

HBO offered 'bounty' to hackers: report

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HBO offered a reward of \$250,000 in response to a data breach at the television group that produces "Game of Thrones," according to a report from a leaked memo.

The report by Variety on Thursday said HBO offered the payment as a "bug bounty," which is offered by companies to discover vulnerabilities in their computer networks.

The offer apparently failed to satisfy the attackers who have demanded a ransom of millions of dollars and are threatening to release more files from what is claimed to be a massive data breach.

HBO, a unit of the media group Time Warner, did not respond to a query about the Variety report.

Earlier this week, a video circulating online authored by someone identified only as "Mr. Smith" said the hackers had videos, scripts, personnel files and other <u>sensitive data</u> from the breach.

The hackers demanded "six month salary," which, according to the video, would be more than \$6 million.

Last week the hacker group leaked one script of "Games of Thrones" and content from other HBO productions.

HBO has said it was working with <u>forensic experts</u> and law enforcement in response to the attack.



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