



BTI Communications Group Alerts SMBs About Robocall Scams

*Leading Managed Technology Services
Provider (MTSP) Educates
Business Owners*

DOWNERS GROVE, IL –July 2019 - BTI Communications Group, a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), recently has announced that the company is alerting small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) about the prevalence of robocall scams and how any organization can best handle these calls to ensure that all sensitive company information remains protected. BTI Communications Group has compiled a handful of best practices which SMBs need to implement immediately to protect their organizations.

Robocalls use an automated computer dialer to deliver a pre-recorded message in an attempt to get the end-user to engage in any way. Other robocalls simply call from an anonymous number or utilize Caller ID “Spoofing” to misdirect the person on the other line and only ring once. The main goal for a scammer is to get the person to call back and then to connect that person to services that rack up charges through the phone account. Oftentimes, robocallers leave messages about unclaimed lottery winnings, fraudulent credit card notices, social security/medicare accounts or even adult phone services. In every case, they can result in exorbitant charges and compromised security.

Robocalls have become a widespread misuse of technology and unfortunately business owners need to be aware of how to handle this challenge. “Virtually every business we’ve encountered has received an onslaught of robocalls,” stated Eric Brackett, Founder/President of BTI Communications Group. “It’s critically important the employees are not fooled and avoid giving out company or customer information.”

Most business owners take the first step and block the number, but this usually doesn’t work as a tactic because all a scammer has to do is generate a new fraudulent number and then the blocked number is no longer effective as a defense. After repeated attacks, it can seem reasonable to want to call back and to address the scammer directly, however, this puts you and your business at even more risk.

By calling back, it signals to robocallers that your phone number is “live” which means that you’ll start getting more calls. Additionally, any time spent on the phone from an international scammer will also result in costly international charges whether you’re billed for the call or if they are able to extract any other sensitive information by impersonating a government agency, website or anyone else you may trust. This is the biggest concern for business owners, because their organizations can potentially be breached with a single phone call.

However, there are several steps a business owner can take to ensure that his or her company, employees and assets are protected. The first thing to do is make sure that they are using Caller ID and to simply ignore any calls that come from suspicious sources. The next step is to make it company policy not to return any of these calls under any circumstances and to educate employees on this threat ahead of time. If a business owner wants to take things even further and they don’t do business internationally, they can call their phone provider and ask them to block all international calls to remove the opportunity altogether.

It’s also extremely important that everyone at the company knows that they should never disclose sensitive information, like credit card numbers or customer information over the phone, unless they are absolutely

positive that they have verified the identity of the person on the other line. Scammers will often request that people send payment via gift cards, so it’s important to recognize that no government agencies, lottery companies or credit card companies accept gift cards as an acceptable means of payment. “At BTI Communications Group, we train our customers’ employees to be cautious and educate them on our to deal with robocalls. It’s our duty to help protect the companies we serve,” added Brackett.

ABOUT BTI COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

BTI Communications Group exists to sell and deliver telephony, networking, and security solutions that benefit its clients businesses. BTI is not owned or captive to any manufacturer or solution so it is free to help clients put the best case solutions in place that they can reasonably afford. BTI’s solution partners include Cisco, Dell, Microsoft, VMware, IO Data Centers, ShoreTel, Mitel, Zultys, Salient, exaqVision, Milestone, Tyco, AT&T, Verizon, Level3, Centurylink, XO, Time Warner Business Class, Charter Business, Comcast, and regional players across the country. BTI’s GlobalView Managed Service Program delivered by over 400 engineers, provides 24 hour monitoring and management of its networking, communication, and security solutions. BTI offers business continuity, managed service, and collocation services to our clients in the nation’s top rated data centers. For more information, please email BTI on line at www.btigroup.com or call us at 800-Help-BTI.