A Guide to Data Bearing Devices/Assets

Data bearing devices (DBDs) and data bearing assets (DBAs) are broad terms for any type of data storage. Protect your company and clients with this checklist of common, uncommon and hidden DBAs and DBDs that may contain customer or proprietary company data.
Reach out to Guardian if you need assistance or more information.

MOST COMMON AND EASILY RECOGNIZED

- CDs
- USB drives
- Cell phones
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Scanners
- Floppy disks
- SD/Compact flash cards
- Magnetic tapes
- Hard Disk Drives (HDDs) - external/internal
- Solid State Drives (SSDs) - external/internal

COMMON OFFICE EQUIPMENT

- DVRs
- Copiers
- Printers
- Smart docking stations
- Security camera controllers
- Kiosks (includes self-checkouts, vending machines, price check machines, ticket booths, payment machines, POS, ID and insurance verification stands)

Question whether "dumb" equipment is smart or includes integrated data storage

DATA CENTER AND ENTERPRISE EQUIPMENT

In addition to easily-removable drives, look for HDDs, SSDs, M.2 and SATADOMs in the front, back, internal, onboard and in the chassis itself

- Servers
- Storage arrays
- Tape silos
- Blade chassis/servers

LESS COMMON AND OFTEN OVERLOOKED

- HSM cards
- PCIe SSD cards
- Motherboards with embedded storage
- IO accelerator cards (type of optimized SSD)
- NVDIMM (Non-Volatile Dual In-line Memory Module)

FACTORY RESETS

Remove IP addresses and other network identifiers and additional data storage DBDs

- Switches
- Firewalls
- Universal routers
- Network devices
- Secure remote access modules ("infrastructure managers")