




December 1st, 2020

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Auditor general says N.S. slow to act on cybersecurity amid increasing risk 

<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2020/12/01/auditor-general-says-ns-slow-to-act-on-cybersecurity-amid-increasing-risk.html>

Nova Scotia's auditor general says the COVID-19 pandemic is highlighting the need for more robust cybersecurity and anti-fraud measures as government employees are forced to work remotely.

However, he says the provincial government isn't working fast enough to manage those risks.

Acting auditor general Terry Spicer notes in a report released today that the federal government's Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity has warned of an increase in attempts to access and attack networks used by remote workers.

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Home Depot to pay U.S. states \$17.5 million for 2014 data breach

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/home-depot-to-pay-u-s-states-17-5-million-for-2014-data-breach/438785>

It's taken six years but a number of U.S. states have finally come to an agreement on financial penalties and other remedies against The Home Depot for a huge data breach in 2014.

Home Depot will have to pay 46 states and the District of Columbia \$17.5 million and implement a series of data security practices designed to strengthen its information security program and safeguard the personal information of consumers.

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Egregor RaaS Continues the Chaos with Cobalt Strike and Rclone

<https://labs.sentinelone.com/egregor-raas-continues-the-chaos-with-cobalt-strike-and-rclone/>

Egregor ransomware is an offshoot of the Sekhmet malware family that has been active since mid-September 2020. The ransomware operates by compromising organizations, stealing sensitive user data, encrypting said data, and demanding a ransom to exchange encrypted documents. Egregor is ransomware associated with the cyberattacks against GEFCO and Barnes & Noble, Ubisoft, and numerous others.

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FBI warns of BEC scammers using email auto-forwarding in attacks

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/fbi-warns-of-bec-scammers-using-email-auto-forwarding-in-attacks/>

The FBI is warning US companies about scammers actively abusing auto-forwarding rules on web-based email clients to increase the likelihood of successful Business Email Compromise (BEC) attacks.

This warning was issued through a joint Private Industry Notification (PIN) sent on November 25 and coordinated with DHS-CISA.

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Android app still exposing messages of 100M users despite bug fix

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/android-app-still-exposing-messages-of-100m-users-despite-bug-fix/>

GO SMS Pro, an Android instant messaging app with more than 100 million installs, is still exposing the privately shared messages of millions of users even though the developer has been working on a fix for the flaw behind the data leak for almost two weeks.

The flaw, discovered by Trustwave researchers three months ago and publicly disclosed on November 19, enabled unauthenticated attackers to gain unrestricted access to voice messages, videos, and photos privately shared by GO SMS Pro users.

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Ransomware Attack Targets Baltimore County Public Schools

<https://www.bankinfosecurity.com/ransomware-attack-targets-baltimore-county-public-schools-a-15467>

Officials with the Baltimore County Public Schools are investigating a ransomware attack that disrupted virtual learning for students on Wednesday. Now, the district has been forced to call-off its virtual classes until next Monday, when children return from the Thanksgiving holiday break.

On Wednesday, Mychael Dickerson, the district's chief of staff, confirmed via Twitter that several schools in Baltimore were affected after ransomware attackers targeted its IT systems and caused network interruption.

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Fake VPN add-ons hit Microsoft Edge browser store

<https://www.techradar.com/news/fake-vpn-add-ons-hit-microsoft-edge-browser-store>

Reports are emerging of fake VPN extensions cropping up on the Microsoft Edge store. The malicious add-ons were found to be injecting suspicious ads into search results or redirecting users to entirely unwanted search engines altogether.

Users first started noticing that something wasn't right when they found that their Google searches were being redirected to a site called 'OKSearch'. Closer inspection identified that the extension had some code relating to the obscure search portal in the sources tab of its developer tools.

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Updated Trickbot Malware Is More Resilient

<https://www.databreachtoday.com/updated-trickbot-malware-more-resilient-a-15449>

The gang operating Trickbot is continuing its activities despite recent takedown efforts, rolling out two updates that make the malware more difficult to kill, according to the security firm Bitdefender.

The latest Trickbot versions - 2000016 and 100003 - were rolled out on Nov. 3 and Nov. 18, respectively, with changes that include using a new command-and-control infrastructure based on MikroTik routers and only using packed modules. The malware was last updated in August, the researchers say.

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