CYBER CRIME SENTINEL

West Midlands | Regional Cyber Crime Unit

This newsletter has been collated by West Midlands Regional Cyber Crime Unit and is intended for wider distribution within the West Midlands Region to raise awareness among businesses and members of the public.

CYBER PROTECT WEEKLY TIP

Business E-mail Compromise

According to some latest data published by a US based company, Abnormal Security, the rise in report working has made employees more susceptible to BEC attacks. Recently the data has picked up a shift from BEC criminal operators, who originally targeted Executives, to now switching their focus to Finance staff. BEC is so prevalent, it makes up nearly one-in-four cyber insurance claims according to a 2018 AIG report, which focuses on Europe, the Middle East, and Asia (EMEA).

Abnormal Secuirty Data: https://bwnews.pr/2EqNesO   AIG Report: https://bit.ly/34D5ZUj

So what is Business E-mail Compromise?
Business Email Compromise (BEC) is a form of phishing attack. BEC attacks are crafted to appeal to specific individuals and can be even harder to detect than typical phishing emails. The attackers attempt to defraud the company, its customers, partners, and/or employees into sending money or sensitive data to the attacker's account.
In a BEC scam, criminals send an email message that appears to come from a known source making a legitimate request, like in these examples:

▪A vendor your company regularly deals with sends an invoice with an updated mailing address.
▪A company CEO asks her assistant to purchase dozens of gift cards to send out as employee rewards. She asks for the serial numbers so she can email them out right away.
▪A homebuyer receives a message from his title company with instructions on how to transfer his down payment.

Check out our quick tips guide to learn more about Business Email Compromise (BEC) and how to protect yourself against attacks: **https://www.wmcyber.org/quick-tips/**

IN THE NEWS — TOP CYBER HEADLINES
THE LATEST NEWS ON CYBERCRIME FROM THE REGIONAL CYBER CRIME UNIT

With a continued spike in reports from Facebook account takeover victims, we want to signpost readers to the below links on how to secure social media for personal and professional purposes.
- NCSC Social Media: Protecting what you publish - **https://bit.ly/31zf2DV**
- UK Safer Internet Centre Social Media Guides - **https://bit.ly/3hBJmTQ**
- Action Fraud: Facebook Account Takeover - **https://bit.ly/3gF0XsJ**

Bring Your Own Device - the new normal - https://bit.ly/32AA7gJ

NCSC departing boss reflects on China, Russia and trust in tech - https://bbc.in/3b7aNCD

Leeds-based college group hit by cyber attack - https://bbc.in/2EAsH4R

15-year-old Merseyside boy arrested for hacking UK PayPal accounts - https://bit.ly/34DzPrP

Malicious Actors Impersonating Bitcoin Platform to Launch Malware Attacks - https://bit.ly/3jpQ7Jf

New Zealand stock exchange halted by cyber-attack - https://bbc.in/2YG59md

Nearly Half of UK IT Leaders Have Not Upgraded to Cloud Security - https://bit.ly/3gygqeq

Pension savers claim over £30 million lost to scams as regulators urge footie fans to show scammers the red card - https://bit.ly/3b0F5ac

TECH TALK

NCSC Weekly Threat Report Topics
Microsoft to pull back support for Internet Explorer
HMRC investigating COVID-19 phishing scams
Update to Huawei advice following US August announcement
https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-21st-august-2020

Microsoft's out of band security update fixes flaw in Windows Remote Access service - https://bit.ly/3b0IqpL

Google Drive flaw may let hackers install malware on your device - https://bit.ly/31AkhU4

MITRE shares this year's top 25 most dangerous software bugs - https://bit.ly/3b3jhuo

Office 365 now opens attachments in a sandbox to prevent infections - https://bit.ly/2QwUdTn

It's Competition Time! Cyberland Challenge: Open to UK residents under the age of 18.
https://cybergamesuk.com/cyberland-challenge (Ends Midnight 30th August)

https://app.sli.do/event/jvodjdcu/

THE **CYBER RESILIENCE CENTRE** FOR THE **WEST MIDLANDS**

Our lives are relying on technology more every day. Join us each Friday for your bitesize cybersecurity podcast. In this increasingly technical world we deliver non-technical cyber news, and identify the current threats we're facing.

https://cyberthreatweekly.buzzsprout.com/

CORE MEMBER - FREE

Includes:
NCSC Guidance - How organisations can protect themselves in cyberspace, including the 10 steps to cyber security from the Government NCSC division.

NCSCs Exercise In A Box – a tool to give your organisation a 'dummy' run of a cyber attack. Similar to testing your fire drill. Tailored for different sized organisations.

NCSC Board Toolkit - Resources designed to encourage essential cyber security discussions between the Board and their technical experts.
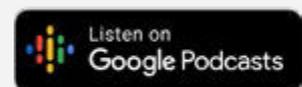
E-news – regular digestible updates relevant to West Midlands organisations about cyber resilience

https://www.wmcrc.co.uk/

APPEAL: *PLEASE GET IN TOUCH FOR FREE CYBER AWARENESS INPUTS FOR YOUR OWN BUSINESS, ORGANISATION OR GROUPS.*