Security News Digest
Information Security Branch

BRITISH COLUMBIA OCIO Office of the Chief Information Officer

July 14th, 2020

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This week's stories:

- Alberta privacy commissioner finds security concerns with province's COVID app
- New cyber insurance provider for SMBs moves into Canada
- ITWC's Morning Briefing, July 13, 2020 - Talking cybersecurity awareness with Trend Micro's Mark Nunnikhoven
- Huawei: Why is it being banned from the UK's 5G network?
- Malware adds online sandbox detection to evade analysis
- The Enemy Within: How Insider Threats Are Changing
- EFF's new database reveals what tech local police are using to spy on you
- Google Cloud unveils new features to enhance security and compliance for sensitive data
- Windows 10's Feedback Hub: A forum for political trolls, spammers
- Amazon supermarket will roll out fancy new smart cart when it opens

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Alberta privacy commissioner finds security concerns with province's COVID app

https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/alberta-privacy-commissioner-finds-security-concerns-with-provinces-covid-app/433014

There are security risks for users of the Apple version of Alberta's COVID-19 contact tracing app because — unlike the Android version — it always has to be on, says the province's information and privacy commissioner.

"Despite the positive aspects [of the app], I have ongoing concerns related to the functionality of ABTraceTogether on Apple devices," Clayton said in her privacy impact assessment of the app, adding the app is based on code developed by Singapore.

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New cyber insurance provider for SMBs moves into Canada

https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/new-cyber-insurance-provider-for-smbs-moves-into-canada/432930

Small and medium-sized Canadian businesses have a new choice for cyber insurance after a U.S. based provider called Coalition Inc. decided to offer its service north of the border.

Supported by re-insurer Swiss Re, as well as Lloyd's of London, and Argo Group, Coalition is offering up to $20 million of comprehensive insurance coverage to companies with up to $1 billion in annual revenue.

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ITWC Morning Briefing, July 13, 2020 - Talking cybersecurity awareness with Trend Micro's Mark Nunnikhoven

https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/itwc-morning-briefing-july-13-2020-talking-cybersecurity-awareness-with-trend-micros-mark-nunnikhoven/432953

New data suggests cybersecurity is being taken a little bit more seriously ever since lockdowns forced businesses to establish a remote workforce. Nearly 66 per cent of the 500 Canadian remote workers surveyed in Trend Micro's recent *Head in the Clouds* report say they've been made more conscious of IT security during this period. It's a small victory, though. The report, which surveyed a total of 13,200 remote working employees from 27 countries, reveals 56 per cent of all employees surveyed still use a non-work application on a corporate device, and 66 per cent of them have actually uploaded corporate data to that application.

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Huawei: Why is it being banned from the UK's 5G network?

https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-47041341

The UK government has announced a series of measures to remove the Chinese phone-maker Huawei from the UK's 5G mobile networks.

It will ban UK mobile providers from buying new Huawei 5G equipment after the end of this year and they will have to remove all of its 5G kit from their networks by 2027.

The government had previously said Huawei could be involved in the project but it changed its mind following growing security concerns about China.

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Malware adds online sandbox detection to evade analysis

https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/malware-adds-online-sandbox-detection-to-evade-analysis/

Malware developers are now checking if their malware is running in the Any.Run malware analysis service to prevent their malware from being easily analyzed by researchers.
Any.Run is a malware analysis sandbox service that lets researchers and users safely analyze malware without risk to their computers.

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The Enemy Within: How Insider Threats Are Changing

https://threatpost.com/the-enemy-within-how-insider-threats-are-changing/157302/

Insider threats are ramping up – with new kinds of concerns in this category beginning to emerge.

This is happening against a heady backdrop: Makeshift home offices, a cavalcade of new distractions and a tectonic shift to the cloud have recently collided to create an entirely new world for enterprise security. It's a world where companies are simultaneously trying to make all their information available to a diffuse remote workforce, while locking down their most sensitive information. Meanwhile, there's an expanding roster of potential bad actors ready to take advantage of the confusion.

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EFF's new database reveals what tech local police are using to spy on you

https://www.zdnet.com/article/effs-new-database-shows-you-what-tech-local-police-are-using-to-spy-on-you/?&web_view=true

The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) has debuted a new database that reveals how, and where, law enforcement is using surveillance technology in policing strategies.

Launched on Monday in partnership with the University of Nevada's Reynolds School of Journalism, the "Atlas of Surveillance" is described as the "largest-ever collection of searchable data on police use of surveillance technologies."

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Google Cloud unveils new features to enhance security and compliance for sensitive data

https://www.techrepublic.com/article/google-cloud-unveils-new-features-to-enhance-security-and-compliance-for-sensitive-data/

Google Cloud is introducing two new capabilities aimed at organizations struggling to ensure the security and regulatory compliance of data stored in the cloud. Announced on Tuesday, the two features are Confidential VMs and Assured Workloads for Government, both of which aim to simplify and strengthen the security management of cloud-based data, especially for industries that have to grapple with tight compliance regulations.

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Windows 10's Feedback Hub: A forum for political trolls, spammers

https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/microsoft/windows-10s-feedback-hub-a-forum-for-political-trolls-spammers/

When Microsoft made the Feedback Hub universal app available to Windows 10 Insiders in March 2016 and generally available two months later, the plan was for the app to be the perfect tool for users to report issues and share suggestions on how to improve Windows experience for all customers.

However, as reported by users over the weekend and as BleepingComputer was able to confirm, the Windows 10 Feedback Hub is also now being used as a spam platform and a forum by political trolls.

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Amazon supermarket will roll out fancy new smart cart when it opens

https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2020/07/amazon-supermarket-will-roll-out-fancy-new-smart-cart-when-it-opens/

Amazon is working to expand its grocery business—not Whole Foods, which already has more than 500 store locations, but its Amazon-branded line of register-free stores. While it's easy for a customer to carry a small bag of items around a convenience store like in the first Amazon Go, it's a lot harder to schlep around the volume of groceries one often buys at a regular supermarket. So Amazon is doing what Amazon does and is making the shopping cart itself an essential part of its high-tech retail experience.

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