

How many THINGS do you have on the INTERNET OF THINGS? And more importantly, are your THINGS safe from cyber-attack?

Client Advisories

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Merriam Webster defines the Internet of Things (“IoT”) this way: “the networking capability that allows information to be sent to and received from objects and devices (such as fixtures and kitchen appliances) using the Internet.” While refrigerators and porch lights are easy to see as “things” that might be connected up to the Internet and thereby controlled at a distance, the IoT is much more than a way for turning off the air conditioning when one has already left town for vacation. Currently it is estimated that approximately ten billion devices are connected up to the IoT and that that number will triple in about three years.

While consumer devices are most commonly associated with the IoT, technological advances are rapidly bringing industrial systems and medical care facilities into the IoT, and therefore into the glaring spotlight of the possibility of cyber-attack, just as the effect that that glare has had on the banking and retail sectors of the economy. So as remote diagnosis of heart attack is becoming reality, for example, all of the problems associated with cybersecurity attacks must be addressed by a whole new range of potential victims.



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