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CYBERSECURITY

"Orangeworm" Targeting Health Care Industry

In what is being called a systematic targeting of large health care organizations, pharmaceutical companies, and IT companies and equipment manufacturers that service the health care industry, Symantec has reported that a new hacking group, dubbed "Orangeworm," is carefully selecting its targets and strategy prior to launching an attack. <u>Read more</u>

Abbott Laboratories Releases Patches for Cardiac Devices

Abbott Laboratories has issued software patches to some of its implantable cardiac devices (manufactured by St. Jude) for cybersecurity flaws and battery issues that have plagued the devices, necessitating the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to previously issue warnings to patients about the devices [view related posts here and here]. Abbott stated that the patches were planned updates to strengthen the security of the devices, and are not in response to any new vulnerabilities. Read more

ENFORCEMENT + LITIGATION

Supreme Court Orders Dismissal of Microsoft Case

As had been expected following the passage of the CLOUD Act by Congress last month, the U.S. Supreme Court remanded and ordered the dismissal of the pending United States v. Microsoft Corporation, Inc. case in a per curiam decision issued April 17, 2018. After briefly reviewing the basis for its grant of certiorari in the case, the Court explained that "no live dispute remains between the parties over the issue with respect to which certiorari was granted," and therefore the case is now moot. Read more

DATA BREACH

April 26, 2018

FEATURED AUTHORS:

Scott M. Baird
Conor O. Duffy
Linn Foster Freedman
Kathryn M. Rattigan
Norman H. Roos

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Former Employee of SunTrust Lifts 1.5 Million Customers' Information

SunTrust Banks Inc. (SunTrust) recently notified 1.5 million customers that information, including their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and account balances, was taken by a former employee.

Curiously, although SunTrust indicated that no customer Social Security numbers or driver's license information was included in the information lifted by the former employee, it is offering free identity protection to all current and new customers. *Read more*

Blue Shield of California Notifies Insureds of Disclosure of PHI to Insurance Broker

According to a notification letter sent to an unknown number of patients, Blue Shield of California (Blue Shield), "shared" the protected health information of members with an insurance broker who was not supposed to receive it. Apparently a Blue Shield employee sent the information via an email to the broker during the 2018 Medicare Annual Enrollment Period. The broker reportedly used the information to contact the members to try to sell a competing insurer's Medicare Advantage Plan. Read more

VIRTUAL CURRENCY

FFIEC Members Issue Joint Statement to Financial Institutions on Role of Cyber Insurance as Risk Management Tool

On April 10, the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) members issued a joint statement discussing cyber insurance and its potential role in the risk management programs of financial institutions. Members of the FFEIC include the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, National Credit Union Administration, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and State Liaison Committee. Read more

DRONES

Xcel Energy Receives FAA Waiver for Beyond Visual Line of Sight

Last week, Xcel Energy (Xcel), Colorado's largest utility company, received a waiver from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for drone operations beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS). Xcel will use drones to conduct routine inspections of electronic transmissions, lines, making it the first utility company to receive such an

authorization. Xcel's CEO and Chairman, Ben Fowke said, "With this groundbreaking decision, we are advancing the use of technology that improves our efficiency and provides cost savings for our customers." Read more

PRIVACY TIP #136

September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Scam

This week's privacy tip acknowledges the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) alerting consumers about imposters calling people saying they are from the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF). Read more

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