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EMAIL PICTURE WARNING

SMALL firms' email systems are in danger of collapse as employees send and receive holiday photographs, experts have warned.

The message servers of SMEs are particularly vulnerable when image files are sent and received because they generally don't have large IT departments to monitor and manage the systems, according to software company Softalk.

Simon Bates, a director of Softalk, said: "Many businesses are relying on old email systems that they first implemented when email first became widely available and before it became a business critical system."