

Call Attention: Strengthen Cybersecurity Measures Based on the Recent Situation

Given the recent situation, the potential risks of cyber-attack is likely to increase. Each company / organization is requested to deepen its awareness of the threat of cyber-attacks and to strengthen its countermeasures under the leadership of management.

In addition, overseas branches may also serve as a foothold for cyber-attacks on domestic critical systems, so please implement security measures with specific support and instructions in the same way as domestic systems.

If you find any suspicious activity, please contact the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry or security-related organizations immediately for early response.

1. Measures to reduce risk

- Strengthen authentication by confirming whether the password is not simple, confirming access permission, using multi-factor authentication, deleting unnecessary accounts, etc.
- Understand the status of information assets including IoT devices. In particular, vulnerabilities in devices that control the connection to the Internet, such as VPN devices and gateways, are often exploited in attacks, so security patches (latest firmware, updates, etc.) should be applied promptly.
- Inform officers and employees that they should not open email attachments carelessly, should not click URLs carelessly, and should promptly consult with the appropriate contact when they think something is suspicious.

2. Early detection of incidents

- Check logs on the server, etc.
- Monitor and analyze communications and re-check access control.

3. Appropriate response and recovery in the event of an incident

- Confirm the data backup and recovery procedure in preparation for data loss.
- Confirm the procedure when the incident is recognized, and prepare an external response and internal communication system in preparation for incidents.

For more information regarding cybersecurity measures, please refer to the following website.

- Information-technology Protection Agency, Japan (IPA)
 - IT Security
<https://www.ipa.go.jp/security/english/index.html>
- JPCERT/CC (Japan Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Center)
 - Security Alerts
<https://www.jpcert.or.jp/english/at/2022.html>