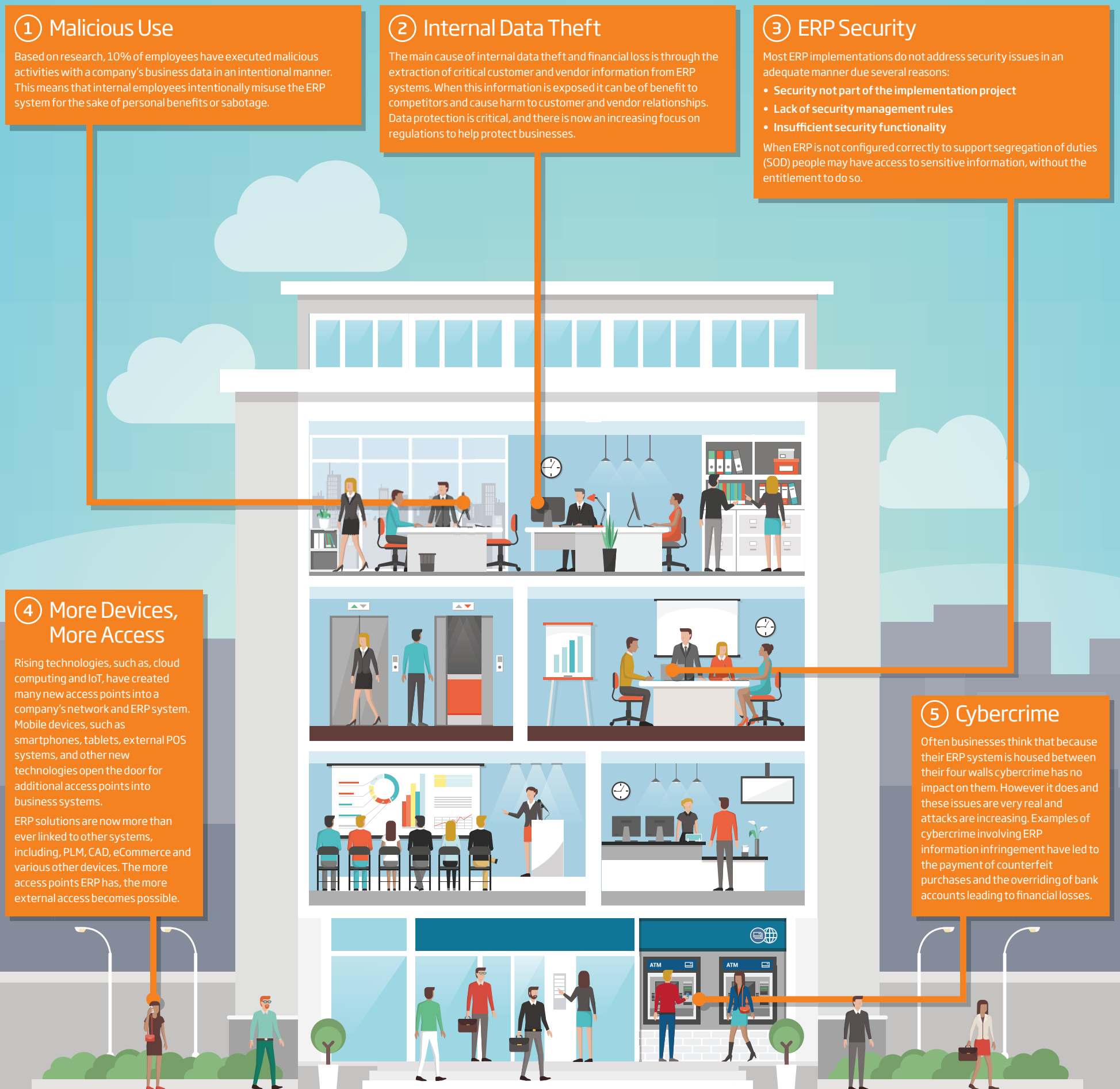# 5 reasons your ERP data could be at risk

As ERP solutions become more complex, connect to more devices and create more information they have also become more susceptible to internal and external security risks. This in turn puts a business's most sensitive information, including sales orders, customer and product details, and financial records, at risk of being accessed and used for malicious purposes. But research shows that many businesses are not aware of the problem or do not have adequate security in place to deal with such threats.

① Malicious Use

Based on research, 10% of employees have executed malicious activities with a company's business data in an intentional manner. This means that internal employees intentionally misuse the ERP system for the sake of personal benefits or sabotage.

② Internal Data Theft

The main cause of internal data theft and financial loss is through the extraction of critical customer and vendor information from ERP systems. When this information is exposed it can be of benefit to competitors and cause harm to customer and vendor relationships. Data protection is critical, and there is now an increasing focus on regulations to help protect businesses.

③ ERP Security

Most ERP implementations do not address security issues in an adequate manner due several reasons:
- **Security not part of the implementation project**
- **Lack of security management rules**
- **Insufficient security functionality**

When ERP is not configured correctly to support segregation of duties (SOD) people may have access to sensitive information, without the entitlement to do so.

④ More Devices, More Access

Rising technologies, such as, cloud computing and IoT, have created many new access points into a company's network and ERP system. Mobile devices, such as smartphones, tablets, external POS systems, and other new technologies open the door for additional access points into business systems.

ERP solutions are now more than ever linked to other systems, including, PLM, CAD, eCommerce and various other devices. The more access points ERP has, the more external access becomes possible.

⑤ Cybercrime

Often businesses think that because their ERP system is housed between their four walls cybercrime has no impact on them. However it does and these issues are very real and attacks are increasing. Examples of cybercrime involving ERP information infringement have led to the payment of counterfeit purchases and the overriding of bank accounts leading to financial losses.

How can Columbus help...

Security Management for Microsoft Dynamics AX

Columbus offers solutions to make Microsoft Dynamics AX more secure. Columbus Dynamic Security Management simplifies the setup of roles and privileges, resulting in a sound segregation of duties. Dynamic Security Management records the required role-based functionality, and matches the recording to the security elements in Dynamics AX, simplifying the creation of end user security roles. Using Dynamic Security Management gives a business end to end insight into who is able to perform what in Microsoft Dynamics AX.

Compliance and risk management

All businesses need to stay accountable when it comes to compliance and risk management. Being compliant means your internal flow of processes and information needs to be well documented. At Columbus, we have developed RapidValue, a business process management solution which can be utilized alongside Dynamic Security Management to help ensure your ERP system is in line with your business processes and organization model, adhering to the proper segregation of duties.

Demand for secure, sustainable and transparent operations

Our next-generation security and auditing tools give you full insight in to who can access what data - also in a historical perspective. Dynamic Security Management logs all modifications in the assigned security roles and access to legal entities, as well as, other relevant data. Also database logging supports tracing on critical fields and tables.

At Columbus, we help our customers digitally **transform** their businesses and improve the value realization of their business application investments. We **mitigate** the inherent risks associated with implementing, upgrading and replacing legacy ERP systems. We **lead** our customers with best-practice consulting services we have refined over thousands of engagements. We take care of our customers and aspire to keep them for life.

To learn more about how Columbus can help you get the most out of your Microsoft solution, contact your local Columbus office.

Columbus | Once you know how...

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