




News & Events Winter 2021



A close-up photograph of a Christmas tree. The tree is covered in dense green needles. Warm white lights are strung throughout the branches, some in focus and some blurred into bokeh. A gold star ornament is visible on the right side of the frame. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue and white, suggesting a snowy or winter setting.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas from all at Wanstor!

**We want to wish you a wonderful festive period this December,
and a Happy New Year too!**

We can't wait to share more brilliant stories in the coming year about how we're helping customers, driving forward your missions and delivering brilliant IT solutions.

We look forward to chatting with you all in 2022!

Jobs 22 re-imagines its onboarding process

Here's an example of how we helped Jobs 22 feel at ease onboarding 200 people.

Jobs 22 is an ambitious new business founded by Catch22, drawing on over 200 years of expertise to build a new approach to assisting those who face career obstacles in finding jobs.

The Challenge

Rapid growth meant that Jobs 22 needed to onboard new staff quickly and efficiently.

The challenge for deploying devices to hundreds of new staff was to minimise logistics and avoid having to ship equipment to HQ, configuring with appropriate software and then couriering it out to staff.

The Solution

To re-imagine this process, Wanstor proposed the use of Microsoft's Zero Touch deployment services with AutoPilot and Intune. Configuring AutoPilot and Intune requires much less input and eradicates the need to build and maintain 'gold' images, which require constant updates and running SCCM or similar MDM solutions.

Find out more about how Zero-Touch solutions can help you maximise productivity across your business at the link below.

[Read the Case Study](#)



More than just a job

“With Wanstor’s expert help and guidance, we are able to do this remotely, in minutes. We were aware that such technology existed to make the IT equipment deployment process much simpler, and partnering with Wanstor enabled us to turn the concept into reality. Wanstor’s recommendations and advice were key enablers for this work and they did a superb job of getting this all set up for us.”

Ian Stockley

Director of IT, Jobs22

We're finalists for **Best Managed Services Provider** in the SDI Awards 2022!



We are delighted to share that we have been shortlisted amongst the final three in the Service Desk Institute Awards for Best Managed Services Provider for Small Enterprise.

We're delighted to have made it into the final three, and so proud that our hard work and excellent customer service has been recognised.

Keep your fingers crossed!



FINALIST
**BEST MANAGED SERVICE
PROVIDER 2022**
SMALL-MEDIUM
ENTERPRISE



Learn more with our TechTalks

Wanstor recently hosted a couple of TechTalks, covering Cyber Security and the importance of Cyber Essentials as well as delving into the Security and Compliance features on M365 and Azure.

You can watch our TechTalks on demand to learn more about how to secure your organisation in an ever-changing security landscape.



Optimising your Security & Compliance across M365 & Microsoft Azure

An overview of how you can utilise the security benefits of your M365 licenses to better secure your organisation.

[Watch it on demand here](#)



Secure your business with Cyber Essentials

An in-depth look at Cyber Security and the importance of Cyber Essentials with our customer Catch22, who delve into what their Cyber Essentials Plus journey involved and how we helped them get there.

[Watch it on demand here](#)

Microsoft Unbundled: Using M365 to drive your organisation forward

We're thrilled to announce we have our upcoming webinar on 27th January at 10:00am, where we'll take you through the benefits of using your Microsoft licenses to drive your organisation forward.

27th January 2021, 10:00 -11:00am

[Register here](#)

 **tech**talks
wanstor

Thr33 R@nd0m W0rd5

Password protection is something that has become increasingly important as companies across the world buckle down on their approach to cyber security.

But what is the best approach to ensuring your password is secure?

Wanstor's Information Security Consultant, Vlad Birgauanu, has some password advice - and what we might be about to say may concern you.

Ready? Using a standard word of about 12 characters in length and changing one letter to a number does not equate to a robust password. In fact, nowhere near. Don't rush off and change your password from 'P8ssword21' just yet, though.

"Passwords of 12 letters really don't cut it regardless of their complexity. They really need to be longer to fully protect your accounts," says Vlad, "The absolute best plan for a password is three random words and then a few special characters or numbers mixed in."

"Using three random words makes the password more memorable for the user which can start to become quite tricky when we are asking for more and more letters all the time.

"It also makes it easier to come up with a longer password, which absolutely makes a difference with regard to how easy it is to crack."

The trick with the three words is that they be totally random, so obviously no child, pet, car, or house names should be used - and the words should not be linked in any way. '*Carkettleastronaut*' is better than, say, '*dogcathorse*', and if you add in a few numbers and special characters, it's even better.

A good alternative to this is using a phrase or sentence you'll remember, but this phrase shouldn't be something that people could guess.

No teacher should use '*Idontevenlikechildren*' and dentists should probably stay away from '*idontevenfloss*'. As always, we urge everyone to ensure that you are making your passwords as secure as possible!

We're thrilled to announce that Wanstor is now Cyber Essentials Plus certified.

Cyber Essentials Plus is the highest level of security certification within the Cyber Essentials program, endorsed by the UK Government to demonstrate an organisation has appropriate protections against the most common cyber threats.

Being accredited means we have conducted a thorough audit of our technology, assets, processes and services, and ensured they are compliant with the standards defined within Cyber Essentials.

In recent years we've had a range of success stories taking customers through the Cyber Essentials journey, and we're now looking to help many become Cyber Essentials Plus certified as we help provide greater protection around the growing threats facing businesses.



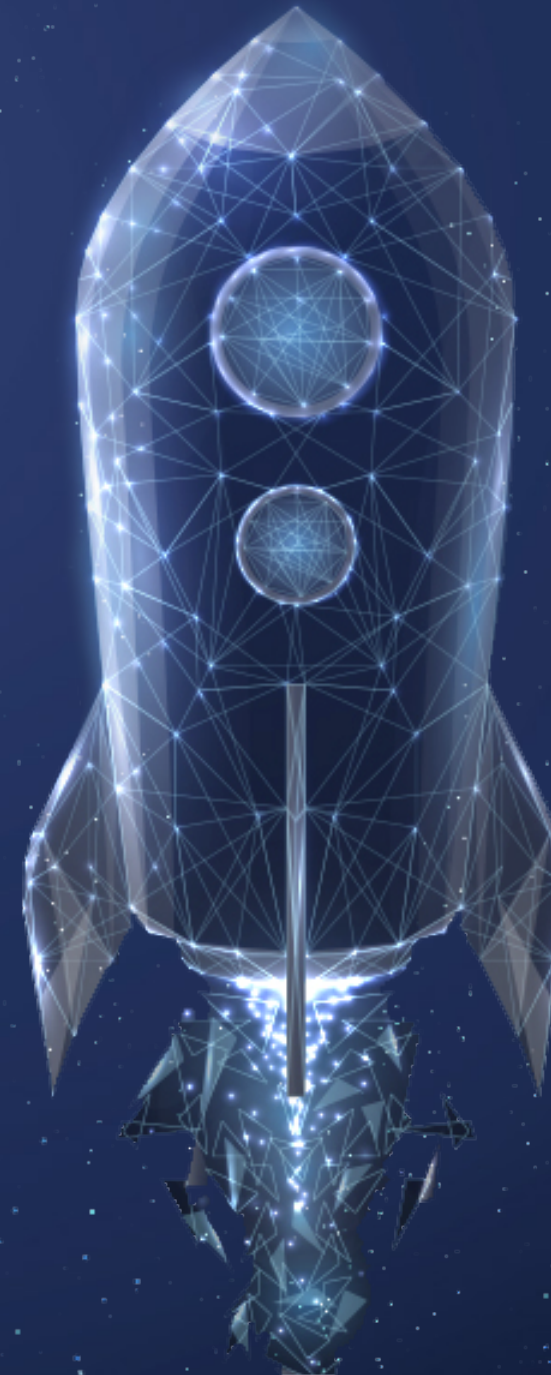
Richard Kuczma
CTO, Wanstor

"Wanstor's Cyber Essentials Plus journey has had a transformational impact on the security posture of our systems."



Wanstor is now Cyber Essentials Plus Certified

"Using the criteria as our guide, we've implemented better controls over data and improved processes to defend against cyber-attack."



"Whilst we've held the Cyber Essentials accreditation historically, Cyber Essentials Plus adds the step of an external audit, assuring customers that we've implemented and are following best practice for our systems."

"This status allows us to offer assessment of the Cyber Essentials Plus standard to other organisations, extending our ability to protect our customers."

"We recommend all businesses assess themselves against Cyber Essentials to protect against most common cyber threats."

Being Cyber Essentials Plus accredited provides further reassurance to your business and partners that systems and processes are independently verified as compliant."



We are proud to be part of Charity IT Leaders

Wanstor are thrilled to be Gold Sponsors of the Charity IT Leaders.

The organisation helps IT leaders within the sector drive forward their IT strategy and ensure they are getting the most out of their digital investments.

Charity IT Leaders (CITL) is the premiere IT and Digital Networking group for the UK charity and not-for-profit sector.

Their mission is to help make charities more efficient and effective through the use of their information systems, processes, and technologies.

They help charities capitalise on the power of IT and digital and use it as a key driver of business change and service delivery within their sector.

IT Leaders, welcomed the partnership, "Our community is built on trust, collaboration and transparency, and we look for sponsors who share that ethos."

"We're excited to be working with Wanstor."

"We are looking forward to developing a relationship that will bring tangible benefits for both our members and the wider not-for-profit community."

We were delighted to attend our first event in October at their Annual Conference, showcasing how we can help those in the sector.

Keep your eyes peeled for more exciting events coming!



Acts of Christmas Kindness

We're delighted to be supporting some charities close to our offices this year, with a mix of volunteering and donating, to help give back to our local communities with our Acts of Christmas Kindness campaign.

What are we doing to help?

We will be donating clothing, toiletries, food and more to the **Crisis** warehouse for those who need it



We'll be volunteering and creating care packages for **Spear London**, based near our Twickenham office



We'll be delivering care packages to parents staying at **The Sick Children's Trust** properties



We will be hosting a raffle with all proceeds going to **Spear London**



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