

FRAGRANCE AND PERSONAL CARE

## Hit by hackers, Este Lauder managing data breach

July 24, 2023



The company confirmed the occurrence of a "cybersecurity incident" in a report filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Image credit: Estée Lauder

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

U.S. beauty giant **Estée Lauder Companies** is in the midst of weathering a technological crisis.

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The company confirmed the occurrence of a "cybersecurity incident" involving an unauthorized third party in a report filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on Tuesday, July 18. Hackers allegedly gained access to some of Estée Lauder's back-end systems, obtaining customer data and causing disruption to business operations.

"During this period, we thank our employees for their resiliency," said company representatives, in a statement.

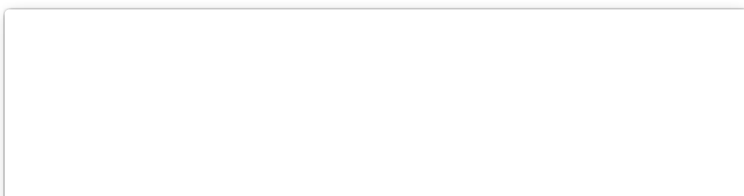
"Together, we remain focused on our business, consumers and other stakeholders."

### Security slip

Estée Lauder Companies is responding to an unexpected intrusion into its online database, working with a lineup of outside entities, including law enforcement, to gain clarity on the scope and nature of the breach.

Per reports from *Cybersecurity Dive*, ransomware group ALPHV is claiming responsibility for the havoc spawned last week, stating that it initially contacted Estée Lauder leadership via corporate and personal email accounts on July 15 to no avail. Sensitive information was then posted to the violator's leak site last Tuesday; the group is said to have more than 131 GB of Estée Lauder data.

Upon identifying the event, the corporation proactively disabled various digital systems and tapped third-party cybersecurity experts, launching an investigation into the intrusion.



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A post shared by Estee Lauder (@esteelauder)

Estee Lauder Companies is working to determine the scope of what systems were affected and the information that was included in the breached data. Remediation remains in focus, as the organization embarks on restoration efforts for the impacted services and systems.

In a statement, the beauty giant also stated that it is "implementing measures" to secure operations, and will continue to respond as appropriate.

The hack comes at a crucial time for Estee Lauder Companies, having experienced a nearly \$1 billion drop in sales between 2022 and 2021, per the latest quarterly earnings report ([see story](#)).

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