



Issued 1/4/17

Hackers Target Law and Accounting Firms

Researchers warn hackers are increasingly targeting law and accounting firms to steal sensitive data and sell the information for profit or use in trading schemes.

The recent charges of securities fraud against three Chinese traders for stealing information from two top U.S. law firms reveal the persistent threat of cyber espionage against the law industry.

The three Chinese traders reportedly made more than \$4 million trading on the stolen information. The hackers specifically targeted seven firms for their expertise in mergers and acquisitions. The law firms were hit with over 100,000 cyberattacks in a three-month span, according to reports.

Researchers warn accounting firms that offer tax advice on mergers and acquisitions to law firms and other consultants may also be under attack by hackers attempting to obtain data on these deals.