

Responding to a Cyber Breach

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"Bad news, captain. The ship's computer has been sharing all our personal data with the Romulans."

Cyber Breach Methodology



- Cyber Attacks are multi-stage, using multiple threat vectors
- Organizations often don't identify that they have been compromised for months after the event¹
 - 206 days on average before detection of compromise
- Over two-thirds of organizations find out from a 3rd party when they have been compromised²

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1 – Ponemon Cost of Breach FY 2015
2 – 2014 mTrends Threat Report

Important Considerations

- Different types of incidents
 - malware
 - inadvertent disclosure
 - portable media loss
 - compromised access credentials
 - denial of service attacks
 - “special” types of data: payment card data, Protected Health Information, Nonpublic Personal Information, personally identifiable information, ...
- Different scenarios
 - unknown loss or damage but known compromise
 - known loss or damage but unknown compromise
 - holding access to or use of data or systems hostage
 - extortion
- Variations in severity level
 - volume and nature of data
 - criticality to operations
 - potential regulatory or litigation risk
 - potential reputational impact
 - potential exposure to interested third parties

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Being Prepared ...

- for loss of data or interrupted systems
- for operational and business continuity issues
- for immediate initiation of investigation(s)
- for preserving evidence
- for task force / response team leadership and meetings
- for immediate engagement of forensic investigator(s) (including, if applicable, PCI Forensic Investigator), counsel, public relations firm, negotiator, other breach response service providers
- for internal communications
- for communications to third parties
- for responses to the media
- for notices to regulators, interested third parties
- for reports to shareholders, Board
- for notices to individuals
- for intelligence sharing

See, e.g., NIST Computer Security Incident Handling Guide, Special Publication 800-61 rev. 2.

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Crisis Management

- ❖ Organization and Management
- ❖ Security v. Operations
- ❖ Candor and Prudence
- ❖ Skills and Experience
- ❖ Compliance and Ethics
- ❖ Good Judgment

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"Responding to a Data Breach"