

# ***Keeping up with the pace of change in cybersecurity***

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As the years go by, the cybersecurity challenge facing end-users is ever changing, with an increasing range of devices to protect, and a growing range of threats to protect them from.

In this presentation we will contrast the end-user IT and cybersecurity domains of 2000 and 2025 to illustrate the degree to which the landscape can change in a relatively short period of time. At the start of the century, we had just survived the threat of the Millennium Bug / Y2K. While domestic Internet was firmly established, our technology usage was still largely framed around desktop operating systems. If we look at what has happened to the user-facing technology in the intervening quarter of a century, it is clear that the arrival of connected mobile devices, broadband technology, social media, smartphones, IoT, and ubiquitous public WiFi, all added their own new dimensions to the challenges and new channels for the threats to find us. In parallel, the threats themselves have advanced, with issues such as phishing and ransomware rising to prominence and operating at a global scale.

The discussion will consider the impact of this and the requirements - and indeed potential burdens - placed on end users as a result. As with wider digital literacy, maintaining effective cybersecurity literacy becomes a moving target. Today's users need to know more not less, and they have more at stake if their technology is compromised.

With this pace of change in one 25-year period, it is worth realising that the typical user is going to witness a similar level of transformation *three* times during their lifetime. Can they keep up and are they supported to do so?

The presentation will be jointly delivered by the two authors; one of whom was newly launched at the start of the millennia, and another who had already witnessed one round of change by that point and is now gearing up for the third act.