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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nova Communications' Technology Thwarts Cryptojacking

PLYMOUTH, MN — July 11, 2018 – Nova Communications, a leading managed technology services provider, is helping small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) to prevent cryptojacking attacks from damaging their organizations. Cryptojacking attacks, are derived from the widely popular cryptocurrencies, such as Bitcoin and Ethereum, and occurs when a corporate server is hijacked in order to facilitate cryptocurrency transactions by leveraging the inherent power of high-performance servers. As cryptocurrencies rely on an enormous amount of server power in order to facilitate transactions, many of the corporate servers that power small to mid-sized businesses have become an obvious target of cryptojacking attacks, as they are simply the most efficient vehicle for cryptojackers to exploit. Nova Communications is currently protecting SMBs from this threat.

“Businesses that are under attack are often unaware of this threat because these attacks are specifically designed to be minimally intrusive and hard to trace,” stated Pete Jones, Owner/President at Nova Communications. “Typically, cyber criminals set up their malware to run quietly in the background during daytime hours, only to extract maximum power during off-hours. It’s one of the telltale signs, yet this is rarely monitored by organizations that aren’t working with a reputable managed technology services provider. The result is that most businesses are flying blind and

unaware that their security has been compromised, which doesn't seem very dangerous on the surface. However, this leaves many cryptocurrency hackers with access to very sensitive points within an organization that can be taken advantage of later."

Most attacks take place when businesses are most vulnerable; after-hours and during migration to cloud-based solutions. During off-hours, cryptocurrency mining software can be installed quickly and without detection, creating a pivot-point where hackers can later install even more malware. Another vulnerable moment is when businesses are migrating their network to the cloud. The vulnerability here is because of the complexity and level of detailed attention required to successfully navigate these kinds of infrastructure transitions. Where most business owners simply add technology piece-by-piece, this fails to address the gaps in the network that arise glomming one solution onto another. Networks can quickly become messy and this is how organizations get exposed to hackers. In the case, of cryptojacking, it's no different.

"Business owners can protect themselves by taking the following actions, commented Mr. Jones. "As a first step, they need to diagnose their network and segment the utilization of their data. By doing this, business owners or CTOs can see which devices, servers, and endpoints are performing optimally and which are underperforming. Underperforming servers can provide a hint that the organization may have been cryptojacked. Another action they can take is to make sure that they aren't vulnerable to exploit kits, which are tools hackers use to infiltrate networks via common business software. Lastly, businesses can direct their attention to systems that expose the network, like VPNs (Virtual Private Networks) or other cloud-based technology. While there are many more steps to take, these are very effective first steps to protect any organization from cryptojacking."

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>.

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