October 17, 2023

Challenge yourself with our Cyber Security Awareness Month Quiz!

Take part in Cyber Security Awareness Month: www.gov.bc.ca/cybersecurityawarenessmonth

Cybersecurity Issue of the Week: **AI**

✪ Register for **SECURITY DAY** to learn more.

This past week's stories:

🍁 **National approach to cyber security education needed as attacks will only get worse: Teacher**

🍁 **Cybersecurity training, research centre opens at University of Calgary**

🍁 **Half of Canadian SMBs say keeping on top of cybersecurity threats is their biggest challenge**

Beyond the front lines: How the Israel-Hamas war impacts the cybersecurity industry

The 10 biggest cyber security trends in 2024 everyone must be ready for now

✪ **How AI can fuel financial scams online, according to industry experts**

How I got started: Attack surface management

Israeli cyber security professionals band together amid Gaza war

Google initiates the end of passwords, making passkeys the default for users

FBI, CISA warn of rising AvosLocker ransomware attacks against critical infrastructure

Don't call it quishing: QR code phishing on the rise

Discord still a hotbed of malware activity — Now APTs join the fun

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National approach to cyber security education needed as attacks will only get worse: Teacher

Timothy King remembers getting a spam email to his work account that appeared to be from his school board's IT department asking for his login information.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/national-approach-cyber-security-education-needed-1.6989633

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Cybersecurity training, research centre opens at University of Calgary

A new centre designed to research and train to defend against cybercrimes has been opened at the University of Calgary.

https://globalnews.ca/news/10015879/cybersecurity-training-centre-opens-in-calgary/

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Half of Canadian SMBs say keeping on top of cybersecurity threats is their biggest challenge

Sage, the leader in accounting, financial, HR and payroll technology for small and mid-sized businesses (SMBs), today releases a new report, Cybersecurity for SMBs: Navigating Complexity and Building Resilience.

https://financialpost.com/globe-newswire/half-of-canadian-smbs-say-keeping-on-top-of-cybersecurity-threats-is-their-biggest-challenge

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Beyond the front lines: How the Israel-Hamas war impacts the cybersecurity industry

While the mainstream media is covering the tragic and heartbreaking events of the war in Israel in detail, SecurityWeek wanted to look at a specific issue — the effect of this war on Israeli cybersecurity firms. These firms are globally important to the cybersecurity ecosphere.

https://www.securityweek.com/the-israel-hamas-war-and-its-effect-on-the-cybersecurity-industry/

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The 10 biggest cyber security trends in 2024 everyone must be ready for now

By the end of the coming year, the cost of cyber attacks on the global economy is predicted to top $10.5 trillion.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2023/10/11/the-10-biggest-cyber-security-trends-in-2024-everyone-must-be-ready-for-now/?sh=148db9b15f13

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How AI can fuel financial scams online, according to industry experts

There is growing fraud online in which scammers manufacture other identities to dupe financial institutions or their customers out of money -- and the crimes are only expected to grow more frequent with the increasing prevalence of artificial intelligence, experts say.

https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/ai-fuel-financial-scams-online-industry-experts/story?id=103732051

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How I got started: Attack surface management

As the threat landscape multiplies in sophistication and complexity, new roles in cybersecurity are presenting themselves more frequently than ever before. For example, attack surface management.

https://securityintelligence.com/articles/how-i-got-started-attack-surface-management/

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Israeli cyber security professionals band together amid Gaza war

As Israeli children listened to their teacher over Zoom, the image of a gun-toting man in fatigues appeared on the screen, according to a screenshot shared with Reuters. In another case, a video showed a billboard in the central Israeli city of Holon displaying images of rockets and a burning Israeli flag.

https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-cyber-security-professionals-band-together-amid-gaza-war-2023-10-12/

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Google initiates the end of passwords, making passkeys the default for users

Google, a well-known tech giant, has introduced a new feature called “passwordless by default”. This feature aims to simplify the login process for users by eliminating the need for traditional passwords and instead relying on passkeys for authentication purposes.

https://cybersecuritynews.com/google-initiates-the-end-of-passwords/

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FBI, CISA warn of rising AvosLocker ransomware attacks against critical infrastructure

The AvosLocker ransomware gang has been linked to attacks against critical infrastructure sectors in the U.S., with some of them detected as recently as May 2023.

https://thehackernews.com/2023/10/fbi-cisa-warn-of-rising-avoslocker.html

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Don’t call it quishing: QR code phishing on the rise

There’s a new trend emerging in cybercrime, AT&T warns – embedding malicious QR codes into phishing attempts. The attack has been dubbed “quishing,” but the term isn’t getting any love among the cybersecurity community on Reddit.

https://cybernews.com/security/quishing-qr-code-phishing-on-the-rise/

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Discord still a hotbed of malware activity — Now APTs join the fun

Discord continues to be a breeding ground for malicious activity by hackers and now APT groups, with it commonly used to distribute malware, exfiltrate data, and targeted by threat actors to steal authentication tokens.

https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/discord-still-a-hotbed-of-malware-activity-now-apts-join-the-fun/

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