in a dorm or an apartment in the U.S. or abroad. The companies offer deductibles as low as \$25, generally less than you'd get on a standard homeowners policy, and limits of more than \$25,000. They both have full replacement coverage, so you don't have to worry about depreciation.

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