Security News Digest
Information Security Branch
BRITISH COLUMBIA OCIO Office of the Chief Information Officer

December 5, 2023

Challenge yourself with our Multi-factor Authentication Quiz!

Cybersecurity Issue of the Week: **PHISHING**

✪ Read our **PHISHING INFOSHEET** to learn more.

This past week's stories:

🍁 **Lighthouse Labs to provide Canadian workers with in-demand cyber skills through cyber security bootcamp powered by Upskill Canada**

🍁 **KPMG, Microsoft launches cybersecurity knowledge base for Canadian employers**

🍁 **Tools capable of extracting personal data from phones being used by 13 federal departments, documents show**

Hackers can exploit 'forced authentication' to steal Windows NTLM tokens

Cybersecurity agency warns that water utilities are vulnerable to hackers after Pennsylvania attack

Google researchers find out how ChatGPT queries can collect personal data

Russian hacker Vladimir Dunaev convicted for creating TrickBot malware

✪ **Hotels on Booking.com urged to 'secure their systems' amid rise in scams**

Staples hit with disruption after cyber-attack
EU adopts "world first" cybersecurity legislation for manufacturers, including oil, gas industry

Dozens of credit unions confront outages linked to third-party ransomware attack

DDoS attack-for-hire services thriving on Dark Web and cyber criminal forums

Lighthouse Labs to provide Canadian workers with in-demand cyber skills through cyber security bootcamp powered by Upskill Canada

Today, Lighthouse Labs is announcing the launch of a new program for its Cyber Security Bootcamp powered by Upskill Canada. The program is part of the first wave of partnership agreements that are taking an industry-oriented approach to supporting Canadian workers.

https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20231204243351/en/Lighthouse-Labs-to-Provide-%E2%80%8B%E2%80%8BCanadian-Workers-with-In-Demand-Cyber-Skills-Through-Cyber-Security-Bootcamp-Powered-by-Upskill-Canada

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KPMG, Microsoft launches cybersecurity knowledge base for Canadian employers

KPMG in Canada and Microsoft Canada recently announced the launch of its initiative to provide free hands-on training to help businesses and governments build cybersecurity protection.

https://www.hrreporter.com/focus-areas/automation-ai/kpmg-microsoft-launches-cybersecurity-knowledge-base-for-canadian-employers/381819

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Tools capable of extracting personal data from phones being used by 13 federal departments, documents show

Tools capable of extracting personal data from phones or computers are being used by 13 federal departments and agencies, according to contracts obtained under access to information legislation and shared with Radio-Canada.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/federal-canada-government-department-privacy-1.7041255

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Hackers can exploit 'forced authentication' to steal Windows NTLM tokens

Cybersecurity researchers have discovered a case of "forced authentication" that could be exploited to leak a Windows user's NT LAN Manager (NTLM) tokens by tricking a victim into opening a specially crafted Microsoft Access file.

https://thehackernews.com/2023/11/hackers-can-exploit-forced.html

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Cybersecurity agency warns that water utilities are vulnerable to hackers after Pennsylvania attack

Hackers are targeting industrial control systems widely used by water and sewage-treatment utilities, potentially threatening water supplies, the top U.S. cyberdefense agency said after a Pennsylvania water authority was hacked.

https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/cybersecurity-agency-warns-water-utilities-vulnerable-hackers-after-105257094

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Google researchers find out how ChatGPT queries can collect personal data

The LLMs (Large Language Models) are evolving rapidly with continuous advancements in their research and applications.

https://cybersecuritynews.com/chatgpt-queries-collect-personal-data/

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Russian hacker Vladimir Dunaev convicted for creating TrickBot malware

A Russian national has been found guilty in connection with his role in developing and deploying a malware known as TrickBot, the U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) announced.

https://thehackernews.com/2023/12/russian-hacker-vladimir-dunaev.html

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Hotels on Booking.com urged to ‘secure their systems' amid rise in scams

Booking.com has urged partnering hotels to install two-factor authentication after a rise in phishing emails in recent months.

https://www.thecaterer.com/news/hotels-booking-dot-com-scams

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Staples hit with disruption after cyber-attack

Staples is still suffering disruption after being hit by a cyber-attack late last week, the retailer has revealed.

https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/staples-hit-disruption-cyberattack/

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EU adopts “world first” cybersecurity legislation for manufacturers, including oil, gas industry

The European Commission welcomed the political agreement reached Thursday night between the European Parliament and the Council on the Cyber Resilience Act, proposed by the Commission in September 2022.

https://worldoil.com/news/2023/12/3/eu-adopts-world-first-cybersecurity-legislation-for-manufacturers-including-oil-gas-industry/

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Dozens of credit unions confront outages linked to third-party ransomware attack

About 60 credit unions are contending with outages due to a ransomware attack against Trellance, a third-party IT vendor for the industry, the National Credit Union Administration said Friday.

https://www.cybersecuritydive.com/news/credit-unions-outages-ransomware/701442/

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DDoS attack-for-hire services thriving on Dark Web and cyber criminal forums

Distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack-for-hire services on offer on dark web and cyber criminal forums are "flourishing", despite coordinated efforts from international law enforcement agencies to tackle such tools. That's according to new research from analysts at cyber security company Searchlight Cyber which revealed an increase in the availability and interested buyers of "stressers" and "boosters" that help less sophisticated criminals launch DDoS attacks.

https://www.cshub.com/attacks/news/ddos-attack-for-hire-services-thriving-on-dark-web-and-cyber-criminal-forums

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