TOP 5 SECURITY TIPS FOR AUTO DEALERS

1. Protect Your Data

All dealerships possess sensitive data on employees and customers. For any of this confidential data that may be hosted on the Internet or on devices such as USBs – encryption is crucial. Dealers cannot ignore how this data is stored and must protect it while backing it up and communicating it. Encryption is the key to keeping that data safe.

2. More Than Firewalls

Firewalls help to provide some level of stopping incoming threats but are only one piece of the puzzle. Firewalls only defend against some type of attacks that pass through the firewall. Threats coming from wireless networks, dial-up modems and internal employees can often by-pass firewall protection. New types of security devices like and IPS (Intrusion Prevention System) can identify malicious activity, log information about it and attempt to block and report it. This additional layer of protection helps to stop a wider array of attacks.

3. Monitor More

You can't have someone on your staff watching 24/7/365 to look for a cyber-attack and then respond in real-time. You can however have a professional monitoring service do it for you. The right service not only can track your network at all times, but also offer rapid responses when a security issue occurs.

4. Inside Threats

The Computer Security Institute estimates that between 60% and 80% of network abuse come from within the organization. To lessen the risk of threats, dealers should have an Internet content filtering solution. This web filtering prevents employees from visiting inappropriate or virus filled websites.

5. Secured Wireless

If your dealership uses wireless networks, make sure you have encryption enabled. Additionally, you will need to make sure that passwords are changed on a regular basis. Also, consider the age of your wireless access points. If they are more than three years old, you should consider upgrading them to products with the most current and secure encryption features.

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