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FEB 24 2020

CONSUMER PROTECTION

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February 20, 2020

**Via mail**

Gordon MacDonald  
Office of the Attorney General  
New Hampshire Department of Justice  
33 Capitol Street  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. Rivera,

This firm represents WESCO Distribution, Inc. ("WESCO"), and I am writing on WESCO's behalf to notify your office of an incident that affects the security of personal information relating to one (1) New Hampshire resident.

On July 1, 2019, WESCO learned that a WESCO employee's email account was compromised by an unknown actor. WESCO then noticed suspicious activity occurring within certain email accounts and immediately launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. From that investigation, WESCO learned that an employee's email account was compromised through a phishing email from a well-known WESCO supplier on August 15, 2018, which then spread to 28 other user accounts. Further, the unknown actor placed an automatic forwarding rule on the accounts, which forwarded all incoming emails to an unauthorized Gmail account. The rule was disabled on July 1, 2019, immediately upon our discovery of the compromise, and there was no further unauthorized disclosure of personal information in connection with this incident following such date. WESCO then retained an expert consultant to launch an extensive, programmatic review of the contents of the potentially compromised records, followed by a manual review of the documents that the consultant flagged as potentially containing personal information. Due to the volume of emails and the manually intensive review, this process took several months to complete.

As soon as WESCO discovered what happened, WESCO immediately took steps to contain the incident by changing the access credentials for the impacted accounts, and WESCO further secured these accounts by disabling the auto-forwarding rule. WESCO also enabled Microsoft's "conditional access" to WESCO's email system, and is implementing multi-factor authentication to ensure greater security. This is in addition to the security measures that WESCO already had in place. WESCO uses ProofPoint as its email security provider, which provides email filtering, attempts to prevent email phishing and removes malware attachments. This tool blocks threats before they reach WESCO's environment, protects thousands of individual mailboxes from attacks, has the ability to quickly respond

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to zero-day threats, manages spam and quarantine messages in a cloud platform, re-writes links so that as soon as maliciousness is identified, all clicks from that point forward are blocked, and inserts the word [EXTERNAL] on messages from outside the company. Finally, WESCO uses Microsoft's security center's recommended best practices.

The New Hampshire resident whose information was affected by this incident will soon receive written notification by mail pursuant to New Hampshire Revised Statute Section 359-C:20. WESCO will mail these notifications to the New Hampshire resident on or about February 20, 2020. A template copy of the letter and its enclosure are attached hereto as Exhibit A.

WESCO is offering the New Hampshire resident a complimentary 12-month enrollment in Equifax® Credit Watch™ Gold with WebDetect, which includes credit monitoring and other services related to protecting against identity theft.

If you have any questions about this situation, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 712-5071.

Sincerely,



C. Andrew Konia

Enclosure



**WESCO**  
DISTRIBUTION®

Return Mail Processing Center  
P.O. Box 6336  
Portland, OR 97228-6336

<<MailID>>

<<Name 1>>

<<Name 2>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Address 3>>

<<Address 4>>

<<Address 5>>

<<City>><<State>><<Zip>>

<<Country>>

<<Date>>

***RE: Notice of Data Breach***  
***Please read this entire letter.***

Dear <<Name 1>>:

We are contacting you regarding an incident that occurred at WESCO Distribution, Inc. (“WESCO”), which may affect the security of some of your personal information. Please be assured that we have taken appropriate steps to address the incident, as described below, and please note that we are not aware of any misuse of your personal information. This notice contains an explanation of the incident (including the relevant dates), a description of the personal information involved, the measures that we have taken in response (including to reduce the risk of harm), some additional steps you may consider taking and contact information for a person who can answer questions about the incident on WESCO’s behalf.

**What Happened:**

On July 1, 2019, we learned that a WESCO employee’s email account was compromised by an unknown actor. We then noticed suspicious activity occurring within certain email accounts and immediately launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. From that investigation, we learned that an employee’s email account was compromised through a phishing email on August 15, 2018, which then spread to 28 other user accounts. Further, the unknown actor placed an automatic forwarding rule on the accounts, which forwarded all incoming emails to an unauthorized Gmail account. The rule was disabled on July 1, 2019 immediately upon our discovery of the compromise, and there was no further unauthorized disclosure of personal information in connection with this incident following such date. We then retained an expert consultant to launch an extensive, programmatic review of the contents of the potentially compromised records, followed by a manual review of the documents that the consultant flagged as potentially containing personal information. Due to the volume of emails and the manually intensive review, this process took several months to complete. After analyzing the contents of the emails, we have determined that some of your personal information may have been compromised.

### What Information Was Involved:

We determined that records containing the following types of information relating to you were impacted by this data compromise: **[Insert applicable PII]**.

### What We Are Doing to Reduce Risks and Protect Your Information:

As soon as we discovered what happened, we immediately took steps to contain the incident by changing the access credentials for the impacted accounts, and we further secured these accounts by disabling the auto-forwarding rule. We also enabled Microsoft's "conditional access" to our email system and are implementing multi-factor authentication to ensure greater security. Protecting the security of your information is of paramount importance to us, and we are continually taking steps to enhance the security of our systems and information.

### What You Can Do:

Again, at this time, we are not aware of any misuse of your personal information. However, given that your information was obtained by an unknown third party that intentionally accessed our systems without authorization, we are providing notice to you so that you can take steps to protect yourself. In particular, you should be cautious of phone calls or emails asking for any personal or confidential information, as well as emails with links or attachments that could contain malware.

We are also offering you a complimentary one-year enrollment in Equifax® Credit Watch™ Gold with WebDetect, which includes credit monitoring and other services related to protecting against identity theft. For more information about Equifax® Credit Watch™ Gold with WebDetect, please see the additional information that follows this letter. To activate your enrollment please ensure that you enroll by May 31, 2020 ("**Enrollment Deadline**"). Enrollment instructions are included in the materials that follow this letter. Please provide you **Activation Code: <INSERT ACTIVATION CODE>** when enrolling. Please note that your activation code will not work after the Enrollment Deadline listed above.

We encourage you to take advantage of these services we are offering you. Also, we have enclosed additional general information on how to protect your identity and your sensitive information.

It is important that you remain vigilant to identify and address any possible misuse of your personal information, especially over the next 12 to 24 months. If your personal information is misused or you suspect you are a victim of identity theft, please report the incident to WESCO and law enforcement authorities. You may also contact an Equifax identity restoration specialist, who will work on your behalf to help you restore your identity. To be eligible for identity restoration services, you must complete the enrollment process for the subscription offer by the Enrollment Date listed above. Equifax's phone number for assistance will be listed in your online member center available to you after you complete the enrollment process.

We sincerely apologize for this incident *and regret any inconvenience it may cause you*. Should you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact our dedicated assistance line at **<Insert Equifax Call Center Number>**. Assistance is available **Monday to Friday 9 am – 9 pm Eastern (6 am to 6 pm Pacific)**.

Sincerely,

WESCO Distribution, Inc.

## For More Information

### Protecting your identity

- We remind you it is always advisable to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft and review your personal account statements and credit reports to detect any errors that may result from this incident. You may place a fraud alert on your credit file by contacting the fraud departments of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies, which prompts any issuer of credit to use additional scrutiny for any request for new or increased credit. This provides a significant layer of protection; however, it may limit your ability to get “instant credit” such as the offers often available at retail stores.
- Check your credit report to ensure all your information is correct. You can obtain a free credit report from each of the nationwide consumer credit reporting agencies every 12 months by visiting [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or calling 1-877-322-8228. You may want to obtain copies of your credit report to ensure the accuracy of the report information. When you receive your credit reports, review them carefully. Look for accounts or creditor inquiries that you did not initiate or do not recognize. Look for information, such as home address and Social Security number, that is not accurate. If you see anything you do not understand, call the consumer reporting agency at the telephone number on the report.
- If you believe you are a victim of identity theft, report it to your local law enforcement and to the FTC (see their contact information below) or your state Attorney General and one of the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies listed below to have it removed from your credit file.
- For more information about steps to take to avoid identity theft, including requesting fraud alerts, security freezes, or credit reports, contact:

Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC, 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft).

Equifax:  
1-800-349-9960 or  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348

Experian:  
1-888-397-3742 or  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion:  
1-800-680-7289 or  
[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)  
P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094

- Learn more about steps you can take to protect against identity theft from the Federal Trade Commission at [www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/identity-theft](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/identity-theft). Or call the FTC’s Identity Theft Hotline toll-free at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-439-4339)
- If you are a resident of Maryland, New York or North Carolina, you may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general or state agency at:

Maryland Attorney General’s Office, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023/ 1-410-576-6300, [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us).

New York Attorney General’s Office Bureau of Internet and Technology (212) 416-8433, <https://ag.ny.gov/internet/resource-center>

NYS Department of State’s Division of Consumer Protection (800) 697-1220, <https://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection>

North Carolina Attorney General’s Office, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6400/ 1-877-566-7226, [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov).



	Restoration, you must complete the enrollment process for the subscription offer by the enrollment deadline above. Call the phone number listed in your online member center for assistance.
Fair Credit Reporting Act	<p>The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. Here is a summary of your major rights under FCRA. For more information, including about additional rights, go to <a href="http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore">www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore</a> or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G. Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.</li><li>• You have the right to know what is in your file.</li><li>• You have the right to ask for a credit score.</li><li>• You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.</li><li>• Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete or unverifiable information.</li><li>• Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.</li><li>• Access to your file is limited.</li><li>• You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.</li><li>• You may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.</li><li>• You have the right to place a “security freeze” on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization.</li><li>• You may seek damages from violators.</li><li>• Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.</li></ul>