



CYBERSECURITY

[Pipeline Companies Targeted by Cyber-Attacks](#)

Reports show that U.S. energy companies reported more than 350 cybersecurity incidents to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security between 2011 and 2015. Pipeline companies are included in that statistic. Last week, Energy Transfer Partners (ETP) notified its oil and gas shippers that its pipeline network system was hacked. According to ETP, the hacking targeted an ETP contractor that manages the ETP system; ETP was not hacked directly. Further, the hacking did not affect the actual pipeline system, but targeted the electronic data interchange system that facilitates transactions regarding oil and gas movement through pipelines. [Read more](#)

HIPAA

[New Jersey AG Fines Virtua Medical Group \\$418,000 for Data Breach Caused by Vendor](#)

The New Jersey Attorney General's office announced this week that it has fined Virtua Medical Group, which is comprised of more than 50 medical practices in New Jersey, for failing to protect the privacy of 1,650 patients when their medical information was accessible online. The information was uploaded to a password-protected FTP website, but during a software upgrade to the server the password protection was removed, which allowed the data to be accessed without a password. [Read more](#)

ENFORCEMENT + LITIGATION

[Outcome Health Settles TCPA Class Action Suit](#)

Ever notice the flatscreen TVs and tablets in your doctor's office that run different health-related and wellness stories? Many of them are provided by Outcome Health, which installs free TVs and tablets in

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doctors' offices to provide educational material to patients while they are sitting in the waiting room. [Read more](#)

VIRTUAL CURRENCY

[Developing Crypto's Regulatory Landscape: A Survey of Recent Actions by Federal Regulators to Fence Off Jurisdiction Over Virtual Currencies](#)

In the decades that followed the enactment of the Homestead Act of 1862, more than 1.6 million U.S. citizens and intended citizens filed applications with the U.S. government to lay claim to 160 acres of land guaranteed to each applicant willing to settle, farm, and improve the lands. Settlers quickly encountered a major problem. The land was fertile, but virtually tree-less, and farmers needed fences to contain the boundless plains over which cowboys shepherded their cattle. Farmers tried growing thorn bush hedges, but they were impractical because they were slow-growing and too rigid to manipulate along a property line. Smooth wire fences were equally unworkable because cattle could simply push through them. Lacking a solution, many settlers abandoned their homesteads. [Read more](#)

DATA BREACH

[Busy Data Breach Week](#)

Unfortunately, it was another busy data breach week. Here's a summary of the major ones. Delta Airlines admitted in a statement that the payment card data of several hundred thousand customers might have been compromised by malware between September 26 and October 12, 2017, through a third-party vendor ([24]7.ai that provides online chat services to Delta. The information exposed included customers' names, addresses, CVV numbers, expiration dates and payment card information. This is the same malware that recently impacted Sears, Under Armour, Hudson Bay and Boeing. [Read more](#)

DRONES

[Announcement of New Alliance for Drone Innovation](#)

This week, a new group of unmanned aerial system (UAS or drone) industry leaders announced the creation of the [Alliance for Drone Innovation](#) (ADI), a policy-oriented coalition of manufacturers, suppliers, and software developers of hobbyist and commercial drones meant to help represent the interests of individuals, businesses, governments, scientists, academics and others who fly

drones in the U.S. airspace. The Executive Director of the ADI is Jenny Rosenberg, former U.S. Department of Transportation acting assistant secretary for aviation and international affairs. [Read more](#)

[Commercial Drone Alliance Asks Congress to Repeal Section 336](#)

The Commercial Drone Alliance (the Alliance) has asked Congress to repeal Section 336 of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Modernization and Reform Act (FMRA) of 2012. The Alliance believes that differentiating model aircraft users, including unmanned aerial systems (UAS or drone) pilots, from commercial drone pilots poses a safety risk in the national airspace. The Alliance insists that all UAS pilots should abide by the same 'rules of the road.' [Read more](#)

PRIVACY TIP #134

[Question: How are Online Quizzes Beneficial to Me?](#)

This week's privacy tip focuses on how online quizzes gather your information and reportedly sell it to marketers. [Read more](#)

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