Security News Digest
Information Security Branch

BRITISH COLUMBIA OCIO Office of the Chief Information Officer

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Theme of the month: Cloud Authentication
(look for the ✪)

Challenge yourself with our Cloud Authentication Quiz!

What you can do to improve your authentication processes:

All Users	Technical Users	Business Owners
Be creative with your account recovery questions and answers. Create fictional answers that you can easily remember instead of your mom's maiden name, or the street you grew up on.	Implement software that detects irregular activity on user accounts and follow-up on any suspicious activity.	Identify your organization's critical assets and ensure access privileges are limited to only the people and services who need to use them.

Register for Security Day to learn more about cloud authentication!

This past week's stories:

🍁 **Government of Canada releases its first Enterprise Cyber Security Strategy**
✪ **Microsoft Azure will require mandatory MFA starting July**
Hackers can abuse Apple's Wi-Fi positioning system to track users globally
LastPass is encrypting urls used within password vaults
Cybersecurity labeling for smart devices aims to help people choose items less likely to be hacked
National Records of Scotland data published in NHS cyber attack
Japan to launch active cyber defense system to prevent cyber attacks
Fake antivirus websites deliver malware to Android and Windows devices
Cloud security fundamentals: Understanding the basics

Government of Canada releases its first Enterprise Cyber Security Strategy

Over the last few decades, public institutions and governments across Canada have become more and more reliant on the digital world to deliver programs and services. While providing faster and higher quality service delivery, reliance on information technologies means that the Government of Canada, like every other public and private sector organization in the world, is subject to ongoing and persistent cyber threats.

https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/news/2024/05/government-of-canada-releases-its-first-enterprise-cyber-security-strategy.html

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Microsoft Azure will require mandatory MFA starting July

Microsoft has announced that multi-factor authentication (MFA) will be mandatory for all Azure users starting in July 2024. This change is part of the Secure Future Initiative, which aims to strengthen security and prevent data breaches.

https://www.spiceworks.com/it-security/identity-access-management/news/microsoft-azure-will-require-mandatory-mfa-starting-july/

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Hackers can abuse Apple's Wi-Fi positioning system to track users globally

A recent study by security researchers has revealed a major privacy vulnerability in Apple's Wi-Fi Positioning System (WPS) that allows hackers to track the locations of Wi-Fi access points and their owners globally.

https://cybersecuritynews.com/apples-wi-fi-positioning-system/

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LastPass is encrypting urls used within password vaults

LastPass, a widely used password manager trusted by millions of consumers and businesses globally, has announced an upgrade to its security measures, the encryption of URLs within its password vaults.

https://cybersecuritynews.com/lastpass-is-encrypting-urls/

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Cybersecurity labeling for smart devices aims to help people choose items less likely to be hacked

Consumer labels designed to help Americans pick smart devices that are less vulnerable to hacking could begin appearing on products before the holiday shopping season, federal officials said Wednesday.

https://toronto.citynews.ca/2024/05/22/cybersecurity-labeling-for-smart-devices-aims-to-help-people-choose-items-less-likely-to-be-hacked/

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National Records of Scotland data published in NHS cyber attack

Hackers accessed and published National Records of Scotland (NRS) data as part of a cyber attack on NHS Dumfries and Galloway earlier this year, it has emerged.

https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c511r5q8ql5o

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Japan to launch active cyber defense system to prevent cyber attacks

Japan is creating a consultative body to implement an active cyber defense system to improve its ability to counter cyberattacks on critical infrastructure.

https://cybersecuritynews.com/japan-launches-active-cyber-defense-system/

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Fake antivirus websites deliver malware to Android and Windows devices

Threat actors have been observed making use of fake websites masquerading as legitimate antivirus solutions from Avast, Bitdefender, and Malwarebytes to propagate malware capable of stealing sensitive information from Android and Windows devices.

https://thehackernews.com/2024/05/fake-antivirus-websites-deliver-malware.html

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Cloud security fundamentals: Understanding the basics

Cloud security fundamentals are the core requirements that ensure data protection, regulatory compliance, and access management in a cloud environment. These standards assist businesses in establishing trust with their consumers, avoiding financial losses due to breaches, and ensuring business continuity. Understanding cloud security challenges and knowing the cloud security tools available in the market significantly contribute to enhanced cloud security.

https://www.esecurityplanet.com/cloud/cloud-security-fundamentals/

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