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Cyber Foundry

Security News of the Week

by Thomas Martin, Manchester Metropolitan University, Senior Lecturer

Monday 19th October 2020

Five bar and cafe owners arrested in France for running no-log WiFi networks

Law enforcement in France are starting to clamp down on free WiFi. Five bar and café managers in the French city of Grenoble were arrested for offering open WiFi networks at their premises without keeping logs. They were surprised to learn that an obscure law requires that logs be kept for one year, a law that does not apply to just ISPs, but anyone offering internet access. The managers were eventually released after questioning. Read more here>

International Statement: End-To-End Encryption and Public Safety

More pressure is being put on tech companies that offer End-to-End Encryption in their products and services. The governments of USA, UK, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand (the so-called "Five Eyes") along with India and Japan have called on them to enable law enforcement access to content when lawfully authorised. They claim that it can be done without "compromising privacy or cyber security" but are not saying how this can be done. Tech companies have long argued there is no safe way to add backdoors to existing systems. Read more here

Windows "Ping of Death" bug revealed – patch now!

Windows 10 users should apply the latest patch to protect against a so-called "Ping-of-Death" attack. A single maliciously crafted IPv6 ICMP packet could cause a machine to crash and force a restart. While a crash has been demonstrated by Sophos, it is not known if this vulnerability could be further exploited to achieve remote code execution. Read more here>

British Airways fined £20m over data breach

British Airways have received a hefty £20 million fine for a 2018 data breach. Attackers had managed to comprise BA's systems to collect login details, payment information, names and addresses. It wasn't until two months later that BA discovered the incursion, thanks to a security researcher. The ICO concluded that sufficient security measures were not in place at the time. The fine was originally intended to be £183 million but was reduced in light of the economic impact of Covid-19. Read more here>

Watch out for Emotet malware's new 'Windows Update' attachment

The Emotet botnet is sending out malicious Word documents to compromise victims. By default, Word blocks macros from executing, macros that Emotet needs to install its malware. They have now taken to claim that the user needs to update their system to try to get them to disable the protections. Read more here>

Hackney Council unable to pay housing benefit after cyber attack

Hackney council have been hit by a serious cyber attack. Very few details have been provided regarding how their systems were breached, but the impact is that they will be unable to make housing benefit payments. Many renters who rely on these payments could face eviction and possibly homelessness. The data breach has been reported to the ICO. Read more here>

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