University of Central Florida

INFOSEC

Security Awareness Newsletter

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UCF Information Security Office

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Top 3: Security News in February 2024

1. **GTA 5 Used to Lure Torrent Users with Malicious File**

CyberNews.com

All files were used by bad actors to distribute malware such as Trojans, Remote Access Tools (RATs), malicious web extensions, coin miners, keyloggers, and more.

2. **Cyberattacks on Clorox, Johnson Controls Cost Companies $76M Combined**

SCMagazine.com

Cybersecurity incidents in 2023 cost Clorox and Johnson Controls nearly $76 million combined, according to reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The incidents underscore the painful reality that such attacks cost real money.

3. **Malware-as-a-Service Now the Top Threat to Organizations**

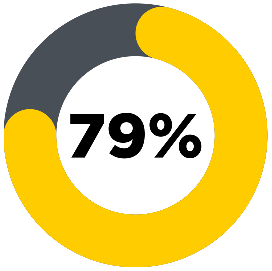
InfoSecurity-Magazine.com

MaaS infections were the biggest threat to organizations in the second half of 2023, according to a new Darktrace report.

DID YOU KNOW?

Tax Return Scammers Flood Google with Fake Ads

Scammers are using malicious ads that appear across the top of search engine results to try and con people into parting with their money or data.
Click to read more.



79% of Organizations Faced a Ransomware Attack in H2 2023

The cyber threat landscape is expected to get even worse in 2024, according to the report, with 96% of respondents saying the threat of cyberattacks to their industry will increase this year. Click to read more.

Hackers Exploit Job Boards, Stealing Millions of Resumes and Personal Data

ResumeLooters has stolen 510,259 data files from job search websites.
Click to read more.

February Security Article

Navigating Love and Cybersecurity Awareness in February

As we embrace the uniqueness of February, including the extra day this leap year, let's take a moment to enhance our cybersecurity awareness, especially in matters of the heart. This month's theme, "Love Safely in the Digital Age," addresses common romance cybersecurity threats:

1. Common Romance Cybersecurity Threats:
   a. Phishing: Verify the legitimacy of unsolicited emails or messages to protect yourself from potential threats.
   b. Vishing (Voice Phishing): Confirm the identity of callers before sharing personal information over the phone.
   c. Smishing (SMS Phishing): Exercise caution with unexpected text messages, especially when it comes to clicking on links.
2. Catfishing:
   a. Be vigilant on social media and dating platforms, taking steps to verify identities and promptly reporting suspicious behavior.
3. Dating App Security:
   a. Enhance security by using strong, unique passwords for dating apps.
   b. Safeguard your personal information until trust is established.
   c. Stay up-to-date with app updates to benefit from the latest security features.
4. Stay Informed, Stay Secure:
   a. Foster conversations about online security within our community.
   b. Share these valuable tips with friends and loved ones, contributing to a safer digital environment for all.

As we navigate through February's unique landscape, let's prioritize safe and secure online connections. Love responsibly and stay secure!

In Other (Security) News...

NIST researchers warn of top AI security threats

Researchers at the National Institute of Standards and Technology found that artificial intelligence systems, which rely on large amounts of data to perform tasks, can malfunction when exposed to untrustworthy data, according to a report published last week.
Click to read more.

National Cybersecurity Plans Lack Performance Measures and Estimated Costs, GAO Says

In response to the watchdog's report, the Office of the National Cyber Director said that performance measures don't really exist in the cybersecurity field.
Click to read more.

Romance Scam Victims Surge in 2023

Romance scam victims surged by more than a fifth (22%) in 2023, compared to 2022, according to new figures from Lloyds Bank.
Click to read more.

Security Alerts

Google Chrome vulnerability facilitated remote code execution via a crafted HTML page

Click to read more.

Apple WebKit flaw allows code execution via crafted web content

Click to read more.