



## Is data your insecurity? A paper by DISUK Ltd

We all have sensitive data, we trust others with it and they trust us - disclosure of this information can cause irreparable harm to individuals and businesses.

Therefore, as a business we take great care to ensure that the information is protected – firewalls, intrusion protection & detection, virus scanning all of these functions reassure us that we are looking after our data asset in the best way possible to protect against malicious misuse. This is like locking the doors and windows of your house and then setting the alarm – we are reassured, we are safe, we can sleep at night.

Once we have our data, best practice dictates that we should make copies of it to a removable media (most popularly tape) to store offsite in the event of a disaster.

Tape backup software is given access to all data on the system. This access strips away all the perimeter security we have installed – firewalls, intrusion detection etc. and the data is written in plain text onto the tape.

Unfortunately, these tapes are completely unprotected so once the tape leaves our premises we will never know if it has been read or copied by an unauthorised third party as tape does not have access control or audit trails.

A backup tape can be copied and replaced in a matter of minutes and remember, these tapes contain all of your business!

Tapes are often taken to the vault by the lowest cost method, i.e. a courier company. In April 2005 Iron Mountain, probably the largest company in the world providing secure offsite media management services was quoted as saying

*“We only manage the media entrusted to us – it is every organisations responsibility to encrypt data they need to keep confidential.”*

Once the tape has been obtained the criminal can spend as much time as he likes analysing its contents and you will never know this is happening until you start to lose customers to the competition or your customers suffer personal loss due to identity theft.

### **Tapes Lost in the Last Year**

Date	Name	Type Of Breach	Records Lost
Feb. 25 , 2005	Bank of America	Lost backup tape	1,200,000
April 20, 2005	Ameritrade	Lost backup tape	200,000
May 2, 2005	Time Warner	Lost backup tape	600,000
June 6, 2005	CitiFinancial	Lost backup tape	3,900,000
July 6, 2005	City National Bank	Lost backup tape	Unknown
Sept 19, 2005	Children’s Health Council	Stolen backup tape	6,000
Oct 21, 2005	Wilcoxs Memorial Hospital	Lost backup tape	130,000
Dec. 16, 2005	ABN AMRO Mortgage Group	Lost backup tape	2,000,000
Dec 28, 2005	Marriott International	Lost backup tape	206,000
Dec 31, 2005	Providence Home Services	Stolen backup tape	365,000
Jan 11, 2006	People's Bank	Lost backup tape	90,000
Jan. 25, 2006	Providence Home Services (OR)	Stolen backup tape	365,000
Feb 13, 2006	Denver International Airport	Stolen backup tape	Unknown
April 27, 2006	Long Island Rail Road	Lost backup tape	17,000
June 16, 2006	NY State Controller's Office (Albany, NY)	Lost data cartridge	1,300
June 29, 2006	Minnesota Dept. of Revenue (St. Paul, MN)	Lost backup tape	50,400
July 18,2006	Nelnet Inc	Lost backup tape	188,000
July 25,2006	Cablevision Systems Corp	Lost backup tape	13,700
Aug 18, 2006	California Dept. of Mental Health	Lost backup tape	9,468
<b>Total</b>			<b>9,419,368</b>

**Compiled by: DISUK Source: Privacy Rights Clearinghouse [www.privacyrights.org](http://www.privacyrights.org)**

We often hear the phrase – “It’s OK ,it doesn’t matter it’s only historic old data” – when was the last time your date of birth changed, mothers maiden name, social security number changed – data has a value to us as a business in a legitimate way and also to those who would misuse it.

## So what's the solution to this obvious gap in any companies' security strategy?

### *The Paranoia2 removable media encryption appliance*

Paranoia is a family of high-speed hardware encryption appliances designed to encrypt data written to removable storage media.

Each product within the Paranoia family is built to integrate seamlessly into an existing storage environment. Located between the server and tape storage device, Paranoia2 is transparent to the operating system and the built-in pre-compression ensures encryption without performance degradation.

As hard as nails encryption, simple to install and use.

<b>zero system overhead</b>	<b>no change to existing operational procedures</b>
<b>transparent to the operating system</b>	<b>host independent</b>
<b>unique dual interlaced encryption mode</b>	<b>backup software independent</b>
<b>unique hardware key for each customer</b>	<b>tape drive agnostic</b>

Paranoia2 allows you to:

- Secure data whilst in transit
- Guarantee privacy when using a shared tape silo
- Secure transit of confidential data by commercial couriers
- Ensure data integrity of legal information
- Ensure patient record confidentiality

This problem will not go away – it will only get bigger – we are doubling the amount of digital information generated and save each year, and nearly all data generated today spends the bulk of its time on removable media – take action now to protect your data or you could be the one on TV trying to explain why your customers data has been exposed.

## So, can you sleep at night, is your data safe, are your customers safe?

### What is identity theft?

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States, costing victims over \$5 billion annually. Identity theft occurs when someone else uses your personally identifying information without your knowledge or permission to obtain credit cards, get wireless or phone products and services, obtain loans and mortgages, get a job, and commit other types of fraudulent or even criminal acts, **in your name**, leaving you responsible for the consequences.

The identity thief uses key pieces of your information such as Social Security and driver's license numbers to obtain credit, merchandise and services in your name. An estimated 9.9 million consumers were victims of identity theft in 2003, and unfortunately, that number is growing.

(<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/misused/idtheft.html>)

DISUK Limited  
Silverstone Innovation Centre  
Silverstone  
Northamptonshire  
NN12 8GX  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0) 1327 856070  
Fax: +44 (0) 1327 856071



Copyright © 2006 DISUK Ltd. All rights reserved.

The trademarks, logos and service marks ("Marks") displayed herein are the property of DISUK or other third parties. You are not permitted to use these Marks without the prior written consent of DISUK or such appropriate third party.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document are the property of their respective owners.

Web: [www.disuk.com](http://www.disuk.com)