

# WHITEPAPER:

# Data protection in the time of COVID-19



# Overview

COVID-19 (a.k.a. coronavirus) has ushered a new era in the white-collared world where working from home is a necessity and no longer a privilege. As organizations across the globe are asking employees to work from home (WFH) to prevent the spread of the virus, it also necessitates companies to take measures to secure their data from viruses (avoid data leak).

A national health emergency like this is also a health emergency for your organizational data. As more than 1.84 lakes people across the globe are affected by the virus (as on March 17, 2020), organizations are forced to ask their employees to work from home. This has resulted in endpoints (laptops) and its data necessarily moving out of the office premises, thereby exposing sensitive data to intentional or unintentional leakage.

# What are the risks associated with work from home?

Working from home might help quarantine the spread of virus, but it risks misuse and leakage of sensitive data. Therefore, many organizations resort to monitoring employee activities for the following reasons:

#### Data Theft

A survey reveals that 47 percent former employees take confidential company information with them before they leave the organization, breaking non-disclosure agreements. While the connected world had increased productivity and made the workforce mobile, it has also given employees new opportunities to access and steal sensitive information from organizations. 53 percent of employees send business-related information to personal email and cloud-based file-sharing accounts. Work from home significantly increases the risk of intentional data theft as employees use unprotected and unmonitored home networks.

#### Frauds

Organizations often suffer a loss due to employees passing sensitive information for their gain.

Fraudulent activities do not cost only the company money but also damages their reputation and the confidence of the customer. While employees are working from home, it is difficult for organizations to keep a tab on their online activities to prevent such loss.

# Unintentional Data Breaches

Due to absence of edge security controls like Firewall, which protects unintentional data breaches within the organizational network, the risk of data being exposed to hackers increases significantly. While COVID-19 is raging across the globe and forcing the workforce to work from home, hackers are on the hunt for such unsecure endpoints.



# Employee Productivity

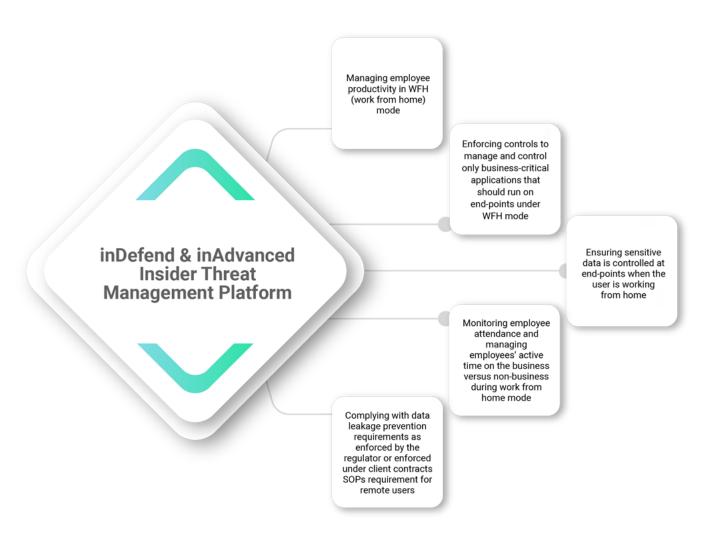
For organizations that do not otherwise encourage work from home do not have metrics to monitor employee productivity at home. For example, many organizations log attendance on the basis of first log-in last log-out. With employees working from home, tracking their involvement in work, measuring KPIs, and keeping a tab on the time spent on various applications and URLs to understand how productive they are is a challenge.







Companies are able to overcome several Work from home challenges in these times, by leveraging our inDefend & inAdvanced Insider Threat Management Platform







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## **ABOUT DATA RESOLVE TECHNOLOGIES**

Data Resolve Technologies is an IIT Kharagpur incubated startup, focused towards building futuristic products for Insider Threat Management and Employee Monitoring for mid-sized and large enterprises. We enable CIOs/CISOs and business managers to monitor and predict employee behaviour and report any anomalous intentions detected, helping them build a secure ecosystem and increase employee productivity.

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