

Defending Your Business Infrastructure with Print Security

The Need for Print Security



“Anytime, anywhere” access to business information heightens the need for overall IT security. Print technologies have unique characteristics that need specific attention to ensure maximize overall IT security.

Printing, copying, faxing and scanning are fundamental for processing documents for businesses of all sizes.



Businesses use all types of devices for printing – personal, desktop, networked, workgroup and departmental.

IDC estimates that over 1 trillion pages are printed in the U.S. every year.



What is Print Security?

There are three levels of print security:



Device-level: A print device has a display screen or user interface, memory, hard drive, communication ports – points-of-access vulnerable to attack. Take steps to ensure authorization/authentication of users to print equipment.



Document-level: Documents are susceptible to security breaches when prints/copies/fax with sensitive information are left in a tray and when unencrypted documents in motion (scans, faxes) are intercepted. Examine which employees can access specialty media in areas including printing checks and prescriptions.



Network-level: Single-function and multifunction printers are hubs for considerable document activity – printing and copying, as well as a wide range of document traffic that must be monitored and secured. Ensure that network users are equipped and familiar with security tools and processes specific to print technology.

Source: Brother, 2018

Quantifying the Cost of a Breach

According to a recent IDC survey:



24% of all respondents indicated that their company had a significant IT security breach in the last 12 months that required remediation.



Average total monetary cost to the organization was over \$815,000

Over 16% of these breaches involved print.

Security Drives Buying Decisions

It is essential to work with providers that offer a robust set of print security features.



66% of respondents say security features have a high influence on the acquisition of printers, copiers, and multifunction printers.



67% of companies say print security spending priority is high.

Only 10% say it's a low priority.



34% of respondents anticipate print security spending will increase in the next 12 months.

Less than 2% indicate a decrease in print security spending.

For more information, read the IDC InfoBrief, sponsored by Brother, "Defending Your Business Infrastructure with Print Security."