Dear M&H Consulting Clients –

Recently, a vital design flaw has been found in Intel's computer processors. This flaw can expose information in 'protected' memory spaces, which could allow programs to access data they should not. Due to this there is the potential for security risks, and Microsoft, Apple and Chrome (along with other operating system and web browser vendors that use Intel hardware) are developing patches to address this problem since a patch for the processor itself won't work.

What does this mean for users? The need to patch Windows or Apple OS will likely mean a dip in performance due to what needs to be patched – meaning the computer will need to do extra work to avoid the vulnerability. It has been estimated that the performance hit could be between 5 and 30 percent, depending on the model and age of the processor. Newer processors and computers are likely to be less affected, but this is largely speculation at this point.

For more information on the vulnerability, please refer to the following links:

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/01/02/intel_cpu_design_flaw/

https://www.pcworld.com/article/3245606/security/intel-x86-cpu-kernel-bug-faq-how-it-affects-pc-mac.html

All M&H Consulting clients taking advantage of our Tech for a Day maintenance program

will have these updates applied when available as regular course of maintenance. Anyone who would like further information is welcome to inquire at support@mhconsults.com, or call us at 866-9MH-TECH.

AMD processors are not affected by this vulnerability.