



Kelly Ethington
President

CTS Educates Customers on Ransomware

Leader in Unified Communications Helps Businesses Fight Malware

Southern Illinois And St. Louis – June 28, 2016 - CTS a leader in unified communications, announced today that they have launched a ransomware awareness campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to quickly educate business owners in understanding one of the latest threats now facing small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs). Ransomware is a specific variation of malware, that is growing in popularity amongst hackers and CTS is doing its best to alert business owners of this new tactic. CTS' existing customers are very well protected against this type of threat but many business owners may be unaware of the potential destruction this has on an organization.

While business owners have always understood the need to protect their businesses from malware, short for "malicious software", ransomware is a new tactic that hackers are using to attack businesses in an especially wicked way. Essentially, an employee will receive an email with a deceptive link, labeled "See Resume Here" or "Download Report Now", and then upon clicking the link, a ransomware application will be installed immediately on the computer. Then, the software can remain hidden for several days, until it is activated. At that moment, the ransomware application will hijack critical files, remove them from the network, encrypt them so no other computers

can access them and then hackers will send an email demanding payment for the release of the missing files. The biggest problem with this type of cyber attack is that it leaves absolutely no leverage to the business owner. Even if they pay the "ransom", hackers don't necessarily unlock the files every time. "This is a huge problem that could have drastic impact on an organization and the craziest thing we notice is that there is such a simple solution," stated Kelly Ethington, President at CTS.

"These types of attacks happen far too often, and we take great pride in protecting our customers from threats like this," added Ethington. "The first line of defense for these kinds of attacks is a technically educated staff. While the majority of these threats come in the form of suspicious email links, an educated staff can avoid these catastrophes simply through awareness. That's one of the reasons why we issued this press release," commented Ethington. "For business owners that see the value of peace of mind, we devise comprehensive solutions that thwart these types of attacks from every angle. We take a global approach that includes a combination of anti-virus software, anti-malware software, strong firewalls, employee education, data backup, and network redundancy. What we've noticed over the years is that every network has different exposure points and our job is to come in as a technology advisor and to proactively prevent not only ransomware attacks, but the myriad of

others attacks that a business owner may face for years to come."

CTS' mission is to leave business owners in a more empowered position by serving as an educator of emergent technologies. "Our biggest aim with this campaign is to usher in a sense of urgency amongst business owners so they take action now, instead of waiting to be in a difficult, immutable situation later," closed Ethington.

About CTS Technology Solutions, Inc.

CTS Technology Solutions, Inc. provides exceptional value through managed services that assures a fixed cost for our business partners. Our highly trained and motivated professionals constantly strive to offer proactive Data and Voice services that maximize the profits, productivity and competitive advantages of those partners.

Founded in 1984, CTS Technology Solutions, Inc. continues to be committed to establishing a dynamic partnership with our clients to ensure that their return on investment is maximized. Extensive technology resources, business consulting services and technical expertise allows our team of professionals to design and implement a wide range of solutions that best fit our partners' technology needs. For more information about CTS Technology Solutions, Inc. please call 1-800-443-3068 or visit www.ctscomplete.com.