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President

ATS Communications Alerts SMBs About Robocall Scams

*Leading Managed Technology Services
Provider (MTSP) Educates
Business Owners*

CONCORD, CA –July 2019- ATS Communications, a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), recently has announced that the company is alerting small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) about the prevalence of robocall scams and how any organization can best handle these calls to ensure that all sensitive company information remains protected. ATS Communications has compiled a handful of best practices which SMBs need to implement immediately to protect their organizations.

Robocalls use an automated computer dialer to deliver a pre-recorded message in an attempt to get the end-user to engage in any way. Other robocalls simply call from an anonymous number or utilize Caller ID “Spoofing” to misdirect the person on the other line and only ring once. The main goal for a scammer is to get the person to call back and then to connect that person to services that rack up charges through the phone account. Oftentimes, robocallers leave messages about unclaimed lottery winnings, fraudulent credit card notices, social security/medicare accounts or even adult phone services. In every case,

they can result in exorbitant charges and compromised security.

Robocalls have become a widespread misuse of technology and unfortunately business owners need to be aware of how to handle this challenge. “Virtually every business we’ve encountered has received an onslaught of robocalls,” stated Sanford Gladding, President of ATS Communications. “It’s critically important the employees are not fooled and avoid giving out company or customer information.”

Most business owners take the first step and block the number, but this usually doesn’t work as a tactic because all a scammer has to do is generate a new fraudulent number and then the blocked number is no longer effective as a defense. After repeated attacks, it can seem reasonable to want to call back and to address the scammer directly, however, this puts you and your business at even more risk.

By calling back, it signals to robocallers that your phone number is “live” which means that you’ll start getting more calls. Additionally, any time spent on the phone from an international scammer will also result in costly international charges whether you’re billed for the call or if they are able to extract any other sensitive information by impersonating a government agency, website or anyone else you

may trust. This is the biggest concern for business owners, because their organizations can potentially be breached with a single phone call.

However, there are several steps a business owner can take to ensure that his or her company, employees and assets are protected. The first thing to do is make sure that they are using Caller ID and to simply ignore any calls that come from suspicious sources. The next step is to make it company policy not to return any of these calls under any circumstances and to educate employees on this threat ahead of time. If a business owner wants to take things even further and they don’t do business internationally, they can call their phone provider and ask them to block all international calls to remove the opportunity altogether.

It’s also extremely important that everyone at the company knows that they should never disclose sensitive information, like credit card numbers or customer information over the phone, unless they are absolutely positive that they have verified the identity of the person on the other line. Scammers will often request that people send payment via gift cards, so it’s important to recognize that no government agencies, lottery companies or credit card companies accept gift cards as an acceptable means of payment. “At ATS

Communications, we train our customers' employees to be cautious and educate them on our to deal with robocalls. It's our duty to help protect the companies we serve," added Gladding.

ABOUT ATS COMMUNICATIONS

ATS is a technology solutions provider that partners with businesses to implement the latest enterprise networking and IT infrastructure, unified communications, cyber-security, business continuity, video surveillance and cloud infrastructure. These products and

services are delivered as a proactive managed service model providing peace of mind that all critical business systems meet expectations of high availability, security and optimization. With expertise on a wide range of voice and data products, ATS Communications is a business' complete voice and data partner. Their services match the needs of small and medium size enterprises with optimized technology that provide best practice solutions which creates a competitive advantage and makes a positive impact to the client's bottom line. With over 40 years of experience, ATS has gained an excellent reputation for designing,

implementing and proactively supporting solutions that focus on converging voice and data applications and has been recognized for outstanding performance by several of the industry's top manufacturers. These credentials have allowed ATS to grow and partner with businesses throughout Northern California and across the United States. ATS has three California offices located in Concord, Sacramento and Redding. For more information, call their corporate office in Concord at (925) 602-1500 or visit www.teamats.com.