

Yahoo Japan suspects 22 million IDs stolen

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Yahoo Japan Corp. has said it suspects up to 22 million user IDs may have been stolen during an unauthorised attempt to access the administrative system of its Yahoo! Japan portal.

"We don't know if the file (of 22 million user IDs) was leaked or not, but we can't deny the possibility given the volume of traffic between our

server and external" terminals, the company said in a statement late Friday.

The information did not include passwords and the kind of data necessary to verify a user's identity or reset passwords, it said, adding that the company had updated its security measures to prevent a repeat of the incident.

[Yahoo](#) Japan is 35.5 percent held by Japan's [mobile phone operator](#) SoftBank, and 34.7 percent held by US Internet giant Yahoo! Inc.

Its popular portal Yahoo! Japan holds the top search engine position in Japan with a more than 50 percent market share, compared with around 40 percent for rival [Google](#).

In 2011, Sony said information such as usernames, passwords and birth dates of more than 100 million people may have been compromised after hackers struck the PlayStation Network and Sony Online Entertainment services.

Japan acknowledges that its preventative measures against cyberattacks remain underdeveloped, with the national police agency having announced this month it would launch a team to analyse and combat cyberattacks.

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency said last month that information related to the International Space Station may have been leaked during an unauthorised attempt to access its system.

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