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Hackers highlight need for IT security

Company IT security has never been more important, according to experts at an innovative Coventry company.

The comments from experts at Netmetix, in Birmingham Road, Allesley, have come in the wake of widespread reports that personal details of millions of Sony customers may have been stolen by hackers.

Netmetix has recently launched an eBook called '[What's bugging You](#)' which outlines threats to business networks and simple steps that can be taken to help avoid potentially embarrassing and costly breaches of security.

Paul Blore, managing director of Netmetix, said: *"Managing and securing electronic communications is vital in business and you'd be surprised and possibly alarmed at how often your network will be probed for weakness by hackers.*

"Hacking has emerged as one of the major threats to IT security for the next three years. Recent research also suggests that more than half of business executives believe external threats pose more of a danger than internal ones.

"While internal threats from employees remain a problem, growing concern about targeted attacks and Advanced Persistent Threats (APTs) have prompted the need for businesses to ensure their networks are as secure as possible. Stepping up security is central to preventing key data and sensitive information falling into the wrong hands.

"Data theft, fraud and leaks can damage a brand that a company has spent years building up. In short, years of hard work can effectively be undone in the blink of an eye. Last year, reports revealed that data leakage in the UK cost organisations an average of £1.9million per incident. With the cost of breaches ranging from £36,000 to £6.2million and malicious activity on the rise as the culprit, the need to protect against data leakage speaks for itself.

For a decade, Netmetix has built a strong reputation delivering bespoke IT network solutions, tailored for clients across a range of industry sectors.

Mr Blore added that keeping operating systems and web browser software fully up to date, installing hardware firewalls, not opening unknown files or executable programs and investing in

good quality anti-virus software were simple steps that could be taken to protect networks from hackers and combat threats from malware, viruses and spam emails

“New threats emerge all the time, the most recent high profile one being the security breach suffered by Sony, which will have repercussions that will be felt throughout the whole IT and business sector,” he said.

“Whatever the size of your business, it is essential that you carry out regular IT audits to make sure your data and systems are protected.”

Netmetix originally started as a CAD solutions re-seller in 2001, and has maintained its competitive edge by continually developing new products and services. The company now focuses on network infrastructure and services for SMEs, and is about to launch a new cloud computing service.

Its services range from basic telephone support, consultancy and training through to fully managed or hosted IT systems. It also provides a full and detailed installation and implementation service for everything it sells.

The company is the only UK re-seller of groundbreaking Talari Adaptive Private Networking technology which it has recently used to significantly increase effective bandwidth and reduce costs for its clients.

As certified Microsoft Partners, Netmetix’s strong team of technical staff are trained to the highest standards, providing quality assurance that underpins everything the company does.

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Editor’s Note:

Netmetix is based in Birmingham Road, Allesley, Coventry. Its services range from basic telephone support, consultancy and training through to fully managed or hosted IT systems. It also provides a full and detailed installation and implementation service for everything it sells. The company provides sensible, reliable and professional advice at both a business and technical level. It works closely with manufacturers to bring effective and innovative solutions to our customers.

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