All.Net Analyst Report and Newsletter

Welcome to our Analyst Report and Newsletter

If I made disk drives

I would embed a WiFi chip in them along with a control mechanism to connect back out to the Internet through any WiFi I could get into, and take orders from me to program what the drive did. Anything from DMAs into and out or RAM to alter the operating system to stealing disk content to encrypting for extortion, to random errors after the warranty date.

If I made Ethernet interfaces

I would embed a little controller to allow me to send and receive high frequency sound so I could bypass any physical separation up to some distance and gain access across all networks.

If I made LED lights

I would make it so they were programmed to fail after the warranty period plus 1 hour.

If I made doorbells or HVACs or hot water heaters or light dimmers

I would turn them into surveillance systems and offer them to government, law enforcement, and the highest bidder, all exclusively as far as they knew.

If I made anything else using computers or electronics

I would plant Trojan horses that looked like bugs, and when discovered, after taking a long time to "fix" them, would make sure the fix broke something else to let me keep doing it.

But the workers would never stand for it

Sure they would. But if some of them didn't, I would act like they were right, I saw the light, and promise to be all the better forever more, then pay someone to do it surreptitiously, perhaps under the banner of patriotism.

I just finished building half my house

We tore half of it down, rebuilt over that half, and are moving in. The other half will come down next and be replaced as well. The old house was built before electronics. It had wires added later. The new house has electronic almost everything. Not because I wanted it, but because there seems to be almost no way to avoid it. There is no reasonably efficient heater, air conditioner, water heater, thermostat, light dimmer, electrical system, solar cell system, telephone connection, or apparently anything else that comes without computers embedded anymore. Don't get me wrong. I love all the benefits. But I certainly don't know what it really does inside, and I know more about what can and sometimes comes inside than most.

Conclusions

If I told you all of the things I listed are being done today, would you believe me? I don't make any of these things, but companies do, and at least half of these examples are most certainly true about at least one manufacturer today. Most of them are true of more than one manufacturer, in some form or another. And they are all true of governments and other actors in the cyber environment today. Modern times; can't live without them, can you live with them?