



Steve Sawtell
President

Voice & Data Systems's Cybersecurity Platform Deflects Recent Ransomware Attacks on Technology Companies

*Leading Managed Technology Services
Provider Keeps SMBs Safe, Once
Again*

OMAHA, NE AND COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA – August 26, 2021 - Voice & Data Systems, a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), recently shared that their robust cybersecurity solutions have protected their customers from consistent, daily attacks on small to mid-sized businesses. Unfortunately, this is not the case for many IT companies that leverage other systems like Kaseya, an IT solutions software developer, that was compromised by hackers in July through a malicious software update that Kaseya unknowingly pushed out to SMBs. It's unknown exactly how many devices were infected with absolute certainty, as hackers wreaked havoc on over 1 million devices and demanded \$70M as a ransom. This type of breach targeting companies through their IT providers is becoming more commonplace. Voice & Data Systems's customers have been completely unaffected by any of these major network compromises.

For years, Voice & Data Systems has remained ahead of the curve and protected its customers by foreseeing potential threats and rectifying them long before they reach their customers' businesses. In fact, it's a central aspect of their business philosophy. Steve Sawtell, President of Voice & Data Systems stated, "We've been preaching the merits of cybersecurity for years and while moments like this are unfortunate to witness, these types

of breaches were very predictable. In fact, it's exactly why we've been making the right investments in the right technologies to keep our customers protected from these types of events. Business owners need to understand that when they hire an IT company, their provider not only needs to install, deploy and maintain the technology properly, but they should also be sophisticated enough to educate them on the significance of cybersecurity in the modern era. Modern advances have shifted cybersecurity from being a cost prohibitive, corporate luxury to a financially sound benefit for any business that wishes to eliminate this risk from their future. Business owners need to start anticipating issues like this, so that they can keep their organizations, employees and futures, secure."

Voice & Data Systems takes extreme care in protecting its customers from breach and utilizes an array of cybersecurity solutions to fortify its network and protects each customer's IT network using the exact same methods they use internally. In other words, SMBs that are working with true MTSPs, like Voice & Data Systems, essentially have a 24/7/365 team of dedicated cybersecurity professionals who are constantly innovating solutions which prevent any disruptions from occurring. A central principle behind any effective cybersecurity defense strategy is to use a layered approach, so that in the event of a breach, hackers are restricted to only affecting small portions of the company.

While the true damage done from the Kaseya breach remains to be seen, SMBs must take the initiative to make the necessary preventative steps to secure their organizations from being affected in the future. While these supply-chain oriented attacks are likely to continue, this doesn't mean that businesses are defenseless. Quite the contrary, as Sawtell concluded, "In the case of cybersecurity, the old adage, 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure' is quite appropriate."

ABOUT VOICE & DATA SYSTEMS

Voice & Data Systems provides state-of-the-art 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.