DATA BREACHES SECURITY

Burger King Japan Data Breach Impacts 11.18 Million App Member Records

BY DEEBA AHMED · OCTOBER 15, 2024 · 3 MINUTES READ

The Burger King Japan data breach occurred between October 2 and 7, exposing emails, birth dates and other data from nearly 12 million app members. Audit Security

BK Japan, the operator of Burger King restaurants in Japan, has confirmed a data breach in which personal information from about 11.9 million official app member records was stolen. The exposure occurred after a third party accessed BK Japan's membership database.

The company, operated by BK Japan Holdings Co., Ltd.and owned by Goldman Sachs Alternatives, disclosed the breach in an October 15 in a press release, stating that the breach took place between October 2 and 7 while it discovered the leak on October 13.

Details of the Breach

The exposed data includes customers' names in kanji and kana, phone numbers, email addresses, dates of birth, gender, preference and member IDs. Some records also contained registration details, email verification status, and information about mobile ordering.

BK Japan has not disclosed how the attacker gained access to the system. The reported mobile ordering data indicates whether a member had an order history, rather than revealing specific food orders.

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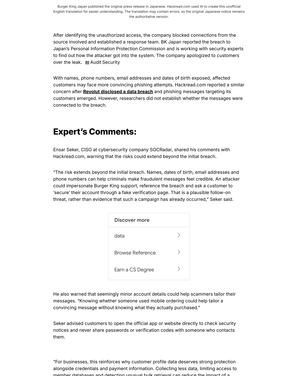
Company Response and Data Exposure

BK Japan's **press release** (PDF) stated that it does not store credit card numbers in the affected system, and no credit card numbers were exposed. The company also said it had not confirmed any leakage of login passwords. As of its announcement, no secondary harm, including fraudulent use of the leaked information, had been confirmed.


BURGER KING JAPAN

To Our Customers

October 15, 2024
BK Japan Co., Ltd.

Apology and Notice Regarding the Leakage of Official App Member Information Due to Unauthorized Access

We have confirmed that the official Burger King app operated by the Company was subject to unauthorized access by a third party, and that information belonging to official app members was leaked externally.

We sincerely apologize for causing great concern and inconvenience to our customers and all other related parties for the considerable inconvenience this incident has caused.

1 INCIDENT OVERVIEW

After identifying the possibility of unauthorized access by a third party to the system that manages official app member information, we launched an investigation. As a result, we confirmed that such unauthorized access occurred between October 2 and October 7, 2024, and that member information had been leaked.

Following the discovery of the unauthorized access, we immediately blocked access from the source of the unauthorized access.

2 CAUSE

We have confirmed that the incident resulted from unauthorized access by a third party. We are working with an external specialist organization to investigate the detailed circumstances and ensure that similar incidents will not occur in the future.

3 LEAKED INFORMATION

- Affected data: Approximately 11.18 million official app member records
- Information involved: Member ID, email address, registration date, gender, date of birth, name in kanji and kana, telephone number, email verification status, and information about mobile ordering
- The Company does not store credit card numbers, and no credit card numbers were leaked.
- No leakage of login password information has been confirmed at present.

4 COMPANY RESPONSE

Investigation
- Blocked unauthorized access from the unauthorized access source, implemented temporary measures, established an incident response team, and launched an investigation in cooperation with external specialist organizations.

Ongoing and Future Investigation & Steps
- We will continue to cooperate with external investigative organizations with an external specialist organization, and continue efforts to identify the cause in detail.

Measures to Prevent Recurrence
- We will strengthen system security measures and monitoring, and will work to prevent a recurrence with advice from an external specialist organization.

5 NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

Because we do not possess e-mails, SMS messages or telephone calls impersonating the Company or its services, if you receive suspicious communications, do not access any URL, open attachments, or enter member information or passwords.

6 CONTACT INFORMATION

Burger King Japan Customer Service, weekdays from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. closed on weekends and public holidays
Toll-free number: 0120-707-707
Apply anytime through the Burger King BK Offline website (BKFO) from Contacts: Orders, Suggestions and Wishes
Email: support@bkjapan.jp

Once again, we sincerely apologize to our customers and all other concerned parties for the considerable inconvenience this incident has caused.

Burger King Japan published the original press release in Japanese. Hackread.com used AI to create this unofficial English translation for easier understanding. The translation may contain errors, so the original Japanese notice remains the authoritative version.

After identifying the unauthorized access, the company blocked connections from the source involved and established a response team. BK Japan reported the breach to Japan's Personal Information Protection Commission and is working with security experts to find out how the attacker got into the system. The company apologized to customers over the leak. Audit Security

With names, phone numbers, email addresses and dates of birth exposed, affected customers may face more convincing phishing attempts. Hackread.com reported a similar concern after **Ryanair disclosed a data breach** and phishing messages targeting its customers emerged. However, researchers did not establish whether the messages were connected to the breach.

Expert's Comments:

Ensar Seker, CISO at cybersecurity company SOCRadar, shared his comments with Hackread.com, warning that the risks could extend beyond the initial breach.

"The risk extends beyond the initial breach. Names, dates of birth, email addresses and phone numbers can help criminals make fraudulent messages feel credible. An attacker could impersonate Burger King support, reference the breach and ask a customer to 'secure' their account through a fake verification page. That is a plausible follow-on threat, rather than evidence that such a campaign has already occurred," Seker said.

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He also warned that seemingly minor account details could help scammers tailor their messages. "Knowing whether someone used mobile ordering could help tailor a convincing message without knowing what they actually purchased."

Seker advised customers to open the official app or website directly to check security notices and never share passwords or verification codes with someone who contacts them.

"For businesses, this reinforces why customer profile data deserves strong protection alongside credentials and payment information. Collecting less data, limiting access to member databases and detecting unusual bulk retrieval can reduce the impact of a compromise. Account recovery also needs protection: knowing a customer's birthday or phone number should never be enough to establish their identity," he added. Store Big Data

Deeba Ahmed

Deeba is a veteran cybersecurity reporter at Hackread.com with over a decade of experience covering cybercrime, vulnerabilities, and security events. Her expertise and in-depth analysis make her a key contributor to the platform's trusted coverage.

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