

Robinson+Cole

# Who's in Charge of Regulating the Internet of Things?

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# IoT ≠ Not the *Wild Wild West*

- Misconception that because data generated by IoT in a novel way, privacy, data security and other laws do not apply.
- Key for manufacturers to understand that **data generated by IoT is personal data**, sometimes very sensitive.



# IoT ≠ Not the *Wild Wild West*

- Statutes and regulations adopted during and prior to Internet age apply to IoT, even if by analogy.
- Enforcement actions by FTC and others also apply.
- Patchwork of federal, state and even industry guidance and legislation, particularly on disclosure, privacy, security, prohibition against unfair and deceptive practices.



# IoT By Design

- Consider human impact IoT will have during product concept or **design process**.
- **Identify risks and vulnerabilities** so can take measures to mitigate them.
- **Data minimization**
- **Don't delay** until production or quality control phase or when begin marketing product.



# IoT Vulnerabilities

- Challenges on **vulnerabilities**
  - **Tension** between profit and speed to market v. cybersecurity
  - Patches and updates work for laptops and smartphones, but not with IoT devices. **Challenging to shut down** IoT device or whole internet-connected industrial facility or urban area



# IoT Data Breach and Access

- **Unauthorized access** to personal data
- IoT used to **spread ransomware and malware and launch DoS attacks**
- **Data Requests** from law enforcement, government and private parties
- Potential **legal and public relations** issues





# IoT Road Map to Privacy Policy and Terms of Service

- Make sure devices are not set to default (e.g. change passwords)
- Verify that all devices and sensors are managed and monitored
- Properly segment your network –create an internal, guest and IoT network at a minimum
- Update firewalls and review security configurations, including operating system updates and patches
- Secure remote access
- Require security software on every IoT device (and mobile devices connected to those IoT devices)
- Encrypt transmission and storage of data if possible
- Train employees