



Steve Sawtell
President

Voice & Data Systems' Cyber-Security Brings Peace of Mind to Business Owners and Their IT Networks

Region's Leader in Unified Communications Educates Customers on the Evolution of Malicious Threats

OMAHA, NE AND COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA — August 25, 2015 — Voice & Data Systems, a leading provider of unified communications, announced today that the company has launched an awareness campaign on recent advancements in cyber security. As technology has become even more central to business operations, hackers have grown in proficiency and are posing several new threats to business owners. Voice & Data Systems, is actively engaged in alerting customers of these new methods by which hackers are attacking businesses.

Cyber attacks, such as malware, have become one of the biggest threats on an organization's network because of the speed by which these attacks evolve. Cyber security has become one of the fastest changing technologies in response, and is constantly vying to remain a step ahead of the threats that face most organizations. While business owners were previously able to avoid most threats by purchasing a strong firewall, hackers have continued to evolve their methods and simply put, a firewall doesn't offer any sufficient level of protection anymore. As technology continues to move forward, the threats facing organizations have become much more sophisticated, brazen and bold.

One such common tactic used by hackers is the coordination of simultaneous attacks to overwhelm any server, LAN (local area network), or other critical endpoint on the network. Essentially, this overwhelms the

endpoint and creates openings for hackers to attack the network during the overload period. Every endpoint is vulnerable to these types of attacks, and hackers can circumvent firewalls through any mobile device or tablet, unless the organization has a Unified Threat Management System that automatically evolves with and is designed to thwart these types of attacks.

"Hackers have a malicious goal of accessing and misusing proprietary company data for financial gain," stated Steve Sawtell, President of Voice & Data Systems. "One of the best practices that we recommend is triple layered infrastructure protection," added Sawtell. "This means establishing a layer of security at the edge of the network, another security layer at the desktop and a final layer of security at the LAN. This exponentially reduces the risks facing any enterprise because of the redundant nature of multiple levels of protection. This simple step can save companies thousands of dollars and unnecessary downtime."

Another challenge facing organizations, as it relates to cyber security, is when employees access unauthorized sites and are phished for login credentials, making the network instantly vulnerable. "Through our guidance and technology we help our customers control access to certain web sites and automatically prevent employees from interacting with sites that pose security risks to the network," commented Mr. Sawtell. "The technology is configured to automatically detect malicious sites and shutdown the threat before any interaction begins."

Voice & Data Systems has established a cyber security division and

is helping companies understand and implement a Unified Threat Management System. During the company's initial stages of customer outreach, they've found that most customers are completely exposed to threats. "The question business owners must ask themselves is if they truly believe that a static solution can combat a dynamic problem?" said Sawtell. "In other words, if your firewall hasn't evolved in the past several years, how can you expect it to keep pace with the evolution of hackers? And more importantly, where do you think that leaves your company data and customers' sensitive information?"

ABOUT VOICE & DATA SYSTEMS

Voice & Data Systems provides state-of-the-art unified communications technology to businesses in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metro and surrounding communities. The company creates customized, turnkey solutions specific to their customer's business for telephone systems, data networks, video surveillance and converged networking applications. Voice & Data Systems friendly, manufacturer-certified technicians are available 24/7 to serve business needs for communication systems as well as voice, data, fiber optic and video cabling, testing and troubleshooting. Their mission is to provide technology solutions that increase their customers' profitability, improve employee productivity, and give them a competitive advantage in their marketplace. For more information, please call (402) 571-9049 or visit www.voicendata.net.