**CYBERSECURITY**

**Industrial Control Systems at Risk from Targeted Snake Malware**

Researchers at Sentinel One and Dragos have detected malicious code, called EKANS or Snake, that has been designed specifically to target industrial control systems (ICS), including those of oil refineries, manufacturing sites, and electrical and power grids. Although there have been a few successful attacks against ICS in the past, including the destruction of a nuclear enrichment centrifuge in Iran and a blackout in the Ukraine, this appears to be the first time malware specifically designed to target ICS has been discovered. [Read more](#)

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**HIPAA**

**HHS Issues Timely Reminder of Applicability of HIPAA to Outbreak Situations**

On February 3, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a bulletin (the Bulletin) to remind covered entities and business associates of how patient information may be shared under HIPAA in the event of an emergency, such as an outbreak of infectious disease. The Bulletin was issued in response to the emergence of the Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), and reiterates that HIPAA’s Privacy Rule is “balanced to ensure that appropriate uses and disclosures” of patient information can be made to treat patients, as well as for public health and other critical purposes. [Read more](#)

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**DATA BREACH**

**30,000 Cannabis Users’ Data Exposed**

A point of sale vendor for at least three cannabis dispensaries in the United States exposed the personal data of at least 30,000 cannabis users, including full names, photo IDs, dates of birth, telephone numbers, home addresses, medical ID numbers, email addresses, signatures, cannabis variety and quantity purchased, and sales figures when it failed to password protect the information online. [Read more](#)

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**HEALTH INFORMATION**

**OCR Comments on Recent Ciox Case Vacating Certain Omnibus Rule Regulations and Guidance Relating to Fees for Providing Patient Records**

February 6, 2020

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**NEW + NOW**

**Cyber Criminals Using Coronavirus Concern to Assist with Intrusions**

Concern over the spreading coronavirus from China is legitimate and real. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the coronavirus a global health emergency, and the United States and other countries are limiting travel of individuals from the affected areas in China. [Read more]

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**DRONES**

**U.S. Interior Department Grounds DJI Mavic Pro Drone for Cybersecurity Reasons**

Last week, the U.S. Interior Department (the Department) grounded its fleet of over 800 DJI Mavic Pro drones, citing potential cybersecurity risks and the desire to support U.S. drone production. This suggests that the Department is at least in part concerned with the manufacture of the DJI drones in China. While Interior Secretary David Bernhardt signed the order grounding these drones just this week, the pause was first initiated almost three months ago. [Read more]

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**Proposed Safety Standards for Drone Package Delivery**

This week, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued proposed safety standards for specific drones for package deliveries. This is a big step toward allowing routine package delivery by drones. [Read more]

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**PRIVACY TIP #225**

**Tax Identity Theft Awareness Week**

Tax identity theft continues to be a significant problem for taxpayers. This week’s privacy tip recaps the recent uptick in fraud. [Read more]