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# PRIVACY LAWS & BUSINESS

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Publisher: Stewart H. Dresner

Editor: Merrill Dresner

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No. 10

May 1989

Every contact with our subscribers, whether through our consulting services or at our conferences, reminds us that you give equal importance to current national privacy developments and those broader privacy themes which have an impact on business in every country where you operate - issues like marketing lists, employee records and credit information. As a result, we have extended the scope of this edition and also look into the future.

A common problem for **Privacy Laws & Business** subscribers is deciding on practical steps to achieve adequate data security, as required by national data protection laws. Most data protection laws give little guidance, and so you should find part 2 of DEC's Norman Jackson's report very helpful.

If data security is an ongoing concern, companies are taking a rapidly increasing interest in the advantages of electronic trading and Ian Walden analyses how data protection laws will both complement and complicate use of electronic data interchange.

While devoting most of our attention to aspects of data protection which have an impact on companies now, we are fascinated by David Goldberg's look into the new privacy issues - like computer matching, compliance audits, genetic fingerprinting, and the need for an AIDS employee privacy policy - which will confront us in the 1990's.

Our next edition will be published in September and report on the annual meeting of Data Protection Commissioners in Berlin.

**Merrill Dresner, Editor**

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