



## CYBERSECURITY

### [AICPA Survey Shows U.S. Adults Worried About Identity Theft and Financial Fraud and Concerned Businesses Can't Protect Their Data](#)

A new Harris Poll for the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA), which called 1,006 U.S. adults for the report, shows interesting statistics regarding American adults' attitudes and fears about identity theft and financial loss as a result of cyber intrusions. The poll's conclusion is that 48 percent of U.S. adults believe that identity theft will cause them financial loss in the next year, and 81 percent are concerned that businesses are unable to safeguard their personal and financial information—40 percent of those individuals are either extremely or very concerned about that possibility. One of the statistics cited by the poll is that 145 million U.S. adults were hit with malware, viruses, spyware, and phishing schemes in 2017. [Read more](#)

### [Chinese Telecom Companies Still in Hot Water](#)

"Chinese cyber espionage and cyber-attack capabilities will continue to support China's national security and economic priorities," says Dan Coats, the Director of National Intelligence. "Americans should not buy Huawei or ZTE products." In March 2017, the Chinese Telecom company, ZTE, pleaded guilty to shipping U.S. technology to Iran and North Korea, and reached a settlement to punish the responsible parties for covering up the illegal sales and pay a \$1.2 billion penalty. ZTE did not honor the settlement deal, failing to punish those involved with the cover-up; in fact, those employees received bonuses. [Read more](#)

## HEALTH INFORMATION PRIVACY

### [SAMHSA and ONC Issue Fact Sheets on Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Information](#)

In response to the opioid crisis, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in collaboration with the

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Office of the National Coordinator (ONC), recently issued two fact sheets to provide clarity on the updated 42 CFR Part 2 regulations in the context of health information exchanges and provider health settings.

The fact sheets set forth different scenarios “to help eradicate any barrier someone might encounter to either choosing or providing appropriate treatment...” and “should help providers and health information exchange organizations understand how to appropriately access and securely share health information with the patient’s consent.” [Read more](#)

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## **DRONES**

### **[UAS Integration Pilot Program](#)**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will now fund double the number of unmanned aircraft system (UAS or drone) integration projects as it previously has, due to a strong response from organizations and companies wishing to participate. The DOT’s UAS Integration Pilot Program (IPP) was set to launch five projects in the initial round, but the DOT received so many applications for the program that the DOT has decided to raise the number of projects to 10.

The DOT will fund these projects as part of the IPP. The IPP was launched by the Trump administration with hopes of boosting and accelerating the integration of UAS into the national airspace. [Read more](#)

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### **[Medical Drones Bring Health Care to the Himalayas](#)**

Thousands of people living in remote areas of Nepal have no access to health care facilities, and many of those people must therefore walk or be carried long distances if they become sick or injured. Nepal has about 2,600 doctors—less than one doctor for every 10,000 people—and many of the urgent treatment facilities lack basic medicine and supplies since deliveries of these items often take months. This is why former teacher Mahabir Pun developed a plan to connect remote villages to the Internet, and subsequently used his non-profit National Innovation Centre (NIC) to develop Nepal’s first “medical drone” to bring health care to remote communities. [Read more](#)

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### **[Caltech Creating a Drone ‘Personal Rescue System’](#)**

Researchers at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) are building a “Personal Rescue System”—or an autonomous drone ambulance—intended to change the future of emergency medical

response. The rescue drone will airlift injured or trapped victims from hard to reach areas and disaster zones. During the drone flight, the victim's vital signs would be monitored by sensors built into the drone. The drone will be the size of a small car and piloted entirely by an artificial intelligence system. Caltech says that its "Personal Rescue System" drone will be ready within five years. Click [here](#) to watch a video of this new technology. [Read more](#)

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**PRIVACY TIP #138**

**[Another Credit Freeze to Consider](#)**

This week's privacy tip focuses on the National Consumer Telecommunications and Utilities Exchange (NCTUE), or nctue.com. It is the organization which utilities and mobile telephone providers contact to pull consumers' credit for issuing new utility and mobile telephone accounts, and it is not limited by placing a credit freeze with the major reporting agencies. [Read more](#)

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