***Your technology may not be what you think it is.***



***What is a Supply Chain?***

*Supply Chain is how organizations, people, technology, activities, information and resources are involved in developing, producing, or delivering a product or service. The information technology (IT)supply chain looks more like a tree – branching back from the manufacturer to the suppliers of all the parts that go in the product and branching forward from the finished product to distributors and customers.*

***Does the IT Supply Chain matter to me?***

*Yes… problems in the supply chain can introduce weaknesses and other problems that can compromise both the technology and the data on it. Integrity of the trusted IT supply chain means that the delivered system performs its intended function in an unimpaired manner, free from deliberate or inadvertent manipulation.*

***What can I do to protect myself?***

*First, use only technology that comes from a reputable source – that means that the free flash drive you picked up at a conference should not be used on DOE or personal equipment and you shouldn’t buy technology from unknown retailers (like from an online auction site). You have no idea where or how this technology was manufactured or handled before it got to you.*

*Secondly, get educated. The Department of Energy Supply Chain Risk Management Resource Center is here to provide you with valuable awareness information and help you understand how to use IT safely at work and at home.*

*For additional information, contact us at* [*EnterpriseSCRM@hq.doe.gov*](mailto:EnterpriseSCRM@hq.doe.gov)*.*

