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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DESIGNDATA EXPANDS CYBER SECURITY OFFERING BY PARTNERING WITH KNOWBE4

GAITHERSBURG, MD (April, 5 2017) – designDATA, a leading IT services company serving the Washington, DC metro area, announced today that it has partnered with KnowBe4, a security firm that specializes in cybersecurity training. designDATA will now provide complimentary security testing and training services to their Managed Services and Agility Cloud contract clients.

Industry experts estimate between 80 and 90% of successful data breaches started with a spear phishing attack. KnowBe4's Security Awareness Training is an end user security ecosystem that educates users on threats, and then tests their acumen with benign email, web phishing, and social engineering attempts. If an employee clicks on a test email, the system will then direct that staff member to additional training facilities to sharpen their security awareness. All of this is proven to reduce employee-caused security events by more than 80%.

"Our clients have invested significantly in security hardware and software solutions such as firewalls, intrusion detection and prevention, and host-based security," said Matt Ruck, Vice President of designDATA. "While these protections are critical, the most important aspect of solid network security posture is a well-trained employee base educated on identifying email, web, and social engineering based attacks. KnowBe4 will bolster our existing training offerings with Kevin Mitnick's Security Awareness Training program. We are thrilled to announce this partnership as it will help extend our cyber security services to our clients."

"We are very happy to partner with designDATA, one of DC's best Managed Services providers and are pleased that they chose KnowBe4's new-school security awareness training to strengthen the 'human firewall' for their clients," stated Stu Sjouwerman, CEO of KnowBe4.

About designDATA

Founded in 1979, designDATA is a leading IT services company serving the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The company focuses on three lines of business that include outsourcing IT, IT Consulting, and Data Center Services. They provide reliable computer support to businesses that want to improve productivity and profitability. Their staff of over sixty technology professionals work to ensure that technology is planned, implemented and managed to align with their clients' business objectives. To learn more about the company, please visit https://www.designdata.com.

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