

BEWARE SECURITY LEAKS FROM MOBILE DEVICES

Mobile devices like laptops and smartphones can help criminals tap into sensitive data because they are often not included in a company's overall security regime, a Surrey IT consultancy has warned.

ROBERT MAY, MANAGING director of the Godalming based IT solutions consultancy ramsac, said: "Mobile devices are critical business tools for many companies as remote working increases. Surveys show that 25% of mobile devices carry mission-critical information (source: BPMF) but that

30% of these devices are lost each year (source: SANS Institute) – which presents a serious risk to data security.

"Most laptop manufacturers have developed increasingly secure solutions, such as operating system password encryption and fingerprint readers for portable devices. However it is easy to overlook these, often for the sake of speed - but it is vital to make the most of these systems. Increasingly third-party manufacturers are also producing a wide-range of plug-in encryption keys, meaning any potential intruder would need to steal the USB key as well as the mobile device to be able to access sensitive data.

"The suitability of the security measures used often depends on the individual and budget available, but with many options on offer it is sensible to investigate these to determine the most suitable."

