Cybersecurity Policy Report, Anthropic's IPO Filing Cites Risks From Hackers Misusing Its AI Models, (Oct 27, 2026)

By Tom Leithauser



The use of its AI (artificial intelligence) products for cyber attacks could undermine its "reputation and brand, business, financial condition, and results of operations," Anthropic warned yesterday in a Securities and Exchange Commission filing.

"While our AI models are designed to comply with our AI safety and usage guidelines and be broadly safe, ethical, and helpful, and while we have implemented safety measures intended to anticipate, identify, and mitigate potential harmful uses, such measures are incomplete, may be outdated in light of evolving threat models, or may fail to identify or prevent all potential misuse of our models, and our models have been, and may continue to be, misused or manipulated to produce harmful outputs or carry out harmful actions," Anthropic said.

"Any successful attempt to misuse, or any perceived misuse of, our models, platform, and applications for a cyberattack or for any other malicious purpose could result in exposure to liability, disruption of our customer or other commercial relationships, or damage to our reputation. The risks of such harms may increase as the cybersecurity-related capabilities of our models, platform, and applications increase," it added.

The form S-1 filing by Anthropic kicks off its effort to sell stock to the public in an initial public offering. The filing discloses the AI developer's finances and the risks its investors might face.

Anthropic noted that the legal landscape affecting its business included the potential for additional regulatory oversight in the U.S. and abroad.

"In the European Union ('EU'), the United Kingdom ('UK'), and elsewhere, cybersecurity and AI-related incidents are subject to increasingly stringent reporting obligations," it said.

"European regulators expect companies to provide detailed information about incidents under several laws and regulations, which we may not be able to provide within the prescribed time frame," it cautioned.

"Similarly, in the United States, companies are increasingly subject to incident reporting obligations. In addition, other jurisdictions around the world have adopted, or may adopt, similar laws and regulations with similar implications. Any of the foregoing could result in regulatory action, litigation, customer attrition, or reputational harm that adversely affects our business," the company said.

The filing also mentioned the Trump administration's decision to treat Anthropic as a national security risk after the company told the Department of Defense that it couldn't use Anthropic's AI models for mass domestic surveillance or autonomous weapons, a dispute that's being considered in federal court (*CPR*, Oct. 14).

"In February 2026, in response to our publicly stated position that our technology should not be used for mass domestic surveillance or fully autonomous weapons, the President of the United States stated that he had directed that all federal executive agencies cease using our technology," Anthropic said.

"At the same time, the Secretary of War directed the Department of War to designate Anthropic as a 'supply-chain risk to national security' and stated that 'effective immediately, no contractor, supplier, or partner that does business with the United States military may conduct any commercial activity' with us," it disclosed.

It "vigorously" challenged the administration's actions in court, winning a case in U.S. District Court for the Northern

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District of California and losing one in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Anthropic noted.

"We cannot predict the ultimate outcome of these lawsuits," it said. "While we continue to work with government agencies, we cannot be certain that the resolution of these lawsuits will not adversely affect our ability to sell to government agencies and other customers that sell products and services to the U.S. government, and thus on our business, financial condition, and results of operations."

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