

August 2023 eLearning Challenge: Protecting Company Data

The Situation

You have been hired as an instructional designer at CyberCo, a cybersecurity company specializing in helping clients protect their sensitive data.

Over the last several months, a customer has noticed an increase in malware attacks and lost data due to their employees' use of flash (USB) drives when working offsite.

Employees get free flash drives from vendors, bring their own drives, or use company-owned flash drives to back up materials when not in the office.

Additionally, traveling teams frequently hand off project documents via flash drives because Internet access can sometimes be unpredictable.

The Challenge

You have been tasked with creating an interactive eLearning course to help educate employees on how to better protect their data when using flash drives. This course will be delivered both to new employees and employees who have encountered malware attack attempts or lost data on a flash drive. After completing your course, learners will be able to:

- Practice secure, responsible ownership of flash drives
- Recognize the signs of malware attacks from flash drives
- Respond defensively to malware attack attempts

Requirements & Constraints

As you design and develop your course, keep the following requirements and constraints in mind:

Interactivity & Content Presentation: Ideally, your solution will include decision-based interactions or scenarios to reinforce the skills being taught.

Here are some ideas for how you might present your content and make it interactive:

- Adding markers to identify & explain warning signs of onscreen malware attacks
- Dragging and dropping flash drives to computers to demonstrate what happens during malware incidents
- Highlighting key terminology, steps, or reminders with click-to-reveal interactions
- Modeling a coworker interaction (using characters) about exchanging files using flash drives
- Presenting the learner with an unknown flash drive and creating 2 or 3 outcomes to lead the learner to different consequences based on their decisions (otherwise known as a branching scenario)

Authoring Tools: You are free to use any eLearning authoring tool you'd like; however, Articulate Storyline or Rise are recommended. If you're new to Articulate Storyline, [check out this playlist of videos](#) to help you get started.

Visual Design: You are free to design the course in any way you'd like; however, it should demonstrate good visual design best practices with a cohesive and consistent use of font, colors, images, and graphics. If you're new to visual design, [check out this playlist of videos](#) to help you get started.

Style Guide

To help in the design of your eLearning course, you can view and download the CyberCo style guide and brand assets below. You are free to use these to design a branded course template, or you can create your own design. **CyberCo Style Guide.pdf** 267 KB **CyberCo Brand Assets.zip** 470 KB



Reference Materials

As you design and develop your course, you can create your own content from scratch or source your content from the following references:

- [Cybersecurity Tip: Be Careful with The Free USB Stick](#)
- [USB Flash Drives & Their Cybersecurity Dangers](#)
- [USB Drop Attacks: The Danger of "Lost & Found" Thumb Drives](#)
- [Don't Trust the Flash Drive! Cybersecurity Risks](#)
- [The Risks of Using Portable Devices](#)

Submission Guidelines & Contest Rules

Once you're done building your course, you can submit it by commenting below and sharing a link to your finished project. If you're using Articulate Storyline or Rise, you can publish and [share a link from Articulate Review](#) or [on the web using Google Cloud](#). Along with a link to your published course, share a few words explaining your design decisions, challenges, inspiration, etc.

To be eligible to win the \$100 Amazon gift card, your submission must be posted no later than Friday, August 25th at 11:59 PM ET. You can learn more about the [contest rules and criteria here](#).

If you'd like to get more eyes on your submission and encourage others to participate in the challenges, you might also consider...

- **Writing a Blog Post:** If you happen to have a blog or online portfolio, write a post about your submission and share it on social media. Make sure to link to it in the comments below for others to see!
- **Record a Video:** If you want to share how you went about designing your submission, record and share a screen recording video (via Loom, Camtasia, Snagit, or YouTube) to showcase and explain your process. And, of course, don't forget to share a link to it in the comments below!
- **Share on Social Media:** If you're active on LinkedIn, Twitter, or another social media platform, create a post to share your submission. If possible, make sure to link back to this page and tag The eLearning Designer's Academy on [LinkedIn](#) or [Twitter](#) in your post.

Give & Get Feedback

After you've shared your submission, make sure to review what others have submitted and provide constructive feedback. Remember, the monthly challenges (and this community as a whole) are meant to provide an inclusive and supportive environment. As you provide feedback, make sure to keep our [Code of Conduct](#) in mind.

As you work to develop your project, also consider sharing your work-in-progress for community feedback in our [Get Feedback space here](#).

Challenge Recap, Submissions & Winner

Congratulations to **Tim Horgan** for his winning submission for this month's eLearning challenge: Protecting Your Company's Data! **Check out all of the submissions for this month's eLearning challenge below:**

- Securing Your Data by **Jayashree Ravi**
- Protecting Your Data by **Athena Procsal**
- Responsible Flash Drive Use by **Courtney Roberts** & **Jason Davenport**
- How to Better Protect Your Data by **James Mackay**
- Protecting Company Data by **Ryan Govreau**
- Flash Drive Safety by **Frea Uys**
- Protecting Data when Using Flash Drives by **Maheen Shaikh**
- Stopping Malware Before It Strikes by **Ashley Wilson**
- Secure Your Flash Drive by **Alisha Navodia**
- Managing USB Flash Drives Safely by **Anum Zaidi**
- Flash Drive Security by **Elijah Merrett**
- Protecting Company Data by **Jazmyne Dupree**
- Protecting Company-Issued Devices & Data by **Amanda Fackrell**
- Protecting Our Systems by **Nicola Thomas**
- USB Flash Drives & Cybersecurity Dangers by **Kelly Duane**