

Retail Sector

Source: Deloitte Report



Case 2

Weak wireless security provides an open door to attack

Organization

A large retailer that sells apparel and home fashions.

Scenario

Attackers were able to exploit weak security on one of the retailer's wireless networks, which allowed them to intercept card transactions and access the organization's central database. The database, which was not encrypted, contained personal information and credit card details. As a result, the attackers were able to simply download the database and start selling the stolen information through a wide variety of channels.

Attackers and motivation

The attackers were cyber-criminals motivated by the financial gain of selling personal and cardholder data.

Techniques used

Several different techniques for attacking wireless networks were used to gain access to the network. Once inside, the attackers were able to monitor and intercept network data that eventually gave them access to the database of confidential information.

Business impact

The retailer's reputation took a big hit due to the large amount of personal identifiable and credit card information that was lost. This had a significant financial impact, including fines, settlement costs and lost sales.