Major Mail-Borne Threats

Every year thousands* of businesses, governmental organizations, NGOs, and prominent individuals receive threats through the mail. These can take many forms including:

Dangerous Items

Needles, razor blades, guns, knives, and lithium ion batteries are just a few of the items that could hurt recipients or mail handlers.

Explosives

In just one 10-day period in 2018, 16 pipe bombs were mailed to prominent Democratic Party politicians and President Trump.

Contraband

Many companies have found illegal drugs being sent to employees through the USPS and internal mail.

Powders

Five people were killed by letters containing anthrax in 2001; since then white powder has been commonly used as a mail-borne threat.

Liquids

Acids, tear gas, and other liquids can cause havoc and injury if released in a workplace.

Chemical

Many chemicals used in industrial applications are dangerous and readily available for purchase and shipping by bad actors.

Biological

Biological threats include microorganisms, viruses, and toxins that can harm humans.

Nuclear

If radioactive materials were to be released in a workplace, they could seriously harm people and render the facility permanently unusable.

Sometimes these are combined, such as an explosive device with a chemical agent. More often than not these are hoaxes containing powders or liquids.

Traditional X-ray scanners (indicated with ⚠) can only detect explosives, dangerous items, and contraband. MailSecur can detect all of these including hoaxes.

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