

NEWSLETTER



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Cybersecurity in the Caribbean: Building Trust, Resilience and Digital Confidence

Caribbean Cybersecurity: Trust, Resilience, Confidence

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In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, cybersecurity is no longer just an IT concern, it's a strategic imperative. Across the Caribbean, businesses are embracing cloud services, digital technologies such as blockchain and AI-driven solutions to improve efficiency, enhance customer experiences, and remain competitive. Yet with this digital transformation comes increased exposure to cyber threats, from phishing attacks to data breaches.

At Grant Thornton in the Caribbean, we believe that effective cybersecurity is not just about technology in a silo. It's about combining an organisation's strategic vision, robust governance with embedded privacy and cybersecurity safeguards, along with human insight to protect businesses, employees, and clients alike.

Understanding the Caribbean Context

The Caribbean presents unique opportunities and challenges. Our economies are highly interconnected and digital adoption is rapidly growing across industries such as tourism, health, financial services and government. While this brings innovation and efficiencies, it also raises our cybersecurity risk profile. Limited resources, competing priorities, varying regulations and cross-border data flows require businesses to be proactive, strategic and regionally aware, as they aim to expand their market share.

Five Core Practices for Cyber-Resilient Organizations

1. **Understand Technology's Strengths and Limitations:** Tools like AI, robotic process automation and advanced analytics are powerful, but they require human guidance. Keeping employees "in the loop" ensures context, judgment, and ethical considerations are applied alongside technology.

2. **Establish Clear Governance:** Strong governance frameworks define how technology is used within the business process, which platforms and service providers are approved and who is accountable for ongoing risk management. Clear policies reduce uncertainty, prevent misuse and provide a roadmap for responsible digital adoption.

3. **Embed Privacy and Data Protection:** Client trust is foundational for us in the Caribbean. Safeguarding personal and sensitive information must be top of mind for all organisations. Adopting a defense-in-depth approach with controls that include backup management, encryption, data leak prevention and "least privilege" access, ensure not only compliance with local privacy regulations, but alignment with industry and international good practice. Protecting data cannot just be a compliance requirement, it is a key differentiator and strategic partner in maintaining client confidence.

4. **Invest in Employee Training and Digital Literacy** People are the first line of defense. Training employees to recognize risks, respond to potential threats, and understand technology limitations strengthens resilience across the organization. AI and digital literacy empower teams to make smarter, safer decisions.

5. **Be Prepared** The cost of breach management decreases exponentially when an organization has a comprehensive incident response plan in place – one that has been communicated to all relevant stakeholders and has been tested to ensure that everyone knows their role when a cyberattack occurs.

Why Cybersecurity Matters for the Caribbean

Cyberattacks do not respect borders and the Caribbean's interconnected economies make shared resilience essential. Responsible cybersecurity practices protect not only individual organizations but also regional business ecosystems. By integrating governance, privacy, and human oversight, organizations can operate confidently while building lasting trust with clients and partners.

At Grant Thornton in the Caribbean, we guide businesses in developing frameworks that embed cybersecurity into daily operations, combining strategy, training and technology to reduce risk and enhance confidence in a digital-first world.

Looking Ahead

The Caribbean's digital future depends on how responsibly organizations embrace technology today. Cybersecurity is more than protection; it is a catalyst for innovation, trust and sustainable growth. By prioritizing governance, privacy and workforce readiness, Caribbean businesses can thrive in a secure, connected, and resilient environment.

Grant Thornton in the Caribbean Simplify with intelligence. Approach with warmth. Think clever.

In the Caribbean, cybersecurity is now a strategic necessity. Businesses adopting AI, blockchain, and cloud services must combine technology, governance, and human insight to protect operations, clients, and reputation.



Contact Information

Contact Information

Allison James

Director | Advisory Services – Risk, Governance & IT Strategy



+1 (246) 537 3445



3rd Floor, CGI Tower
P.O. Box 5033
Warrens
St Michael BB12001



Grantthornton.bb