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## Cloud, Survey Shows

Sep. 25, 2013



BALTIMORE — Although most business executives are concerned about the security of cloud-based applications, they are not deterred from using them to store their personal and professional data, and they are not losing sleep over their data and information, according to a recent survey from [SafeNet Labs](#), the creator of SafeMonk.

When SafeNet Labs, a technology incubator initiative of SafeNet, Inc., asked

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company policies against it (33 percent of C-level titles said “yes” versus 18 percent of associates). The majority of respondents, 59 percent, said they “wouldn’t be surprised” if they found out that their boss or executives were using file-sharing apps like Dropbox, despite a policy against doing so. In general, C-level executives (39 percent checked “Yes”) are less concerned about security in the cloud than associates (54 percent checked “Yes”).

“What this survey suggests is that cloud app usage and document storage continue to proliferate, and that organizations should reexamine antiquated attitudes towards usage of these apps across the enterprise,” said Tsion Gonen, Chief Strategy Officer, SafeNet, Inc. “It’s clear that top-level executives understand the advantages of cloud app usage, and should enable their companies to leverage these advantages by adopting contemporary security tools and practices.”

Location also factors into respondents’ attitudes about [data security in the cloud](#). For example, the usage of cloud-based apps is far greater in EMEA than in the U.S. or APAC; so too are the levels of concern about data security and corporate policies against using cloud apps. However, EMEA respondents are more likely to ignore those very same policies. Who they are concerned about also varies—when it comes to their data privacy, respondents in the U.S. and EMEA are most concerned with the government, while APAC is most concerned with Google. Additionally, APAC respondents are the group most kept up at night when it comes to their data and information, worrying that it will be maliciously exploited.

Overall, 52 percent of respondents are most concerned with someone hacking into their banking and financial apps. The systems most frequently used by respondents for file storage are Dropbox (39 percent) and desk drawers (25 percent); and email continues to be the dominant means for sharing files (68 percent), according to the data. SafeNet Labs conducted this survey in August 2013.

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