

BeCrypt reports a big shift in attitude to data security in Local Authorities and Police over last twelve months, but there is still much to do

Submitted by: PR Artistry Limited

Wednesday, 11 February 2009

Press Release

11 February 2009

BeCrypt reports a big shift in attitude to data security in Local Authorities and Police over last twelve months, but there is still much to do

Recent data survey shows 50% of public sector organisations now safeguard sensitive data compared to 10% a year ago.

BeCrypt, the UK's leading encryption and data security specialist, has announced that data security awareness has shown a marked increase in the Public Sector since a year ago. Results from a recent survey conducted by BeCrypt show that 50% of councils are using data security solutions and have policies in place for dealing with sensitive information, against the previous 10% recorded in the last survey published in October 2007. However, there are still 50% of Local Authorities that do not have specific policies in place for protecting sensitive information. The survey findings also show that nearly 90% councils are on track for joining the new Government Connect Secure Extranet GCSx by 31st March 2009.

The survey was carried out amongst IT department professionals in both large and small councils, London Boroughs and police authorities. The survey questioned how the organisations are approaching the new requirement to join GCSx and how they are safeguarding data with the provision of more flexible working for staff and extending services to citizens. Flexible working is hoped to assist councils provide improved work/life balance for staff. The survey findings also highlighted that many councils have put in procedures to manage the use of USB devices – with 57% of councils (an increase of nearly 20%) now having a port control solution in place and over 80% of police authorities. Many also report fewer instances of data loss over the last twelve months compared with the previous year.

Bernard Parsons, CEO at BeCrypt said: "The survey results shows real change in the way that data security is considered and managed. Our findings demonstrate that while there has been a marked improvement in the number of Local Authorities implementing data security policies, for many of them there is still much to be done. Changes in policy over the last 12 months have had a very real affect on attitudes and thinking across Local Authorities and Police Forces, and we expect this to continue."

"At BeCrypt we understand the delicate balancing act between Security and Usability. Working closely with government, we have developed encryption and data security products that provide manageable solutions to protect sensitive data, while still enabling it to be accessed and used with no impact on productivity."

BeCrypt provides a range of flexible security products for both the public and commercial sector. Its DISK Protect Baseline and DISK Protect Enhanced products provide full disk encryption and have been

designed to meet stringent government security standards. BeCrypt's Removable Media Module™ encrypts data on removable storage devices such as USB Flash Drives, Memory Sticks, and SD Cards. BeCrypt Enterprise Manager™ is a security management suite that enables centralised management of scalable, approved data security solutions.

Copies of the BeCrypt White Paper – Data Security in the Public Sector are available from: Andreina West, PR Artistry Limited, +44 (0) 1491 639500

-ends-

NOTES TO EDITORS

About BeCrypt

BeCrypt Limited was formed in 2001 to meet the growing demand for high-level computer encryption products in the international government and corporate marketplace. BeCrypt products protect customers in key UK government areas including: central and local government, the defence sector, law enforcement and transportation.

The company now also provides a range of flexible security products tailored to meet the requirements of the commercial sector. BeCrypt has customers in financial services, pharmaceutical, insurance and banking sectors.

BeCrypt's DISK Protect Baseline and DISK Protect Enhanced products have been designed to meet stringent government security standards and have been approved by the UK Government with CESG CAPS certification.

BeCrypt's Cryptographic Library has been certified through the Cryptographic Module Validation Program (CMVP) at FIPS 140-2 Level 1. BeCrypt DISK Protect is certified at FIPS 140-2 Level 2.

BeCrypt has won an award from the Department of Trade and Industry for innovative technology and has patents pending on a number of unique security technologies.

BeCrypt is a privately owned company based in London with additional offices in Washington, DC, USA, and Sydney, Australia.

For more information please visit: www.becrypt.com or call:

Editors contacts

Ben Ross
Vice President of Marketing
BeCrypt Limited
Tel: +44 (0) 845 838 2050
Email: bross@becrypt.com

Andreina West/Mary Phillips

PR Artistry Limited
Tel: +44 (0) 1491 639500
Fax: +44 (0) 1491 638866
email: andreina@pra-ltd.co.uk