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Cyber Foundry

Security News of the Week

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WhatsApp hijack scam continues to spread

WhatsApp users are reporting scams attempting to hijack their accounts. The common scenario is that they receive an unexpected SMS security code, quickly followed up by an apparent urgent WhatsApp message from a friend claiming to be locked out. They ask the victim to forward on/screenshot the code to them and will often comply in order to help out. In reality, the information goes to a scammer who takes over the account. This can be leveraged to continue the scam against other contacts or to extort funds. Users are advised to avoid passing on any security codes and using the stronger app-based second factor where available. Read more>

Google, Microsoft, and Mozilla work together on better browser extensions

The increasing popularity of browser extensions brings with it increased risks of abuse. To address this, the organisations behind the most popular browsers (Apple, Google, Microsoft, and Mozilla) have launched the WebExtensions Community Group (WECG). They will be looking to develop a standard model for extensions to improve performance as well as security. While the group will be able to establish a common foundation for extensions across various platforms, delivery and signing will not be included in their scope and will be left to the discretion of each extension store. Read more>

UF Health Florida hospitals back to pen and paper after cyberattack

Two hospitals in Florida have had to shut down parts of the IT networks in response to a cyber-attack. After detecting unusual activity on their network, UF Health Central Florida took the decision to isolate the networks in their Gainesville and Jacksonville hospitals. Staff are reportedly reverting back to pen and paper while the incursion is being investigated. Ransomware attacks are now being treated with similar priority at terrorism in the US due to their impact on critical national infrastructure. Read more>

ESET Threat Report T1 2021

ESET have released their threat landscape report for the first four months of the year. They present a number of findings from their telemetry and research. They found that the most common protocol being subjected to brute-force attacks is RDP and have also noted a significant increase in Android banking malware. The summary can be found on their blog which also links to the full report. Read more>

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