

## Security Experts Warn of Increased SQL Injection Attacks

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Managed IT security services provider SecureWorks announced Tuesday that they have seen a significant rise in the number of attempted SQL injection hacks aimed at some of its financial and utility company clients over the last three months. "From January through March, we blocked anywhere from 100 to 200 SQL Injection attacks per day," said SecureWorks CTO Jon Ramsey. "As of April, we have seen that number jump from 1,000 to 4,000 to 8,000 per day," said Ramsey.

"The majority of the attacks are coming from overseas," said Ramsey. "And although we certainly see a higher volume with other types of attacks, what makes the SQL Injection exploits so worrisome is that they are often indicative of a targeted attack." This is a type of attack where the hacker has targeted a particular organization, versus a worm which spreads indiscriminately.

"The CardSystems security breach, where hackers stole 263,000 customer credit card numbers and exposed 40 million more, is a prime example of a SQL Injection attack," said Ramsey. A more recent example of a SQL Injection attack occurred last December when Russian hackers broke into a Rhode Island government Web site and stole credit card information from individuals who had done business online with state agencies. The Russian hackers claimed to have stolen 53,000 credit card numbers during this attack.

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