<u>Virus Warning</u>

DCS are aware of a virus named Petya. The nature of this virus means it will encrypt all of your documents, photos, videos and other file types. You will be requested for payment in order to retrieve a *private key* which would *decrypt* your personal files. Without this private key, your files will be impossible to decrypt.

This particular type of threat is called ransomware.

If you use intY MailDefender Plus or EveryCloud, rest assured that the service is already updated to protect you against currently known variants of this threat coming in via e-mail. If you use ESET as your on-site anti-virus software then this will protect you against most variants (but not all).

Our advice is as follows:-

- **Make sure you have a backup copy of your important files. They can then be easily restored in the event of infection**
- Do not open *any* e-mail attachments unless you are *sure* of its content.
- It is the opinion of DCS that paying the ransom would not be a safe process.
- Make sure your anti-virus software is up to date.
- Do not disable your anti-virus software for *any* reason
- If you have a weak password on your machine (i.e. Password1, password), change it immediately!
- If you fall victim of this cyber-crime, you can report it to Action Fraud who are the UK's national fraud and internet crime reporting centre
  i)   http://www.actionfraud.police.uk
  ii)   0300 123 2040

For further advice you can contact our call desk either at maint@deansplc.co.uk or 01937 541411.

If we have any further information on this or any other major threats in the future, it will be posted on our Twitter and FaceBook sites.

Thank you

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