

Service Provider Cloud Services under Siege from Cyber Attacks, NETSCOUT Research Finds

- *Year of record-breaking threats sees attacks against cloud services increase by 14 percent*
- *Hackivism on the rise; Government becomes top targeted vertical*

NETSCOUT, a leading provider of service assurance, security, and business analytics, released the first findings from its upcoming Worldwide Infrastructure Security Report (WISR), revealing a clear trend of targeted attacks against service provider cloud services. In 2018, 47 percent of service providers reported distributed denial of service attacks (DDoS) attacks against cloud services, a 14 percent increase over 2017 and a 22 percent increase since 2016. With increased reliance on cloud-based services across the connected world, and cloud rapidly becoming an integral part of providers' offerings, successful attacks have the potential to inflict significant damage both to the providers and their customers.

"The cloud has become fundamental to our lives and businesses, and as more services and data move there it should come as no surprise that attackers are increasingly targeting cloud infrastructure and services with DDoS attacks. If it's important to you (network operators, enterprises and governments), it's important to them (attackers)," said Darren Anstee, NETSCOUT CTO for Security. "As hybrid and multi-cloud environments will be with us for the foreseeable future, and as attackers increasingly use more sophisticated and dynamic multi-vector attacks, consistent multi-domain visibility and security capabilities are becoming ever more important. "

Another significant change in 2018 was in the sectors most targeted by DDoS attacks. In past years, financial services, e-commerce, and gaming customers were at the top of the list. In 2018, it was governments, signifying a notable shift from extortion attacks to political and ideological hacktivism. DDoS has long been a tool for online protests, thanks to the combination of increasingly sophisticated for-hire DDoS attack services and free attack tools that enable anyone with basic online skills to launch an attack. As political instability increases around the world, NETSCOUT expects DDoS to continue to be used both as a form of protest and as a weapon in geopolitical disputes.

Other key findings from the report reveal that 95 percent of service providers in 2018 experienced either inbound or outbound DDoS attacks, marking a 10 percent increase from the previous year, while attacks reached a record size of 1.7 terabits per second. It's therefore no surprise that 88 percent of service providers cited DDoS attacks as their primary security concern for 2019.

The WISR survey data is based upon responses from 231 Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 service providers, hosting, mobile, enterprise and other types of network operators from around the world.

Two-thirds of all respondents identify as security, network or operations professionals.

The full report, including direct insights from network and security professionals at the world's leading service provider, cloud/hosting and enterprise organizations, will be available on March 19th.

About NETSCOUT

NETSCOUT SYSTEMS, INC. (NASDAQ: NTCT) assures digital business services against disruptions in availability, performance, and security. Our market and technology leadership stems from combining our patented smart data technology with smart analytics. We provide real-time, pervasive visibility, and insights customers need to accelerate, and secure their digital transformation. Our approach transforms the way organizations plan, deliver, integrate, test, and deploy services and applications. Our nGenius service assurance solutions provide real-time, contextual analysis of service, network, and application performance. Arbor security solutions protect against DDoS attacks that threaten availability, and advanced threats that infiltrate networks to steal critical business assets. To learn more about improving service, network, and application performance in physical or virtual data centers, or in the cloud, and how NETSCOUT's performance and security solutions, powered by service intelligence can help you move forward with confidence, visit www.netscout.com or follow @NETSCOUT and @ArborNetworks on Twitter, Facebook, or LinkedIn.

Press contact

Carolin Nillert / Yannik Bartling

Oseon

netscout@oseon.com

+49-69-25 73 80 22 -16 / -15