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## **Phones at All Major US Carriers Filled with Vulnerabilities**

Researchers funded by the Department of Homeland Security discovered security vulnerabilities in mobile devices used by Verizon, AT&T, T-Mobile, Sprint and more, DHS program manager Vincent Sritapan told Fifth Domain at the Black Hat security conference in Las Vegas on Tuesday. The flaws are built into phones by manufacturers before they're bought, including a loophole that hackers could potentially exploit to access your data, emails and text messages without you knowing. The flaws would "escalate privileges and take over the device," Sritapan said, and researchers don't know if hackers have exploited them yet. The researchers funded by the department are from Kryptowire, a mobile security firm. Because the manufacturers didn't all publish the vulnerability in their disclosure process, the researchers weren't sure they received the information, Angelos Stavrou, the founder of Kryptowire, told Fifth Domain. But he confirms they are now all aware. The research first came about when Kryptowire discovered vulnerabilities in the Blu phone company [[https://www.kryptowire.com/adups\\_security\\_analysis.html](https://www.kryptowire.com/adups_security_analysis.html)]. The researchers are expected to release more details later this week.