

Iran-Linked Cyberattacks

On March 11, 2026, Stryker Corporation, one of the world's largest medical device manufacturers, confirmed it was experiencing a global network disruption to its Microsoft environment as a result of a cyberattack. The Iran-linked hacktivist group Handala claimed responsibility, stating that over 200,000 servers, mobile devices, and systems were wiped and that 50 terabytes of data were extracted, forcing Stryker to shut down operations across offices in 79 countries. Stryker's Lifenet electrocardiogram transmission system was reported non-functional across much of Maryland, prompting emergency medical services to revert to radio consultation. Handala stated the attack was carried out in retaliation for a US-Israeli military strike on a school in southern Iran.

Stryker is a healthcare and medical technology company, and this attack is not an isolated incident. Handala and affiliated Iranian-linked groups have been increasingly active since the start of the US-Israel-Iran conflict, targeting organizations with connections to Israel, US defense contracts, and critical infrastructure broadly. Healthcare organizations are considered high-value targets because disruption to their systems carries immediate real-world consequences. The US Department of Health and Human Services and CISA are actively assessing the potential impact on patient care.

Sandbox Technologies is issuing this advisory to ensure you are aware of the elevated threat environment. While there is no specific intelligence indicating that our clients are being targeted directly, the Stryker attack demonstrates that Iranian-linked groups are actively targeting US organizations and are capable of large-scale, destructive operations. Organizations of all sizes and across all sectors should treat this as a signal to increase vigilance.

If you have questions about your current security posture or would like us to perform a review in light of this advisory, please email support. We will review your environment and advise you on next steps.

Further information on this incident is available via the links provided below.

CNN: Pro-Iran Hackers Claim Cyberattack on Major US Medical Device Maker

SecurityWeek: MedTech Giant Stryker Crippled by Iran-Linked Hacker Attack

TechCrunch: Pro-Iran Hacktivist Group Handala Claims Stryker Attack

Al Jazeera: Iran-Linked Hackers Hit Medical Giant Stryker in Retaliatory Cyberattack

Ref. Handala / Iran-Linked Cyberattack on Stryker Corporation, March 2026

Sincerely,

Chris Harper

Chief Security Officer

Sandbox Technologies, Inc.