# STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING SUPPLY CHAIN RISKS

Supply chain breaches occur when attackers infiltrate your IT networks by gaining access through external partners or third-party vendors. Risks are higher than ever as more suppliers and vendors have access to sensitive data than ever before. Use this checklist to determine your vulnerabilities and mitigate supply chain attacks:

MITIGATING SUPPLY CHAIN ATTACKS

1

IDENTIFY RISKS IN SUPPLY CHAIN HARDWARE & SOFTWARE

Obtaining hardware and software products from external sources poses a considerable risk. Since companies cannot build everything on their own, these risks are inevitable. Make sure every device and software application is scanned and monitored to identify any potential risks.
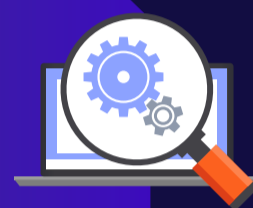
2

SCREEN EXTERNAL VENDORS CAREFULLY

When choosing external and third-party vendors to work with you, make sure they go through a stringent vetting process. If they have additional partners, expand your vetting even further.

3

SEGMENT YOUR NETWORKS

By segmenting your networks, you can separate and limit access to specific vendors within specific departments. Even in case of a potential breach, your risks can be contained within a certain segment without exposing the entire network.

4

DEVELOP DEFENSES AGAINST POTENTIAL BREACHES

Understand that some breaches are inevitable. What plans do you have place in case a breach occurs? In addition to focusing on prevention, you also need to develop a strategy on how to limit risks arising from data loss.

5

OUTLINE WORKING AGREEMENTS CLEARLY

When working with third-party vendors, come up with a clear agreement on the responsibilities they have towards your organization's cybersecurity. Both sides need to clarify expectations and follow security best practices.

6

REVIEW AND AUDIT VENDORS REGULARLY

Screening vendors shouldn't be a one-time process. Conducting recurring reviews of vendors and their processes is essential to see if there is a possibility of them introducing new vulnerabilities into your organization.

7

CREATE A SUPPLY CHAIN CONTINUITY STRATEGY

If unexpected demand leaves you in short supply, relaxing your supply standards or opting for alternative vendors could expose your system to new risks. Instead, create an approved vendor list and build strong relationships with trusted partners who will go the extra mile even during disruptions.

BIGGER THE SUPPLY CHAIN = BIGGER THE RISK

Assessing and mitigating supply chain risks only becomes more complicated as your company grows.

TALK TO US TODAY TO TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR DATA AND SECURE YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN.

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