

# ENSURING YOUR ONLINE SECURITY

Threats to your security can come in many forms. More recently those who may wish to maliciously cause harm have turned away from merely infringing on your physical wellbeing and have turned to cyber crime.

With cyber attacks on the rise, having a strong defence against losing vital data is becoming critical in both business and personal life. It is no longer enough to rely on anti-virus software and a firewall, but equally it's important to protect yourself from data leaking from within your company or staff working closely with you.

**Conflict Marbella is the new dedicated consultancy service in the region from Conflict international who, from their head office in London, specialise in providing bespoke intelligence, investigation, security and risk advice services to clients worldwide.**

Director Mike LaCorte says cyber security is now becoming an important part of their business. "We are finding that it is now a logical next step for

many companies and high-net-worth individuals we are acting for. There is a need to make sure not only their physical wellbeing is secure but that often now extends into security online."

## Finding the Source of Data Leaks

Through their London head office, Conflict Marbella has access to a team of experts who specialise in cyber security. Whether protecting you from external threats or ensuring that sensitive information doesn't leave through any form of espionage from a former employee, they have the technical know-how to find out how safe your systems are and discover any breaches in your security.

Conflict's experienced specialists can carry out a thorough specialist Technical Surveillance Counter Measures, or TSCM, audit to discover any hidden bugs including sophisticated devices within IT infrastructure, phones, laptops and desktop PC's.



Mike LaCorte, a founder of Conflict International has over 20 years experience in the investigation industry. He has been instrumental in drawing a number of high profile corporate and private investigation cases to a conclusion and his expertise in gathering legally admissible evidence is highly regarded. Mike speaks English, Spanish and Italian, and was elected 2nd Vice President of the World Association of Detectives in 2015.

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A recent survey of employees who either left or lost a job showed that more than half had admitted stealing confidential information. The highest proportion was in the financial services industry but it could equally apply in

many other sectors. Additionally, if you have a close-knit team working around you who have access to confidential information, it is important to make sure none of it is leaking from someone within that circle or from a disgruntled

former employee. Conflict highlights where your threats are coming from and allow you to go about your business - safely and securely.

**'Penetration Testing', puts your IT infrastructure to the test by attempting to by-pass its existing security.**



## Hacking the Hackers

There are a variety of methods that can be deployed to ensure your systems remain secure. Mike LaCorte says one area is particularly effective. "We have a talented team of industry experts on hand that can ethically carry out what is known as a Pentest. Penetration Testing, to give it its full name, puts your IT infrastructure to the test by attempting to by-pass its existing security. This can quickly determine any areas where the integrity of the system is at risk and how those gaps in security can be filled effectively."

A Pentest can also be extremely useful if you have already been the victim of a cyber attack. Conflict's IT specialists can determine how it happened and effectively recreate the virus in a controlled environment to determine what data, if any, was accessed. They can also extract important identifiable information about the virus type, its capabilities and also possibly the location and who may have perpetrated the attack. The team can then go on to make sure new controls put in place are sufficient to stop a similar attack in future.

To the untrained eye, there can appear to be a bewildering array of methods being used to gain access to your vital data. **Whether that attack is planned or at random, it is heartening to know that there are specialists who are one step ahead of those who may threaten your security.**