

us signal

Simplifying Security

How IT Leaders Can Leverage Microsoft's Latest Add-Ons

Executive Summary

Security has always been difficult to manage, especially for small and midsize businesses. Threats evolve quickly, regulations grow more complex, and IT teams are often expected to deliver enterprise-level protection with limited budgets and personnel. Many SMBs have resorted to patching together a variety of tools—each purchased separately, managed separately, and often poorly integrated.

Microsoft's recent launch of **Defender and Purview add-ons for Microsoft 365 Business Premium** offers SMBs a new path forward, delivering enterprise-grade security and compliance features at a scale and cost that makes sense.

This guide explores the major pain points IT leaders face today, how Microsoft's new add-ons address those challenges, and how US Signal helps ensure businesses realize their full value.



Fragmented Security Tools

The Pain Point

Managing multiple vendors for email, endpoint, and compliance increases complexity and risk.

- *Ponemon Institute* reports that 53% of SMBs say managing too many disconnected security tools weakens their defenses.

A Better Approach

The Microsoft Defender Suite consolidates identity, endpoint, email, and cloud app protection within Business Premium. This unified ecosystem reduces silos and simplifies administration.

US Signal Added Value

We help organizations evaluate their current toolsets, identify overlap, and streamline deployments. By guiding consolidation, US Signal ensures IT leaders reduce vendor sprawl without losing critical protections.



Limited Budgets and Resources

The Pain Point

SMBs are high-value targets but often lack enterprise budgets.

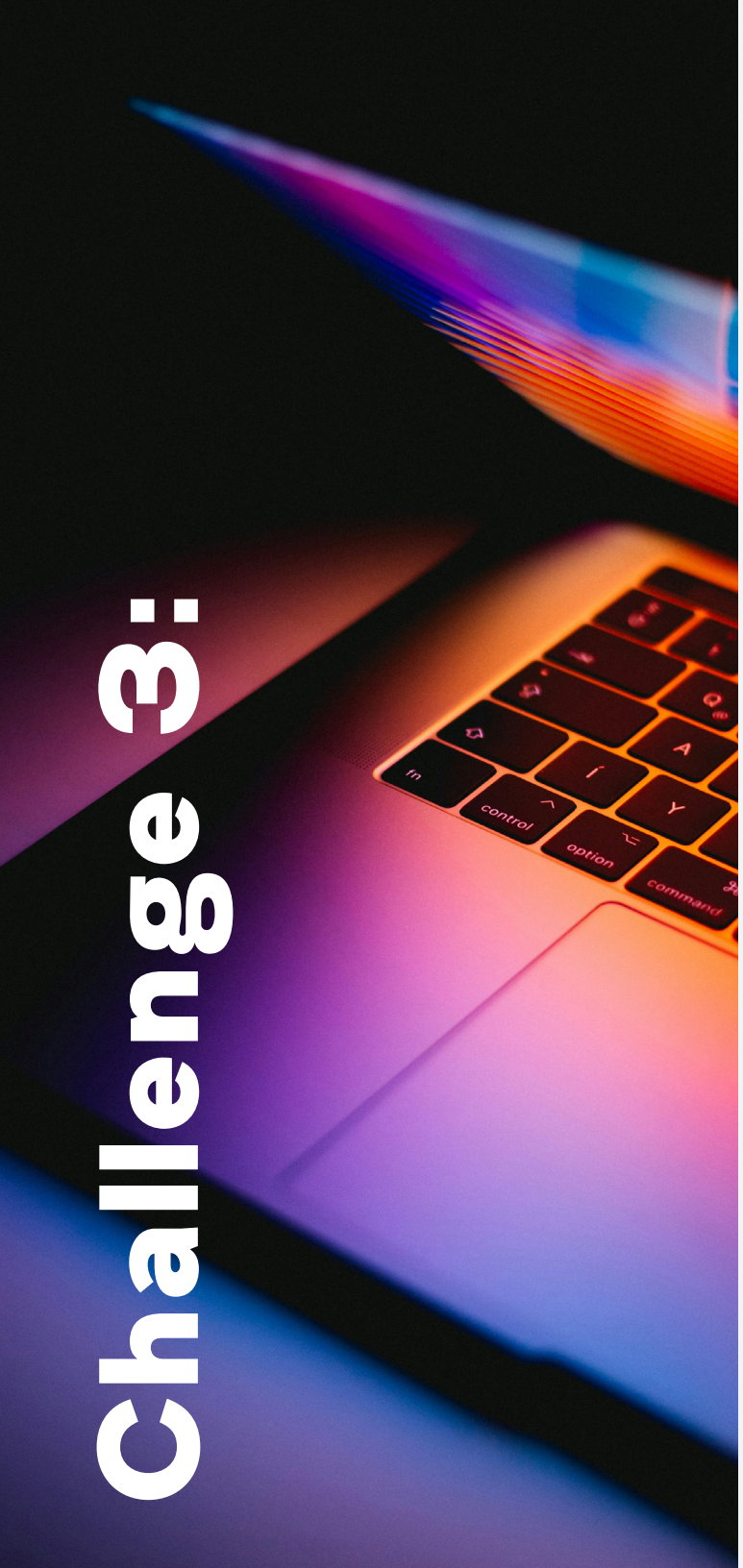
- *Verizon's 2024 Data Breach Investigations Report* found that 28% of breaches involved small businesses, yet most had fewer than five dedicated IT staff.

A Better Approach

With add-ons priced at $10–$15 per user per month, advanced features like endpoint detection and phishing simulations are accessible without moving to E5. Predictable per-user pricing allows IT leaders to protect users while maintaining budget control.

US Signal Added Value

US Signal helps you achieve ROI faster by guiding implementation and optimization of your Microsoft 365 environment. Our experts handle setup, configuration, and policy alignment to ensure every feature is activated with purpose. From billing analysis to licensing management, we help you avoid mixed-license conflicts, eliminate waste, and see measurable returns sooner.



Growing Compliance Demands

The Pain Point

Regulatory pressures are growing, and SMBs are not exempt. Many small businesses struggle to implement insider risk monitoring, eDiscovery, or data loss prevention (DLP), yet the consequences of non-compliance—fines, legal expenses, reputational damage, and lost customer trust—can be severe.

- According to *Navex's* "State of Cybersecurity for SMBs" report, 54% of SMBs said data loss or exposure was the most serious outcome of a cyber incident, and 42% reported financial losses after an attack.

A Better Approach

Microsoft's Purview add-ons bring compliance automation, insider risk management, retention and deletion controls, and audit-level logging to the Business Premium tier. These tools help SMBs move from manual, reactive compliance to more automated, policy-driven governance.

US Signal Added Value

US Signal offers compliance-focused security assessments that help align Purview's tools with industry-specific regulations. We help organizations deploy classification and retention policies effectively and provide ongoing reviews to ensure those policies remain aligned with regulatory requirements.



Evolving Threat Landscape

The Pain Point

Cybercriminals are targeting SMBs with the same sophistication as large enterprises.

- *IBM's 2023 Cost of a Data Breach Report* shows the average breach costs SMBs $3.31 million—a devastating hit.
- *Verizon DBIR 2024* reports that 41% of SMB breaches begin with phishing.

A Better Approach

Defender Suite now offers endpoint detection and response (EDR), automated investigations, phishing simulations, and risky app monitoring. These tools provide real-time insights and automated remediation, reducing the burden on limited staff.

US Signal Added Value

We extend these capabilities across hybrid and multi-cloud environments, helping IT teams implement monitoring and response strategies that span Microsoft 365, data centers, and other cloud platforms.



Licensing Complexity & Misconfiguration

The Pain Point

Microsoft licensing has long been confusing, and misconfigurations leave organizations vulnerable.

- *Gartner* research indicates that through 2025, 99% of cloud security failures will be the customer's fault.

A Better Approach

The new add-ons simplify the path forward by introducing clear security and compliance packages for Business Premium.

US Signal Added Value

We assist with licensing management, renewals, and tenant configuration to prevent missteps. Our team ensures that add-ons are not only purchased but also deployed correctly to deliver their intended implementation.

Key Takeaways

- **SMBs are prime targets.** Nearly half of all cyberattacks hit small and midsize businesses, yet many lack the defenses to respond effectively (Verizon DBIR 2024).
- **Enterprise-grade protection is now accessible.** Microsoft's new Defender and Purview add-ons bring advanced security and compliance features to Business Premium at an SMB-friendly price.
- **Simplification matters.** Consolidating tools into Microsoft's ecosystem reduces complexity, strengthens defenses, and saves IT leaders valuable time.
- **Compliance is non-negotiable.** Tools like Purview make insider risk detection, DLP, and audit readiness achievable for SMBs.
- **US Signal adds the missing link.** With security assessments, billing analysis, hybrid integration, and licensing expertise, we help IT leaders turn Microsoft's simplified licensing into streamlined, effective security.

Final Thoughts

Microsoft's Defender and Purview add-ons represent an opportunity for SMB IT leaders to simplify security and compliance. Enterprise-level protection is no longer out of reach.

But simplification does not mean "set it and forget it." To fully benefit, IT leaders must configure tools thoughtfully, map risks, and continuously monitor outcomes. With US Signal's expertise in digital infrastructure, managed services, and licensing optimization, organizations can be confident they are not only purchasing the right tools but also using them to their fullest potential.

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