2011 PlayStation Network Outage

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Sony and Qriocity

- Attack occurred between April 17 and April 19, 2011
- Forced Sony to turn off the PlayStation Network on April 20
- On May 4, Sony confirmed that information from 77 million accounts may have been exposed
- Outage lasted 23 days
• One of the largest data security breaches in history

• Surpassed the 2007 TJX hack which affected 45 million customers

• Cost Sony $171 million

• May 4, Sony discovered a planted file that was named “Anonymous” with the words “We are Legion”
Sony Computer Entertainment America Inc. vs Hotz

- On January 11, 2011, Sony sued George Hotz and associates of the group fail0verflow for jail breaking and reverse engineering the Play Station 3.

- On March 6, 2011 Sony was allowed to access the IP addresses of all the people who visited geohotz blog.

- Soon after, Anonymous announced their intent to attack Sony, because they thought it was an attack on internet freedom.
Effects

- Sony was heavily criticized for waiting a week before warning their users about an attack.

- In April, Sony sent a letter to the US House of Representatives stating that they would be providing identity theft insurance policies worth $1 million per user.

- Sony was sued by several users and offices for failing to encrypting data.
Aftermath

• To compensate the users, Sony provided 30 days free membership to PlayStation Plus to all its users.

• 2 out of 5 PlayStation 3 games were offered for free.

• Sony also offered one year free identity theft protection to all its users.
Resources


- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVU6v53ow8k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVU6v53ow8k)