



Nova Communications Educates Customers on Ransomware

*Leader in Unified Communications
Helps Businesses Fight Malware*

Plymouth, MN – October 25, 2016 - Nova Communications a leader in unified communications, announced today that they have launched a ransomware awareness campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to quickly educate business owners in understanding one of the latest threats now facing small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs). Ransomware is a specific variation of malware, that is growing in popularity amongst hackers and Nova Communications is doing its best to alert business owners of this new tactic. Nova Communications' existing customers are very well protected against this type of threat but many business owners may be unaware of the potential destruction this has on an organization.

While business owners have always understood the need to protect their businesses from malware, short for "malicious software", ransomware is a new tactic that hackers are using to attack businesses in an especially wicked way. Essentially, an employee will receive an email with a deceptive link, labeled "See Resume Here" or "Download Report Now", and then upon clicking the link, a ransomware application will be installed immediately on the computer. Then, the software can remain hidden for several days, until it is activated. At that moment, the ransomware application will hijack critical files, remove them from the network, encrypt them so no other computers can access them and then hackers will send an email demanding payment for the release of the

missing files. The biggest problem with this type of cyber-attack is that it leaves absolutely no leverage to the business owner. Even if they pay the "ransom", hackers don't necessarily unlock the files every time. "This is a huge problem that could have drastic impact on an organization and the craziest thing we notice is that there is such a simple solution," stated Pete Jones, Owner/President at Nova Communications.

"These types of attacks happen far too often, and we take great pride in protecting our customers from threats like this," added Jones. "The first line of defense for these kinds of attacks is a technically educated staff. While the majority of these threats come in the form of suspicious email links, an educated staff can avoid these catastrophes simply through awareness. That's one of the reasons why we issued this press release," commented Jones. "For business owners that see the value of peace of mind, we devise comprehensive solutions that thwart these types of attacks from every angle. We take a global approach that includes a combination of anti-virus software, anti-malware software, strong firewalls, employee education, data backup, and network redundancy. What we've noticed over the years is that every network has different exposure points and our job is to come in as a technology advisor and to proactively prevent not only ransomware attacks, but the myriad of others attacks that a business owner may face for years to come."

Nova Communications' mission is to leave business owners in a more empowered position by serving as an educator of emergent technologies.

"Our biggest aim with this campaign is to usher in a sense of urgency amongst business owners so they take action now, instead of waiting to be in a difficult, immutable situation later," closed Jones.

About Nova Communications

Nova Communications is Minnesota's largest and most experienced Toshiba and Zultys dealer. Telecommunications runs your business. The team at Nova Communications has a history dating back to the early 1980's. Nova Communications does not just provide telephone system equipment and service; we provide a stake in the business of our customers. We learn their business and work with them to ensure they are receiving the very best value. Our goal is a lifelong partnership. The company's goal is maximum customer satisfaction through total customer satisfaction.

Nova Communications provides customers with industry leading technology, serviced by Factory Certified technicians with years of experience. Customer training is offered for every component of the phone system by Nova Communication's highly experienced team.

The company's trusted and professional technicians offer service to ensure system reliability. Nova Communications also offers comprehensive emergency service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week guaranteed within 2 hours.

For more information on Nova Communications, Inc. call (952) 473-2100 or visit <http://www.nova-communications.com>.