

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	:	
	:	Hon.
	:	
v.	:	Criminal No. 11-
	:	
	:	18 U.S.C. § 1030(a)(5)(A)
JASON CORNISH	:	18 U.S.C. § 1030(c)(4)(B)(i)
	:	18 U.S.C. § 2

INFORMATION

The defendant having waived in open court prosecution by indictment, the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey charges:

BACKGROUND

1. At all times relevant to this Information:
  - a. Defendant Jason Cornish ("Cornish") resided in or near Smyrna, Georgia. Cornish used the e-mail account caveman\*\*\*\*@gmail.com ("the Caveman Account").
  - b. Shionogi Inc. ("Shionogi") was a United States subsidiary of a Japanese pharmaceutical company with operations located in New Jersey and Georgia.
  - c. Between at least as early as 2009 and in or about July 2010, Cornish worked for Shionogi as an information technology employee. He reported to B.N., a close friend whom Cornish had known for approximately 15 years.
  - d. Cornish resigned from Shionogi in or about July 2010 after a dispute with a senior manager. At B.N.'s suggestion, however, Shionogi continued to employ Cornish as a

paid consultant because of Cornish's knowledge of Shionogi's computer network.

e. Cornish stopped working for Shionogi as a paid consultant in or about September 2010. At no time after October 1, 2010 was Cornish permitted to access Shionogi's computer network.

f. In late September 2010, Shionogi announced layoffs that would affect B.N. On or about October 1, 2010, B.N. refused to return certain network passwords to Shionogi officials, which led the company to suspend and later fire him.

#### THE FEBRUARY 3, 2011 ATTACK

2. On or about February 3, 2011, using the public Internet connection at a McDonald's Restaurant in Smyrna, Georgia, Cornish gained unauthorized access to Shionogi's computer network ("the February 3 Attack").

3. During the February 3 Attack, Cornish used a Shionogi user account named CVAULT to access a Shionogi server named SPVC01 ("the SPVC01 Server").

4. Once he accessed the SPVC01 Server, Cornish took control of vSphere, a piece of software that he had secretly installed on the SPVC01 Server several weeks earlier using his home Internet connection.

5. Cornish then used the vSphere program to delete, one by one, the contents of each of 15 "virtual hosts" on Shionogi's

computer network. These 15 virtual hosts housed the equivalent of 88 different computer servers.<sup>1</sup> Cornish used his familiarity with Shionogi's network to identify each of these virtual hosts by name or by its corresponding Internet Protocol ("IP") address.

6. The deleted servers housed most of Shionogi's American computer infrastructure, including the company's e-mail and Blackberry servers, its order tracking system, and its financial management software. The February 3 Attack effectively froze Shionogi's operations for a number of days, leaving company employees unable to ship product, to cut checks, or even to communicate via email.

7. Shionogi sustained approximately \$800,000 in losses responding to the February 3 Attack, conducting damage assessments, and restoring the company's network to its condition prior to the attack.

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<sup>1</sup>A "virtual host" is a method by which one physical computer can be subdivided into several "virtual" computers, giving the one computer the capability and functionality of many computers. Virtual hosts eliminate the need to have separate computers for different functions within a company's computer infrastructure.

8. On or about February 3, 2011, in Morris County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant

JASON CORNISH

did knowingly cause the transmission of a program, information, code, and command, and as a result of such conduct, intentionally cause damage without authorization to a protected computer, that is, a computer used in interstate commerce and communication, and cause loss to one or more persons during any 1-year period aggregating at least \$5,000 in value.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1030(a)(5)(A) and (c)(4)(B)(i) and Title 18, United States Code, Section 2.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PAUL J. FISHMAN  
United States Attorney

CASE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

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**United States District Court  
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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**v.**

**JASON CORNISH**

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**INFORMATION FOR**

18 U.S.C. § 1030(a)(5)(A)  
18 U.S.C. § 1030(c)(4)(B)(i)  
18 U.S.C. § 2

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**PAUL J. FISHMAN**

*UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY*

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