

This is newsletter #40, 2018-W2 published on 13 January 2018.



# architectingIT



## The Spectre of Meltdown

One subject has dominated the tech news for the last couple of weeks. That's the impact of the vulnerabilities called Meltdown and Spectre. The exposures potentially allow hackers to access confidential data by running malicious code on pretty much all operating systems and processors.

Although it doesn't appear that there are any known exploits so far, O/S vendors have been rushing to release fixes to at least the Meltdown problem. See our blog post ([link](#)) for details.

Vendor statements say storage appliances are not affected, as they are typically closed systems. This seems a little surprising, when most storage arrays have network connectivity, feed data back to vendors via the open Internet and are often managed through web interfaces.

Perhaps there's a balance here between the performance penalty to be paid by implementing the patches and the overall risk of having a system compromised. I suspect vendors will quietly make changes over time and roll them out gradually, so the impact is absorbed via hardware upgrades.

That leads me to postulate that the public cloud is more hardware focused than we should expect ([link](#)). There's still lots of emphasis put on CPU models and the speed of storage at a hardware level. Perhaps only Serverless will prove to be completely abstracted, however even then I think there will be hardware dependencies to be aware of.

What do you think?

Chris Evans

---



## New Architecting IT Blog Posts...

- [Public Cloud is Still Hardware Focused](#) (12 January 2018)
- [Technology Choices for Data Mobility in Hybrid Cloud](#) (10 January 2018)
- [The Impact of Meltdown/Spectre for Storage & HCI](#) (8 January 2018)

## New Storage Unpacked Podcasts...

- [Introduction to GDPR with Nigel Tozer from Commvault](#) (12 January 2018)
- 

We're interested in your feedback! Is there anything you would like to see covered in these newsletters or on the blog? Do you have an opinion on any of the content? Just hit reply to this email or continue the conversation online: [@architectingit](#) on Twitter, or via [LinkedIn](#).



---

---

 Tweet    Share    Forward    Read Later



---

*Copyright © 2018 Brookend Ltd, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)