

# Cross Match denies spying allegations

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Cross Match Technology, the company involved in the latest WikiLeaks-Aadhaar controversy, has denied all allegations made in media reports.

WikiLeaks, last Thursday, published documents that claimed to “expose” that the CIA is using tools devised by US-based Cross Match for cyber spying that may have comprised Aadhaar data.

John B Hinmon, vice-president (global marketing), Cross Match, said, “There is no truth to the claims. Cross Match does not capture, store or process in any manner personal private information, such as fingerprint images, collected by any of



its customers.”

The technology service provider to the UIDAI since 2011 also denied that its devices had the ability to capture such information. “We do not have the technical ability to ‘remote into’ databases and systems that do store such personal data nor have we ever developed or supported such capability for any government or private entity,” said Hinmon in an emailed interview with **TOI**.

## No leaks, data fully secure, says UIDAI

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UIDAI has rejected the allegations of Aadhaar data leaks, saying that the contract to foreign firms was for maintaining the UIDAI servers within its premises under high security. These allegations are being spread “with malicious intent,” the authority said.

“In the contract the servers used for data storage and processing belong to UIDAI and have been kept in the highly secured data centre. The Aadhaar data has been stored, kept and processed only on the UIDAI servers within the

data centre and never outside,” it said.

The authority said all service providers are bound by strict confidentiality regime under the contract, the non-disclosure agreement, as well as the Aadhaar Act. Any violation would lead to three years’ imprisonment.

It’s official statement said: “UIDAI, once and for all, wants to reassure that Aadhaar data is fully safe and secure and UIDAI data centre has robust uncompromised security 24x7x365.” It added that not a single case of identity threat or financial loss due to Aadhaar has been reported so far.