The Threat Is Real: The State of Cybersecurity in Utilities

Critical infrastructure like utilities are prime targets for foreign and domestic threat actors. As utility providers modernize through automation and digitized connections, they open the door to increased cyberattacks by outside entities or from inside the walls — requiring an updated approach to identity security.

In recent years...

Utilities have been a prime target for cyberattacks:

56%

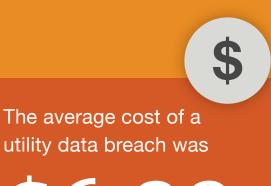
of utility providers faced cyberattacks1 Breach notifications in the utilities sector jumped²

Electricity providers in

states were attacked3



The consequences of a breach were severe:



\$6.39 million⁴

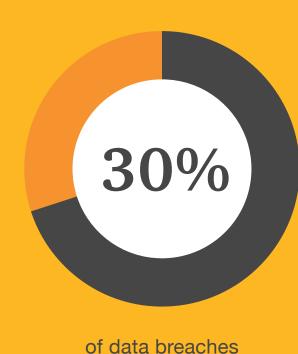
It took an average of 205

days to fix critical vulnerabilities after an incident5

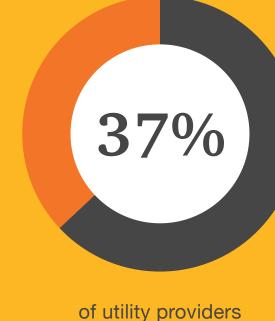
15,000

residents were at risk of being poisoned by an attempted hack at a Florida water utility⁶

Identity security is critical to protecting utilities:



at utility providers involve internal actors⁷



experience compromised employee credentials⁸



compromised employee password caused the hack that took down one of the largest natural gas pipelines in the United States

Areas of opportunity:

The good news is there are three clear strategies utility providers can use to begin creating a smarter approach to identity security:

individual employees' access.

Enterprise-wide

Focus on

security begins with each worker. Eliminate

manual processes. **Automation saves**

the risk of error.

time and reduces

Stay

compliant. Adopt a strategy

to ever-changing compliance requirements.

for faster adaptation

key to success. Who has access to what?

Workers are the new perimeter. Identity security is

the new firewall. And automation is the



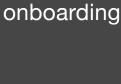
Identity security

How are they using their access?

Who should have access?

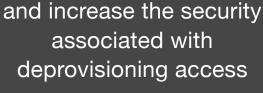
visibility and improve compliance and security.

identity processes can reduce costs, increase

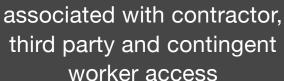


Quickly mobilize your

workforce with faster



Reduce the time



Mitigate the risk

(0)

See and control user access to all

applications and data - in the cloud,

on-premise and in legacy systems – to

enable increased security and compliance

Help ensure sensitive data and critical applications are accessed by the right people in the right locations

Learn more.

See how SailPoint and PwC are helping the utilities industry create more

secure, more efficient, more compliant identity security systems.



Download the white paper.

- **SailPoint**
- ⁶ Jed Pressgrove. "Cybersecurity: The Latest Challenge for Local Water Utilities." Government Technology. March 2021. ⁷ Verizon, "2020 Data Breach Investigations Report."
- ⁸ SailPoint, "Using Identity and Access Governance to Mitigate Data Breach Risks."

² "2021 Data Breach Outlook." Kroll. ³ Matthew Stolle. "Cyberattacks Continue Against U.S. Utility Companies." Government Technology. November 2019.

¹ Jaclyn Brandt. "Survey: 56 percent of utilities have faced a cyberattack

in the last year." Daily Energy Insider. October 2019.

Security Magazine. June 2021.

⁴ Rob Robinson. "SOARing Costs? Considering Data Breach Economics." Complex Discovery. March 2021. ⁵ "Survey finds utilities industry has the highest Window of Exposure."

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9 William Turton and Kartikay Mehrotra. "Hackers breached Colonial Pipeline with one compromised password." Aljazeera. June 2021.