

The logo features the word "vmware" in a lowercase, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol, positioned above the word "PARTNER" in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font. Both are set against a dark rectangular background.The text "PROFESSIONAL SOLUTION PROVIDER" is written in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font, centered within a light-colored rectangular box.

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(option 2)**

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but it is important to remember that this is not the only way our data can be breached.

We are finding more and more that service companies are storing and processing our personal data without the necessary security measures in place, meaning our data is being breached through the company's inadequacies rather than direct malicious attempts to get data.

Data is also placed at risk through employee error, sending incorrect data to the incorrect recipients, or losing devices that contain data in an unsecured form. A less dramatic breach may be someone viewing data without permission. In cases such as these, there is still a risk to our personal data, but the breach is due to company inadequacies rather than a direct malicious attack. These could be seen as opportunistic attacks, where the company is "facilitating" the breach and making the hackers jobs easier.

Other causes of data breaches could be through weak or missing passwords, not patching or updating software and systems, misconfiguring services, failing to implement proper access controls, or viewing data on rogue wireless networks. There's also social engineering, manipulated emails, phishing, and insider and outsider threats (both malicious and not) to worry about. All of these scenarios can end in a breach of personal data.

What can we do to protect our data?

There are situations where you as an individual user can be proactive when it comes to your data security. When sending emails and documents electronically, do so securely. Before storing your data, secure it before uploading. Don't offer personal data unnecessarily. If it's optional – don't give it out! Be cautious when it comes to posting details and information on social media. You can control and protect a lot of your data.

However, at times, we entrust our data to third-party organizations. When we shop online or do our banking, for example, our bank details are handed over. Our medical details are kept in electronic files along with other personal details like our Social Security number, address, phone number – the list is endless. This data is processed by various organizations on multiple systems (local and in the cloud) for various reasons.



It only takes one unprotected organization, one employee mishap, or one vulnerability for data to be compromised and breached. Many companies are taking the necessary steps to improve their security posture and better protect our personal data, but this will take time to reach all organizations. Data breach incidences will continue to happen, so what can we do?

Your data's been breached. Now what?

You see it in the headlines when it happens to someone else. But what happens when your personal data has been compromised. What should you do? Take a deep breath... Do what you can to protect yourself and try to avoid the theft of your identity. The likelihood is that you have an understanding of the type of data that has been exposed. Think of the



varied scenarios where the data can be used and how it can be used combined with other data that was stolen. Don't be complacent about it. You must take action and remain vigilant. A lot of the time you may not notice immediate anomalies. It may happen months or even years later, so remain cautious and remember that if your data has been breached, it is out there and can be used at any time.

Steps you can take include:

- Keep up to date on data breach incidents
- Determine what's been stolen
- Change all your passwords
- Know the state of your money affairs
- Contact relevant financial establishments
- Review your credit rating/reports regularly

No one wants to be a victim of identity theft

Remember that your personal data is yours – it is valuable and you should treat it that way. Knowing the risks, keeping track of data breaches that occur and the impacts they have on so many individuals should be high on your security to-do list. Use appropriate data protection technologies to protect your data whenever possible. Use two-factor authentication when available. Be cautious. Be vigilant. And let's protect our data.



Panera Bread's Website: The Latest Big Data Breach

Another day, another set of customers' personal data being exposed.

Panera Bread, the fast-casual bakery-cafe chain, leaked the personal data of possibly millions of customers who ordered food online through panerabread.com for eight months, according to Krebs on Security, a cybersecurity news blog run by journalist Brian Krebs. The leaked data included names, birthdays, emails, physical addresses and the last four digits of credit card numbers of customers who ordered food for delivery online, according to the blog.

While it is unclear how many customer records were compromised, Krebs said it "may be higher than seven million," and later on Twitter noted that it could be closer to 37 million.

In a statement to Reuters, Panera Bread said it had resolved the issue, and the leaked data impacted less than 10,000 people.

2018's Cutting Edge Network Security Solution:



Cisco Umbrella

Cloud Delivered Enterprise Security

As the industry's first Secure Internet Gateway in the cloud, Cisco Umbrella provides the first line of defense against threats on the internet.

As a secure internet gateway, Cisco Umbrella helps you tackle the challenges of mobility, SaaS, and branch transformation by offering a single platform that secures access to and use of the cloud, SaaS applications, branch offices, and endpoints.

It's your first line of defense against threats -- anytime and anywhere your users access the internet, traffic goes through Umbrella first. By delivering security from the cloud, not only do you save money, but it also provides more effective security. Here's how:

1. DNS & IP layer enforcement

Umbrella uses DNS to stop threats over all ports and protocols — even direct-to-IP connections. Stop malware before it reaches your endpoints or network.

2. Intelligent proxy

Instead of proxying all web traffic, Umbrella routes requests to risky domains for deeper URL and file inspection.

3. Command & control callback blocking

Even if devices become infected in other ways, Umbrella prevents connections to attacker's servers. Stop data exfiltration and execution of ransomware encryption.

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"Our investigation is continuing, but there is no evidence of payment card information nor a large number of records being accessed or retrieved," Panera Bread's Chief Information Officer John Meister told Reuters.

This incident just adds to the growing number of companies in recent months that have reported data breaches that compromised the personal information of millions of customers.

Client Spotlight

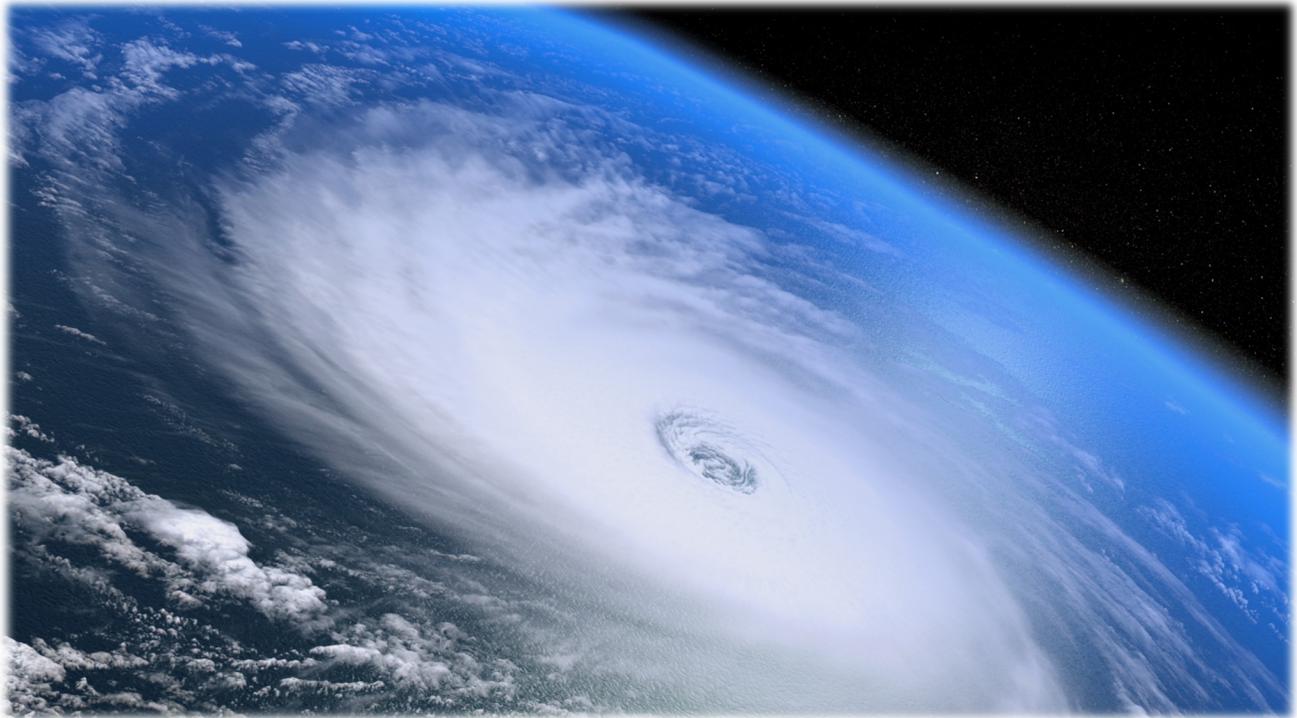


Baker Barrios

Our philosophy centers around design stewardship. We see design as a vehicle to influence the way people use space, by creating environments that are both accessible and adaptable and that provoke inspiration and connection. Clients rely on us as strategic business partners – as well as for the creativity, technical precision and independent thinking we apply to every project. Understanding each client's objectives, culture, personality and values is critical to achieving excellence in architecture, interior design, planning, landscape architecture, structural engineering, branding and communications.

**Would you like your company highlighted here in our "Client Spotlight"? Then give us a call today at:
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Another Above Average Hurricane Season, Meteorologists Say



After a nightmarish 2017 hurricane season featuring monsters such as Harvey, Irma, and Maria, many in the U.S. are hoping for a quieter year. A top forecasting group says that won't be the case.

Meteorologist Phil Klotzbach and other experts from Colorado State University – regarded as the nation's top seasonal hurricane forecasters – predict 14 named tropical storms, of which seven will become hurricanes. Both numbers are above the average of 12 and six, respectively.

A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when its wind speed reaches 74 mph. Of the seven predicted hurricanes, three are expected to spin into major hurricanes – category 3, 4 or 5 – with sustained wind speeds of 111 mph or greater. The group said there's a slightly above-average chance for major hurricanes to make landfall along the U.S. coastline. Klotzbach put the chance of a major hurricane strike at 63%.



Tech Hero

**has made the Pioneer 250
list of CRN's 2017
Managed Service Provider
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The 2017 MSP 500 list recognizes companies in North America whose approach to delivering managed services is one innovative step ahead.

The MSP Pioneer 250 is a list of channel companies with business models weighted toward managed services and largely focused on SMB market.

Colorado State's prediction in 2017 was low: last year, the team predicted 11 tropical storms would form, of which 4 would become hurricanes. In all, 17 tropical storms developed and 10 strengthened into hurricanes.

"We issue these forecasts to satisfy the curiosity of the general public and to bring attention to the hurricane problem," the university said. "There is a general interest in knowing what the odds are for an active or inactive season." The team's annual predictions provide a best estimate of activity during the upcoming season, not an exact measure, according to Colorado State.

AccuWeather released its hurricane forecast for the upcoming season earlier this week, predicting 12-15 named storms would form, of which six to eight will be hurricanes. The firm said three to four are likely to hit the U.S.

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30, though storms sometimes form outside those dates.

The first named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season will be Alberto, followed by Beryl, Chris, Debby, and Ernesto, the National Hurricane Center said.

