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THE BETTERLEY REPORT

CYBER/PRIVACY INSURANCE MARKET SURVEY— 2016

A Tough Market for Larger Insureds, but Smaller Insureds Finding Eager Insurers

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Highlights of This Issue

- Coverage for Deceptive Funds Transfer (Social Engineering)
- Exclusions for Failure to Maintain Security Standards Remain a Problem
- Three New Carriers Added: Cyber Plus (from Australia), eFranchisorSuite, and V.O. Schinnerer
- Carriers Removed from Survey: ANV (not offering Cyber products), Brit (Unresponsive to Requests for Information), and Crum & Forster (diminished appetite)

Next Issue

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Private Company Management Liability Insurance Market Survey

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Editor's Note: *In this issue of The Betterley Report, we present our annual review and evaluation of insurance products designed to protect against the unique risks of data security for organizations. Risks could include the breach of security by a hacker intent on stealing valuable data or simple release of data through the carelessness of an employee or vendor.*

We noted several broad trends in the cyber-insurance market and decided to dive deeper into them in this summary and the accompanying tables:

- Fewer, but still far too many, insurers include exclusions for failure to maintain security standards.

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- Few insurers offer bodily injury and property coverage options, despite apparent widespread interest.

In response to new challenges for theft losses resulting from deceptive funds transfer, sometimes called social engineering coverage, becoming widely available, we added a new table.

Note that this report does not focus on coverage for technology providers that support e-commerce, such as Internet service providers, technology consultants, and software developers. That market is reviewed in our February issue, Technology E&O Market Survey.

One thing we would like to point out is the difficulty in separating technology products from cyber-risk products; for many insurers, the same base product is used, then adapted to fit the technology service provider insured or the cyber-risk insured. Where the insurer has a separate product, we reviewed their cyber-risk product; if it is a common base product, we included information about both.

In looking at our information, if you see that a certain carrier's policy does not include, for example, errors and omissions coverage, keep in mind that this coverage is most important to a service provider and that the same insurer might have a separate product for those insureds. You will probably find that product reviewed in our February issue.

The types of coverage offered by cyber-risk insurers vary dramatically. Some offer coverage for a wide range of exposures, while others are more limited. For the insured (or its advisers) looking for proper coverage, choosing the right product can be a challenge.

Most insurers offer multiple cyber-risk products, so crafting the coverage for each insured requires the

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best in risk identification and knowledge of the individual covers. More than most other insurance policies, cyber-risk requires experienced risk professionals to craft the proper coverage. The insurance industry continues to help brokers understand the exposures, coverage, and services of cyber-risk, so that they can better serve their clients. The products are complicated, making these educational efforts a worthwhile and necessary investment.

We have tried to present a variety of coverages to illustrate what is available in the market. Thirty-one sources of insurance are included in this survey. These insurers (and, in a few instances, managing general underwriters) represent the core of the cyber-risk insurance market.

Last year's survey covered 31; ANV, Brit, and Crum & Forster were replaced by Cyber Plus (an Australian product), eFranchisorSuite (franchise business), and V.O. Schinnerer (offered to the small to midsized market on Ace paper). Both Ace and Chubb are listed separately in the report, but we expect that the products will be consolidated under a single name before next year's report.

Please remember that, while each insurer was contacted to obtain this information, we have tested their responses against our own experience and knowledge. Where they conflict, we have reviewed the inconsistencies with the insurers. However, the evaluation and conclusions are our own.

Rather than reproduce the carriers' exact policy wording (which of course can be voluminous), we in some cases have paraphrased their wording, in the interest of space and simplicity. Of course, the insurance

policies govern the coverage provided, and the insurers are not responsible for our summary of their policies or survey responses.

In the use of this information, the reader should understand that the information applies to the standard products of the insurers, and that special arrangements of coverage, cost, and other variables may be available on a negotiated basis.

For updated information on this and other Betterley Report coverage of specialty insurance products, please see our blog, The Betterley Report on Specialty Insurance Products, which can be found at www.betterley.com/blog.

Companies in this Survey

The full report includes a list of 31 markets for this coverage, along with underwriter contact information, and gives you a detailed analysis of distinctive features of each carrier's offerings. [Learn more about The Betterley Report, and subscribe on IRMI.com.](#)

Introduction

As with all of our market surveys, cyber-risk coverage represents a new or recently developed form of coverage designed to address the needs of new risks confronting organizations. Cyber-risk coverage epitomizes new insurance products, presenting insurance product managers with challenges as they learn what their insured's need, and what the insurers can prudently cover.

It could be argued that cyber-insurance is rapidly maturing, and there is some truth to that. cyber isn't so new, at least in terms of its availability (we started writing about cyber in 2000). But it is "new" in terms of its recognition as a key component of most commercial insurance portfolios and in terms of its evolution of coverage wordings, which continue.

But most importantly, cyber is "new" in terms of the exposures being underwritten. These are evolving so rapidly that insurers are forced to continually look at their underwriting and claims management approaches. To protect themselves (and their insureds) against this rapid evolution, insurers must invest more time and attention—and especially creative attention—than they might for a typical product.

Most insurers were convinced that their best opportunities are to sell cyber-risk coverage to mainstream companies that have significant cyber-risk exposures. Many of those prospective insureds are already the insurer's customers, looking for coverage not present in traditional policies. The experience of a distressingly large number of organizations—both large and small—in the past few years is perhaps only the tip of the iceberg representing the threat of data and intellectual property theft facing businesses worldwide. Insurance protection to backstop IT security safeguards must be carefully considered for businesses and institutions, such as hospitals, educational institutions, and public entities.

As the small and mid-sized insureds become a more important market opportunity, insurers are learning how to offer products at a lower price point. Not all insureds can afford the highest levels of protection, and perhaps don't need it (although this last point can be debated). But, they do need proper protection.

Sometimes "proper protection" includes protection that meets the requirements of the customers and clients (and sometimes their suppliers and lenders). More and more, we hear of small and mid-sized insureds buying coverage because they are required to if they want to do business with other parties. These coverage requirements unfortunately range from the reasonable (which most insureds ought to have and are available on a commercially reasonable basis) to unreasonable, where the limits are much higher than can be reasonably afforded.

Worse, we are seeing business agreements that make the small and mid-sized insureds responsible for unlimited losses. These agreements ask the insureds to bet their company every time they sign one of them. With no hope of securing coverage limits equal to the risk assumed, it is questionable whether the agreement should be signed.

As vendor agreements more often include requirements for cyber-insurance, we hope that they will be written with commercially reasonable terms. These agreements are a major driver in the decision to purchase cyber; written properly, they will make the market more efficient and healthy while still providing appropriate levels of protection.

Cyber-insurers have developed very different products to address what they think cyber-risk companies need; we have provided a Product Description table that lets the insurer describe in its own words the coverage it is offering. This table is vital to the reader's understanding of the various—and varied—products offered.

Specialized cyber-risk insurance comes in a variety of forms, but we find it most helpful to divide coverage into property, theft, or liability for surveying purposes. Some carriers offer liability-only products, while others offer a combination of property, theft, and liability cover.

Interestingly, it seems that more of the products previously limited to liability and breach response coverages are expanding to include property (and less so, theft) product options. This indicates to us that customer demand is increasing for these product options.

Insurers are offering cyber-risk enhancements to existing policies, such as business owners, management liability, and other policies. These products take the form of a services-only product (no risk transfer), services plus breach response coverage, and services plus breach response plus liability. Limits are typically low, and options are few, but the low additional premium can make them quite appealing to insureds. Whether they should buy these products or should consider stand-alone cyber-policies requires careful analysis and consideration of exposure, risk tolerance, and client/customer requirements.

We provided a much deeper discussion *Cyber Add-ons for Traditional Insurance Policies* in our 2013 report as well as in [The Risk Report](#), also published by IRMI. These are still current and worth reading.

State of the Market

The market continues to broaden, especially in health care and the small to midsize insured segments. Healthcare systems and their vendors in particular are buying cyber-risk insurance (and, in the case of vendors, often buying it as a part of a technology errors and omissions policy; these premiums

are not included in our growth or premium estimates below) at a rapid clip. Insurers are offering specialized products to these insureds.

In addition to health care, carriers report much of their growth coming from small to midsize companies newly aware of the possibilities of liability, and especially a breach and resulting response costs arising out of the possession of private data. This is leading to a large increase in policy count, but far less in new premium written.

Annual premium volume information about the U.S. cyber-risk market is hard to come by, but in reviewing the market, we have concluded that the annual gross written premium may be as much as \$3.25 billion (up from \$2.75 billion in last year's report).

The industry is divided by size (gross written premium) as follows:

- A limited number of very large writers, with premiums in excess of \$100 million
- Several insurers in the \$50–\$100 million range
- Several more in the \$25–\$50 million range
- Numerous insurers and managing general underwriters writing \$10–\$25 million
- Several writing in the \$5–\$10 million and \$1–\$5 million ranges

This year we had very good reporting by insurers, with 18 providing sufficient detail to allow us to provide good insight into market trends.

The insureds are clearly divided into those organizations troubled by lots of breaches (larger organizations as well as retail, healthcare, and educational institutions) and the rest, who so far have not experienced frequent breaches. We expect the public sector to join the “troubled” group shortly if it has not already. As has been the case for years, financial in-

stitutions constitute a separate group that is underwritten separately.

As for growth in premium writings reported (compared to last year's report):

- No insurers reported negative growth; in this market, if they had, it would have been shocking;
- 2 carriers reported growth in the 1–10 percent range;
- 5 between 11–25 percent;
- 4 between 26–50 percent;
- 3 from 51–100 percent; and
- 2 (both new entrants) more than 101 percent.

Large rates of growth seemed to be found in all sizes of insurers (by size, we are referring to the amount of cyber-premium that insurer is writing). This is really impressive, considering that many insurers report surprisingly vigorous rate competition.

The above information is from confidential sources and is intentionally generalized.

We think that this market has nowhere to go but up—as long as insurers can still write at a profit. The proliferation of data breaches and the increasing sensitivity of the public to protection of their private data surely means increasing levels of claims.

Perhaps offsetting this increase in claims will be the opportunity to respond to breaches more cost effectively, as insurers negotiate lower response costs, and law firms get more competitive in their pricing. Higher retentions will definitely help, and in some cases, so will reduced breach response limits, as we see both increasingly being forced on retail and healthcare insureds.

Insurers are responding to the staggeringly large number of breaches by using more precise underwriting tools, offering improved risk management

services and, in a few cases, apparently laying off more risk to the reinsurance market. Several of our responding carriers have indicated more interest by reinsurers in supporting cyber-insurance products, a welcoming trend.

An exception to the ready availability of the various cyber-coverages is the portion of the policy that covers Payment Card Industry (PCI) fines and penalties. For insureds that are not compliant with PCI standards, coverage is becoming increasingly hard to find. Even when insureds have a project underway to become compliant, insurers are reluctant to offer coverage pending completion.

In the past, insurers would allow an insured a window of time during which they could implement their compliance effort. Now, it is much more likely that the carrier will refuse to provide coverage until that effort is complete and tested.

Privacy coverage is clearly driving the market; cyber-risk seminars and conferences are packed with prospective customers, insurers, brokers, and attorneys interested in privacy risk, coverage, and services. Interest is translating into purchases, which we (and many others) have been predicting. Management may still be thinking “it can’t happen here,” but as more events occur that would be covered, more cyber-risk insurance is being bought.

Data breaches continue at a disturbingly frequent rate. We are unsure if this is a result of increased reporting (breaches happened before but were not disclosed) or increased activity by, and effectiveness of, hackers, but it is having an impact on the insurance market.

What might those effects be? Possibly higher interest in coverage as more potential insureds see the frequency of breaches, but also higher premium rates and/or retentions, as the increasing frequency of claims are paid for (and as insurance company

leadership sees breaches occurring even at “good” risks).

We also think that insurers will take an increasing interest in helping insureds select and implement improved risk avoidance and mitigation techniques. This approach is similar to the property insurance approach of aiding highly protected risks through rate incentives, education, broader coverage offerings, and the development and installation of protective devices.

We think that a strong influence on the purchase of cyber-risk insurance is the increasing awareness of the value of post-breach response coverage. We have spoken with many CFOs, treasurers, and risk managers who are not so sure that the case for liability protection has been made, but that can easily see how post-breach costs would be a burden.

Pre-breach services in the past were less likely to be a compelling reason for insureds to buy cyber-policies, although excellent information and tools have been available. An exciting new trend to expand pre-breach services may provide additional reasons to buy the coverage. We think these services could alter the competitive landscape for cyber-insurers as well as improve their claims experience. As cyber further penetrates the smaller and medium-sized account market, such services will be increasingly appealing to insureds and valuable to insurers.

Finally, as noted, there are a number of insurers that are offering cyber-risk coverages as an option to another policy, such as a package policy, management liability policy, or some other mainstream product. We did not include these products in this report but have included specific cyber-related questions in our Private Company Management Liability Market Survey (August).

State of the Market—Trends in Rates and Retentions

We asked insurers whether they planned rate increases (or decreases) during the upcoming year and what they expected of their competitors. As noted earlier, the market is divided into two parts: larger/retail/healthcare organizations and everyone else except financial institutions.

For the larger/retail/healthcare insureds, and to some extent education, rates are definitely rising. How much is the key question—reports of a wide range abound. And that is for relatively claims free and secured organizations. For those without good quality, demonstrated cyber-security protection, coverage may be limited and expensive.

For the small to midsized insured, the market is much friendlier. Rates are still competitive and renewals are generally flat, perhaps even a bit soft, undoubtedly affected by the numerous carriers getting a foothold in the cyber-insurance market. Smaller insureds tend to have lower limits and often have relatively modest claims. This will change for the worse as smaller organizations suffer breaches that result in liability claims by larger business partners and the payment card industry.

Capacity and Deductibles

Significant liability capacity exists, and higher limits can probably be stacked up if desired. Larger, retail, and healthcare insureds may have trouble finding the limits they desire, especially for breach response. Several of the insurers in this survey are willing to sit as excess over primary coverages.

Still, while capacity remains available, larger organizations are not able to secure the kinds of limits that they may need. This is especially true for the breach response costs, which are being severely sublimited by many insurers.

Deductibles and self-insured retentions are going up, sometimes “voluntarily” by the insured as it responds to insurer rate increases, and sometimes because it is being forced on them. This makes sense to us and is probably better for the insureds in the long term. It makes no sense for insureds to trade dollars with insurers for frequency claims.

An Overview of Data Privacy Coverage

In the data security business, there is a saying: There are organizations that have breaches and know it, and there are organizations that have breaches and don’t know it—yet.

We find that most prospective insureds (and their agents and brokers) are most interested in coverage for data breaches. This coverage is found (or is available) in almost all cyber-policies.

Based on our research into privacy exposures and coverage, we have identified six key areas that should be considered:

- Types of coverage and limits available
- Coverage provided
- Coverage triggers
- Types of data covered
- Remediation costs covered
- Remediation coverage services

The Types of Coverage and Limits Available

There are three fundamental coverage types: liability for loss or breach of the data, remediation costs to respond to the breach, and coverage for fines and/or penalties imposed by law or regulation.

Liability coverage is pretty self-explanatory—protection for the insured should it be sued for negligence leading to a security breach. Often, the coverage does not explicitly list data breach as covered. Instead coverage is provided as a part of a more general coverage grant for, as an example, failing to prevent unauthorized access to its computer system.

Some insurers offer more explicit coverage, such as an act, error, or omission that results in a theft of data from a computer system. Both methods can work, but it is very comforting to see a term such as theft of data included in the coverage grant.

Coverage Provided

Coverages fall into four categories:

- Liability—defense and settlement costs for the liability of the insured arising out of its failure to properly care for private data
- Remediation—response costs following a data breach, including investigation, public relations, customer notification, and credit monitoring
- Regulatory Fines and/or Penalties—the costs to investigate, defend, and settle fines and penalties that may be assessed by a regulator; most insurers do not provide this coverage, although there can be coverage for defense costs
- PCI (Credit Card) Fines and Penalties, including forensic services and card reissuance costs

Coverage Triggers

Coverage can be triggered by:

- Failure to secure data
- Loss caused by an employee
- Acts by persons other than insureds

- Loss resulting from the theft or disappearance of private property (such as data that resides on a stolen laptop or missing data storage media)

Types of Data Covered

Some carriers specify the types of data covered, others do not. Specific types covered can include:

- An individual's personally identifiable information
- Nonpublic data, such as corporate information
- Non-electronic data, such as paper records and printouts

Remediation Costs Covered

Remediation is an area that is no longer new for cyber-risk insurance (in fact, we believe that it is the primary reason why many insureds buy cyber-risk insurance). This coverage is for the costs of responding to a data breach. Organizations that suffer a data loss may be required to notify their customers with notice of the data loss, which can be expensive. Typically, they may also want to mitigate the negative impact on their reputation by providing credit monitoring services for those same customers. This cost can also be significant.

Remediation cost coverage is now offered by most insurers. It can include:

- Crisis management services
- Notification of potentially affected customers
- Credit monitoring
- Costs to resecure (that is, make secure again) data

Remediation Coverage Services

There can be great benefit to the insured if the remediation services are prenegotiated and prepack-

aged—much like kidnap and ransom coverage. Knowing how to respond to a loss can be daunting.

Insurers often offer prepackaged and prenegotiated services provided by third-party vendors. In some cases, the insured is required to use designated vendors. In addition, some policies require the written consent of the insurer to use the services. Finally, a few of these services have a time limit for use, especially credit monitoring.

Security Assessment Requirements

Insurer-required assessments of the prospective insured's security policies are rare now; the details are shown in the accompanying table. Typically, but not always, any required assessment is free to the applicant.

Such an assessment can be very useful to the applicant, even if they do not buy the coverage. But, if they do, a favorable assessment may help lower the insured's premium.

Requirements often differ depending on whether it is first-party or third-party coverage, and can also vary depending on the type of business the insured is in. Some assessments are as simple (and easy on the applicant) as a review of its website, while others require an onsite review by third-party firms. Of course, the scale and intensity of the assessment is dependent not only on the carrier's underwriting philosophy, but also the nature and role of the applicant's business being considered.

Coverage

Property and Theft

The cyber-insurance industry offers property and theft (first-party) coverage and liability (third-party) coverage; some insurers offer liability only, while others offer all. We expect that more carriers will be

offering combined property and liability programs as the demand for business interruption and extra expense coverage grows.

First-party coverage protection against denial of Web services (hacker attacks) is still a hot topic due to continuing attacks on leading Internet sites. Most property products cover this risk, although are subject to negotiation and individual underwriting.

Theft exposures are sometimes not well understood in cyber-risk risk assessments. The potential for traditional theft of money or goods *via* the Internet is often recognized, but theft or destruction of data, extortion, and theft of computing resources sometimes are not.

We find that insureds are still concerned about the theft of the economic value of intellectual property. This comes from reports, we believe, of increasing levels of industrial espionage by competitors and by governments acting in support of their economic and defense interests.

We have continued our new column to the Theft table as well as to the Exclusions 2 table to capture the insurer's coverage position regarding theft of intellectual property (IP). In asking the insurers about this coverage, we emphasized that it references the economic value *of IP*. Unfortunately, we don't think that the responses are always accurate and will continue to refine them in our reports. Theft of the economic value of IP is a major breach exposure, and insureds need coverage. For those interested, further investigation is recommended.

New this year is a table describing Theft (first-party) Deceptive Funds Transfer coverage offerings of each insurer for losses suffered by the insured because they were deceived into executing a funds transfer. These are often initiated by an e-mail that purports to be from an authorized executive telling the recipient to transfer funds to a fraudulent ac-

count (for example, a "vendor" that turns out to be a controlled by the thief).

These coverages are sometimes called social engineering coverage, but we prefer the term "deceptive funds transfer" as not all coverages are limited to social engineering.

The table includes information about:

- The maximum limit available;
- The nature of the electronic missive covered (i.e., e-mail, text, instant message, phone, etc.);
- Whether electronic funds transfer fraud is covered;
- Whether the coverage is provided on a difference-in-conditions basis only; and
- Whether the insured is required to carry crime insurance (which many small companies do not)

Liability

Traditionally, bodily injury and property damage losses were not covered by cyber-policies, but insurers should be changing their attitudes toward this.

AIG's CyberEdge PC product introduced coverage that provides bodily injury and property damage protection that may result from a cyber-attack. The coverage is provided on an excess and difference-in-conditions basis (meaning the insured's other liability policies will pay first, with CyberEdge stepping in where those policies do not cover, subject of course to its own coverage terms).

Why might this be important?

- Core commercial policies are more and more often excluding cyber-related claims.

- It adds clarity in coverage for both the insured and the insured's advisers.

We think this coverage can be important and appealing to insureds, and in 2015, added a table in this report asking the carriers to indicate their position for both direct and contingent bodily injury and property damage coverage available in the cyber-policies. See the Third-Party Coverage: Bodily Injury and Property Damage table.

The definition of "insured" differs on many policies, but special requirements can usually be met. Many carriers do not automatically include subcontractors as insureds, although many can provide coverage by endorsement.

The definition of a claim also varies significantly, with some insurers going to great lengths to define a claim, others using wording such as "a demand seeking damages."

Coverage for liability arising out of alleged media offenses has become a popular addition to cyber-policies. As many insureds and their brokers take cyber-activities to mean "Internet" activities, accompanied by buzz about social networking, questions about coverage for libel, slander, and intellectual property are increasing. "Where is the coverage?" asks many an insured.

Some coverage may already exist in the personal injury portion of an existing general liability policy, but more specific—and broader—coverage may be obtainable in a cyber-policy.

This report includes a table that summarizes the (optional) media liability coverage that they might offer a cyber-risk insured. It includes information as to whether:

- Coverage applies to all types of media, or is restricted to social media only; and

- Intellectual property rights that may be covered.

Claims Reporting, ERP Options, and Counsel

Each liability policy reviewed is a claims-made form so extended reporting period (ERP) options are important; look for bilateral extended reporting period wording.

Selection of counsel continues to be a delicate issue with insureds, but as we frequently see in other new lines of coverage, carriers typically reserve the right to select, or at least approve, counsel. However, some insurers offer an option for the insured to preselect counsel, while others allow selection from an existing panel.

As with all questions of counsel choice, we recommend that insureds discuss and agree with their insurer beforehand on the counsel they want to use.

Generally, insurers can impose the infamous "hammer clause" on lawsuits that an insured may not want to settle. The use of "soft" hammer clauses continues to be prevalent in this product line.

Specific Coverages Included in Policy

We have identified 10 specific coverages that may be, but are not always, included in a cyber-risk policy. These are:

- Virus
- Unauthorized access
- Security breach
- Personal injury
- Advertising injury
- Loss of use

- Resulting business interruption
- Copyright infringement
- Trade or servicemark infringement
- Patent infringement

Generally, insureds should be careful to review their exposures to these types of losses, and make sure they use insurers that are willing to offer the needed protections. Coverage for patent infringement, for example, is rarely (if ever) offered in basic cyber-risk forms, but can be purchased from a limited number of carriers as a separate intellectual property policy (as discussed in the Intellectual Property and Media Liability Market Survey April 2016).

Exclusions

Exclusions are many and varied, as would be expected; please read those tables carefully. The tables have been simplified by removing exclusions primarily related to technology errors and omissions (E&O).

Rather than try to recite them here, the information for each carrier is found in the Exclusions table.

Note that we include a question in Exclusions Table 1, which asks whether the policy form includes an exclusion for failure to maintain security standards. This is an extremely troubling exclusion as it adds an uncertainty to the coverage.

We have spoken with several underwriters about this; our concern is that, while an insured is best served by adopting security procedures, and the insurer should consider those standards (or the failure to adopt them) in the underwriting process, it is hardly fair to the insured to make the payment of a claim contingent upon maintaining those standards.

At first, the requirement makes sense—it's good for the insured, it's reasonable for the underwriter. The problem is, what happens when the standards change, or there is a mistake, and the insured is out of compliance?

For us, the exclusion is hard to accept and dangerous for the insured. An insurer may say that it would never apply the exclusion, but we would not be confident that it will never be applied in the future.

We understand that warranties in the application should be enforceable. But this exclusion goes too far.

Risk Management Services

Cyber-related risk management services are an important product differentiator—a very positive development for the insureds, their intermediaries, and for the insurers themselves. Insureds and their advisers recognize the value that these services can bring. And carriers are becoming more convinced of their value in controlling losses. But, these services have a long way to go before they reach their full potential.

We have often commented on the parallels in services between the cyber-insurance line and other lines, especially employment practices and property (highly protected risk particularly). Cyber-related risk management services, while helpful, have been relatively weak when compared with these other lines. This is certainly understandable for a still relatively new line of insurance, especially considering the wide array of potential services (and potentially high cost).

To capture more information about the services that are available to insureds via their insurance purchase (and frankly, to encourage further development of the product), we have an expand-

ed approach in the Risk Management Services table.

This table asks for information on the following types of services:

- **Active Avoidance**—which indicates whether the carrier includes products and/or services that help the insured actively protect data from breach or other covered loss (the property analogy would be sprinklers). This is intended to indicate capabilities that act independently to protect against activities that lead to breaches.
- **Prebreach Planning**—services and/or tools that help the insured to prepare a contingency plan for use in the event of a breach (think of disaster recovery).
- **Helpline**—a staffed resource that fields questions via telephone or e-mail (think of an employment practices liability insurance helpline).
- **Information Portal**—a source for information and possibly tools to help in the management and response to data protection and breach.
- The column “Other” allows the insurer to describe additional types of services provided.

Summary

Cyber/privacy insurance is evolving rapidly in response to high demand, a high level of claims, and an increasing level of threats. Until now, there was little litigation over cyber-policies, but that is beginning to change. The recent court decision *P.F. Chang's China Bistro, Inc. v. Fed. Ins. Co.*, No. 2:15-CV-01322-SMM (D. Ariz. May 31, 2016), is just the first example of expected coverage litigation that will help guide cyber-insurers in the crafting of their policies. And that will guide risk managers and

their advisers in the selection and negotiation of those policies.

Insurers—especially those with lots of cyber-experience—are refining their underwriting tools, making increasingly valuable risk management services available to their insureds, and helping intermediaries better understand the coverages that are needed.

The market is clearly maturing, with insurers more often insisting on higher retentions for larger insureds and for insureds in retail and healthcare segments. Coverages that were formerly easy to get now require stronger security standards (PCI is a good example).

We see this as generally a good thing, as insurers help encourage their insureds to be better protected against loss. Better protected insureds, through the positive influence of cyber-insurers, will make for better claims experience, a more stable market, and a safer world.

But there is still far to go; the products too often focus on breach of private data. Coverages need to be broadened to include loss of intellectual property, resulting bodily injury and property damage, and damage to reputation.

Some of these coverages will become more widely available, we think, as insureds better understand the actual risk, and as they get better advice from their advisers.

And more complete value-added risk management services need to be made available to insureds, scaled to their size and ability to use the services, and of course to the size of the premium being charged.

Insurers will struggle with filtering out the sometimes-optimistic claims of some cyber-security providers, who rightfully see the cyber-insurance busi-

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ness as a huge opportunity to grow their businesses. But insurers have limited budgets to provide these services, so getting it right will be vital to both the insurers and to their insureds.

We started researching cyber-insurance in 2000; little did we know that the product would be so important, so widely needed, and so fascinating. And there is more to come.



About the Author

Richard S. Betterley, LIA, is the president of Betterley Risk Consultants, an independent insurance and alternative risk management consulting firm. BRC, founded in 1932, provides independent advice and counsel on insurable risk, coverage, alternatives to traditional insurance, and related services to corporations, educational institutions, and other organizations throughout the United States. It

does not sell insurance or related services.

Rick is a frequent speaker, author, and expert witness on specialty insurance products and related services. He is a member of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society. He joined the firm in 1975.

Rick created *The Betterley Report* in 1994 to be the objective source of information about specialty insurance products. Now published six times annually, *The Betterley Report* is known for its in-depth coverage of management liability, cyber risk, technology, and intellectual property and media insurance products.

More recently, Rick created *The Betterley Report* Blog on Specialty Insurance Products, which offers readers updates on and insight into insurance products such as those covered in *The Betterley Report*. It provides him with a platform to more frequently and informally comment on product updates and newly announced products, as well as trends in the specialty insurance industry. See www.betterley.com/blog.

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