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CASE STUDY: WANNACRY CRISIS INDUSTRY: HEALTHCARE

George Thompson| Director, Head of Enterprise Solutions

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Secgate assisted with an incident response and improvement programme for a healthcare client who had been affected by WannaCry ransomware, resulting in the initiation of full business continuity procedures. Following the incident, the client had requested that we document their current position with regards to business continuity and disaster recovery procedures as well as their current cybersecurity capability, and suggest actions required to improve their position and provide assurance to the Board.

After discussion with the client, we agreed that we would first do an initial assessment followed by several remediation workstreams. This was to ensure that the client were able to remediate the highest security concerns immediately, and to enable us to better focus the remediation work streams by first understanding what the priorities are. The initial assessment included an in depth review of the incident examining immediate vulnerabilities as well as underlying causes and appropriateness of the response. As part of this, we conducted a client self-assessment survey to explore the internal trust opinions of the business continuity processes within the client. When compared to our own findings, this provided a useful insight to the incident response preparedness across different areas of the organisation. The remediation work streams explored the client's risk management approach, third party management, security architecture and security assurance processes. Throughout the engagement we worked closely with the client to ensure the focus of our work remained on track to help them reach their goals.

The client is now able to understand exactly where and how the cyber incident occurred and has performed all necessary improvements to ensure this does not happen again. They are able to understand the shortcomings that led to the vulnerability and have put a prioritised improvement programme in place to address all other potential vulnerabilities. We identified and communicated to the board that a lack of budget and resource was having a considerable impact on the security team's ability to provide adequate protection, and so they have now approved budget for recruitment into the team.

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Throughout our work with the client, we saw a huge improvement in efficiency of patch management, malware detection, network monitoring, firewall management, application control, and privilege management. The client is now more confident that their security and business continuity functions are well equipped to support the organisation in the services they offer.

For further information, please contact:

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ABOUT SECGATE

Secgate was founded in 2015 in London, UK, as a cyber security innovation group combining technology and servises to prepare for, overcome, and further prevent, the world's most complex cyber problems. Secgate is a dynamic and diverse company with a passion for security.