



Losing sleep over a lost Laptop: a privacy nightmare

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WinEncrypt



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The beauty of a laptop is that one is never at a loss when asked for information. The down side, however, is that a laptop, chock full of information critical to one's business and personal life, also has to be guarded as dearly. Laptops are stolen everyday and from almost anywhere – a car, house, office, snatched out of one's hands, the list is endless.

But the cost of losing one's laptop cannot just be measured in monetary terms. Anyone who's lost a laptop will vouch for this.

Instant steps to be taken after loss of laptop

Loss of a laptop compromises confidential customer data or the trade secrets of your company. Don't waste time panicking in such a situation. There are simple steps, which if taken immediately, can minimize the damage to your business and clientele:

- ✓ The most critical threat is from sensitive data that can be easily accessed through your laptop. Therefore, inform all dealers and customers regarding the breach of information so that they can take the necessary measures.
- ✓ If your insurance company covers the loss of laptop, inform the concerned people.
- ✓ Make a blueprint of the assignments that will get interrupted and inform everybody who will be affected by the delay.



Precautions

As far as the loss of hardware is concerned, the problem is easily rectifiable. It is the disclosure of proprietary information that can lead to a lot of trouble, personally as well as professionally. And in the worst case scenario, you could be faced with legal action.

- ✓ Some precautions that can be taken to safeguard data include:
- ✓ Make sure that you do not keep your notebook at an unguarded place.
- ✓ A lot of hi-tech gadgets and tools are available in the market offering storage of enormous chunks of data. Ensure you have a copy of the most recent data to make up for downtime.
- ✓ Don't forget to take a backup of the hard drive on a regular basis.
- ✓ Encryption of data should be implemented as a necessary step, to avoid loss of data and the resultant consequences.

Moreover, with hardware tracking services available today, there is hope of being able to recover the laptop once the thief is apprehended.

A laptop getting misplaced or stolen can be frustrating and annoying. However, gaining familiarity with these steps helps us to be better prepared for such eventualities.



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