# Dole Says Employee Information Compromised in Ransomware Attack

**Produce giant Dole admitted in a document submitted on Wednesday to the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) that the recent ransomware attack resulted in unauthorized access to employee information.**

The Ireland-based company said in February that it was forced to shut down some plants due to the cyberattack, but still claimed that impact on its operations was limited. On the other hand, some stores blamed product shortages on problems caused by the incident.

In its latest SEC filing, Dole reiterated that the "sophisticated ransomware attack" had limited impact on its operations.

"Upon detecting the attack, we promptly took steps to contain the attack, retained the services of leading third-party cybersecurity experts and notified law enforcement," the company said.

It was reported after the attack came to light that Dole had rushed to shut down systems to prevent the spread of the ransomware, which suggested that file-encrypting malware was

involved.

Dole has not said how many employees are impacted, but its Wikipedia page says the company employs 38,000 people.

In an earlier SEC filing, the company said the incident was particularly disruptive for its Chilean and fresh vegetables businesses.

The company said in a conference call earlier this month that it does not expect to recover losses caused by the ransomware attack through cyberinsurance or supplier recovery.

It’s unclear which ransomware group was behind the attack. *SecurityWeek* has checked the leak sites of several major operations and found no mention of Dole at the time of writing.

The cybercrime group that conducted the attack may not have a leak website, but it’s also possible that Dole decided to pay the ransom demanded by the hackers.

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