



## Daily Cyber Headlines

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### Today's Headlines:

#### Leading Story

- Chinese Government-linked Cyber Threat Actors Combine Automated and Hands-on Intrusion Toolkits to Steal Sensitive Data

#### Data Breaches & Data Leaks

- Japan Sees Sharp Rise in Web Data Leaks Amid Mobile API Abuse and Metabase Attacks
- Asahi Kasei Therapeutics' Website for Healthcare Professionals, Pharma Digital, was Illegally Accessed

#### Cyber Crimes & Incidents

- Ransomware Recovery CEO Indicted After Allegedly Paying Threat Actor and Pocketing Millions
- Tensorlake 0.5.144 Npm Compromise Ships Mini Shai-Hulud

#### Vulnerabilities & Exploits

- Cisco Patches a Dozen Critical Vulnerabilities

## Trends & Reports

- Security Awareness Training Isn't Dead, but It Needs a Rethink

## Privacy, Legal & Regulatory

- Nothing to Report

## Upcoming Health-ISAC Events

- Global Monthly Threat Brief
  - Americas – October 27, 2026, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET
  - European – October 28, 2026, 03:00-04:00 PM CET
  - APAC – October 30, 2026, 01:00-02:00 PM AEST

## Additional Information

### Leading Story

### **Chinese Government-linked Cyber Threat Actors Combine Automated and Hands-on Intrusion Toolkits to Steal Sensitive Data**

#### **Summary**

- A joint cybersecurity advisory identifies Chinese government-linked threat actors who use automated scanning, vulnerability exploitation, and hands-on intrusion techniques to compromise organizations worldwide, steal sensitive information, and maintain persistent access across critical infrastructure sectors.

#### **Analysis & Action**

Chinese government-linked threat actors, supported by Integrity Technology Group, have targeted organizations worldwide, including the health sector, using automated scanning, botnets, and targeted exploitation to gain unauthorized network access. For more information, Health-ISAC [published](#) an advisory for this.

The actors exploit known vulnerabilities, conduct password-spraying attacks, and deploy VPN-based persistence mechanisms. Their activities include credential theft, email exfiltration, and unauthorized access to sensitive organizational information.

Health-ISAC advises its members to prioritize vulnerability patching, enforce multifactor authentication, restrict exposed services, monitor suspicious authentication activity, and investigate unauthorized VPN connections and potential data exfiltration.

### **Data Breaches & Data Leaks**

## Japan Sees Sharp Rise in Web Data Leaks Amid Mobile API Abuse and Metabase Attacks

### Summary

- Japanese organizations experienced a surge in personal data leaks linked to mobile API abuse and software vulnerabilities. Researchers identified 119 publicly disclosed incidents in 2026, highlighting growing risks to web applications and sensitive information.

### Analysis & Action

JPCERT/CC warned of increasing data breaches affecting Japanese organizations, with 119 incidents publicly disclosed through October 6, compared with 84 during 2025, involving unauthorized access to web applications.

Threat actors exploited weak API authentication, excessive permissions, and known vulnerabilities, including the Metabase CVE-2026-72898, a critical SQL injection flaw that enabled unauthorized database access and potential credential theft.

Health-ISAC advises its members to strengthen API authentication, enforce least-privilege access, patch vulnerable Metabase installations, monitor unusual API requests, and investigate potential exposure of sensitive organizational and patient information.

## Asahi Kasei Therapeutics' Website for Healthcare Professionals, Pharma Digital, was Illegally Accessed

### Summary

- A cyberattack on a contractor-managed database exposed personal details of 514,000 health sector professionals, highlighting risks in third-party vendor security.

### Analysis & Action

An unauthorized access incident involving an Asahi Kasei Therapeutics portal exposed details of 514,000 healthcare professionals. Stolen professional records could enable malicious actors to craft convincing impersonation messages, creating initial intrusion pathways into larger clinical networks and partner organizations.

External vendor databases frequently store sensitive organizational directories. When third-party platforms experience security incidents, compromised contact details become assets for cybercriminals conducting targeted social engineering.

Health-ISAC recommends conducting routine vendor security audits, implementing strict multi-factor access controls, and maintaining active monitoring across all third-party integration points.

## **Cyber Crimes & Incidents**

### **Ransomware Recovery CEO Indicted After Allegedly Paying Threat Actor And Pocketing Millions**

#### **Summary**

- U.S. prosecutors charged MonsterCloud CEO, Zohar Pinhasi, with allegedly defrauding ransomware victims by secretly paying cybercriminals for decryption keys while claiming to use proprietary recovery technology, collecting over \$19 million from affected organizations.

#### **Analysis & Action**

U.S. authorities indicted MonsterCloud owner Zohar Pinhasi for allegedly misleading ransomware victims about recovery services, secretly paying cybercriminals while claiming his company could decrypt files without paying the ransom.

Prosecutors allege MonsterCloud collected over 19 million USD from clients while paying more than 8 million USD in ransoms, often charging significantly higher fees for purported proprietary recovery services.

Health-ISAC advises its members to thoroughly vet ransomware recovery providers, require transparency regarding ransom negotiations, verify remediation methods, and maintain tested backups and incident response procedures.

### **Tensorlake 0.5.144 Npm Compromise Ships Mini Shai-Hulud**

#### **Summary**

- Version 0.5.144 of the Tensorlake npm package contained a malicious credential-stealing worm that executed upon installation.

#### **Analysis & Action**

The distribution of the Mini Shai-Hulud worm via the Tensorlake npm compromise illustrates a supply chain security exposure, in which infected open-source dependencies harvest operational credentials directly from developer workstations.

In health sector technological environments, compromised credentials risk exposing cloud infrastructure, proprietary health analytics pipelines, and administrative tokens that safeguard sensitive clinical repositories and institutional management systems.

Health-ISAC recommends auditing workstations for active persistence tasks prior to revoking compromised tokens, enforcing strict dependency pinning with cryptographic package hash verification across build environments, and mandating hardware-backed multi-factor authentication for development account access.

## **Vulnerabilities & Exploits**

### **Cisco Patches a Dozen Critical Vulnerabilities**

#### **Summary**

- Cisco released security updates addressing 35 vulnerabilities across multiple products, including over a dozen critical flaws. The vulnerabilities could enable remote code execution, unauthorized access, privilege escalation, information disclosure, and denial-of-service attacks.

#### **Analysis & Action**

Cisco has patched 35 vulnerabilities affecting Meraki devices, License On-Prem, NX-OS, and Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC), including critical flaws that could compromise enterprise networking infrastructure.

Several vulnerabilities, including CVE-2026-76471 and CVE-2026-76465, could allow unauthenticated remote code execution with root privileges or denial-of-service attacks. Cisco reports no known active exploitation. For more information, Health-ISAC [published](#) an advisory for this.

Health-ISAC advises its members to identify affected Cisco products, prioritize security updates, restrict exposed management interfaces, review device configurations, and monitor network activity for potential exploitation attempts.

## **Trends & Reports**

### **Security Awareness Training Isn't Dead, but It Needs a Rethink**

## Summary

- Cybersecurity experts emphasize the need to modernize security awareness training, as traditional compliance-focused programs struggle to keep pace with evolving social engineering threats. Continuous, behavior-based education and technical safeguards are increasingly important for improving organizational resilience.

## Analysis & Action

Cybersecurity experts highlight limitations in traditional security awareness training, noting that repetitive, compliance-driven programs often fail to prepare employees for increasingly sophisticated social engineering and AI-enabled phishing attacks.

AI-generated phishing, deepfake impersonation, and evolving attack techniques challenge employee detection capabilities. Experts recommend continuous, role-specific training focused on practical security behaviors, supported by stronger technical controls.

Health-ISAC advises its members to implement continuous security awareness programs, conduct realistic phishing simulations, reinforce the reporting of suspicious activity, and combine employee education with phishing-resistant authentication and identity protection.

## Privacy, Legal & Regulatory

Nothing to Report.

## Health-ISAC Cyber Threat Level

On September 17, 2026, the Health-ISAC Threat Intelligence Committee (TIC) evaluated the current Cyber Threat Level and decided to maintain it at **Yellow (Elevated)**. The Threat Level of **Yellow (Elevated)** is due to threats from:

**ShinyHunters Activity, Job Scams, Increase in Vulnerability Reporting, Third-Party Risk, and DPRK IT Worker Fraud.**

**For more information about the Health-ISAC Cyber Threat Level, including definitions and response guidelines for each of the alert levels, please review the Threat Advisory System.**

**You must have Cyware Access to reach the Threat Advisory System document.**  
**Contact [membership@h-isac.org](mailto:membership@h-isac.org) for access to Cyware.**

**Report Source(s)**

Health-ISAC

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**Reference**

[safedep](#)  
[securityweek](#)  
[cyware](#)  
[cyware 1](#)  
[securityweek 1](#)  
[cyberscoop](#)  
[thehackernews](#)  
[cisa](#)  
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**Tags**

Tensorlake, Ransomware Recovery, CVE-2026-76465, CVE-2026-76471, Metabase SQLi, Shai-Hulud, Chinese Espionage Activities, API abuse, Security awareness training, Data breach, Cisco NX-OS

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**For Questions or Comments:**

Please email us at [toc@h-isac.org](mailto:toc@h-isac.org)