MONTHLY TECHTIPS TECHTIPS

Botnets Used to Detect Weak CCTV **Passwords**

In 2017, Botnets were used to scour the Internet in search of Hikvision camera systems that were still using their default passwords.

The result was cyberthugs accessing hundreds of systems being accessed and, in some instances, admins were locked out of the system.

Hikvision is not alone, weak spots exist in even some of the most widely-used surveillance cameras.

Constant vigilance, mixed with security intelligence, is integral to maintaining a competent level of security for your organization.



this issue

CCTV Security P.1

Broadband Expansion P.2

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Security Cameras Continue Causing Heartache

Security Camera Systems Continue To Offer Easy Access Into Your Network.

Since the introduction of CCTV systems onto customer networks, we have suggested segmenting these systems as much as possible. The reason for this suggestion is that too many times, these types of systems are used as a backdoor into your network.

Business Impact:

Organizations should approach CCTV implementation on two levels.

Level one is becoming aware of threats; if you are not aware of potential vulnerabilities, threats, and issues then you cannot do anything to prevent them.

Level two is mitigation; once you have identified potential threats, take the necessary steps to address them it before they turn into serious vulnerabilities.

Recently "eufy" security camera users in Australia and New Zealand were shocked to gain access to other user's cameras. Not only did they have access to the live feed, but also could access admin controls and storage.

Not to eufy users:

A software bug occurred during our latest server upgrade at 4:50 AM EST today. Our engineering team recognized this issue at around 5:30 AM EST, and quickly got it fixed by 6:30AM EST.

We recommend that all users:

- 1. Please unplug and then reconnect the device.
- 2. Log out of the eufy security app and log in again.

These are perfect examples of why these systems need to live in their own network, and not touch access to your data at all.



Changing The Way We Work

As we travel to client sites around the country, we are seeing two trends that have been accelerated by the pandemic.

The first is the need for High Speed Internet in Rural areas. After living in larger cities for many years, it is hard to believe that there are still many locations still restricted to dial-up speeds. Reliable internet connection is becoming a necessary service just like water or other utilities to your house.

The second is empty office buildings. We were recently tasked with clearing out the IT equipment from several office buildings and saw that the buildings that were once filled with the daily hustle and bustle are now eerily empty. Cafés have been abandoned and entire floors of office buildings are completely empty.

The way we work, and study has changed and it will be a long time, if ever, before we revert to the way things were.



Gov. Mike DeWine signed a bill that will help bring high speed internet to rural parts of the Ohio.

Currently, about 300,000
Ohio households don't
have any high-speed
options; that's about 1
million people total.

No internet access is a problem because many people are still working from home and going to school online.

The Ohio House voted overwhelmingly to send Gov. DeWine the bill to immediately spend \$20 million to expand access to broadband. That's added to about \$200 million in federal grants going to the state.

When a service provider indicates they are unable to service the area, residents are usually under the impression it is the fault of government, it is the providers who are to

Working from Home Has Hastened The Need For Economic Development

Ohio Approves Millions To Expand Broadband In Rural Areas.

The Emergency
Broadband Benefit
Program is giving money
to families who need a
little help.

On Wednesday, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program to help people in financial need with \$3.2 billion in funds.

The FCC acting chairwoman explained why it is needed.

"The pandemic proved broadband is not nice to have, it's need to have," Jessica Rosenworcel said.

Eligible households will be able to receive a discount of up to \$50 per month on their broadband bill.

They will also be eligible for a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a computer or tablet from participating providers. The program, which is open to people on food stamps, those with a child in free or reduced-price school lunch programs, those who use Medicaid, or lost income during the pandemic, will help close the digital divide.

The Broadband Benefit program is open until funds run out, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the pandemic.

Programs like this, and the expansion of High Speed Internet, are going to play a large role as people look to relocate. The need to have multiple people in the house using multimedia on the Internet is becoming just as essential as electricity in today's world.

Details Here:

https://getemergencybroadband.org/



We recommend that you take this month to review the Dark Web.

The dark web is a network of sites that you cannot access through a typical search engine. Sites on the dark web use encryption software to hide their locations.

Criminals use the dark web to the buy and sell stolen financial and personal information. And if your information ends up on dark web sites — for instance, after a data breach — an identity thief could gain access to it.

Just about every type of personal information can

Areas for Review This Month

be purchased on the dark web.

We recently spoke about data from 500,000 pediatric patients spotted for sale online for \$3 each.

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Perform a dark web scan.

A dark web scan works by scouring collections of stolen personal information and raising a flag if your information is found. You can then take the appropriate steps to help mitigate the damage.

A scan can uncover when your data has been exposed. It cannot find every instance of this because not all personal data is exposed in data breaches. For example,

paper containing your personal information may be left unprotected and exposed in an office or even in your home.

How to check the dark web

Companies like Experian offer dark web scans. You can also sign up for monitoring. This helps you more consistently monitor activity on the dark web that may compromise your personal information. You will receive an alert from your dark web monitoring service if your information is found on the Internet.

Most of all, remember to check accounts for your kids and grandkids as it would be years before any nefarious activity is

EYE ON IT

The Hot Trend of May

More and more people are taking advantage of freezing their credit. You can freeze and unfreeze your credit file for free.

A credit freeze restricts access to your credit report, which means you will not be able to open a new credit account while the freeze is in place.

You can temporarily lift the credit freeze if you need to apply for new credit.

When the freeze is in place, you will still be able to do things like apply for a job, rent an apartment, or buy insurance without lifting or removing it.

Do not confuse freezes with locks. They work in a similar way, but locks may have monthly fees. If you want a free freeze guaranteed by federal law, then opt for a freeze, not a lock.

Additional details and links to the three nationwide credit reporting agencies here:
http://bit.ly/ASSIfreeze



This Month's Q&A Technology Tips

Q: Rachel from Roswell asks, "Here in the North side of Roswell, we have the worst Internet speeds and often we lose connectivity in the evenings. What is our best solution?"

A: Awesome question Rachel, thanks for asking!

Speeds are generally slower in the evening because there tends to be more people using the service in the evening than during the day. Weekday evenings are peak hours for most internet users. That's when most people spend the bulk of their time streaming videos,

downloading files and playing online games—and your internet can slow down at night as a result.

Network congestion happens because of bandwidth bottlenecks resulting from internet providers serving lots of customers in a service area. Network congestion can also happen in your home if you have a lot of devices using Wi-Fi.

The best advice we can offer is to adjust your schedule, so you are not working on bandwidth-heavy tasks during peak hours.

Thanks again for the question Rachel, I hope this helps! Have a question?

Ask us at - info@advancedsystemssolutions.com



Stay Up to Date!

Don't forget to check out our additional tips to keep you secure! If you are not familiar with the new features in Edge, you will want to check out our guidelines for keeping your organization secure.

https://bit.ly/ASSI_Blog

Upcoming Events

FLGISA 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We are excited that the FLGISA is hosting the 2021 Annual Conference on July 12-15, 2021 at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek. The conference is open to all Florida local government agency technology professionals. We look forward to seeing you there!

https://www.flgisa.org/events/

T2 Tech Talk Podcast

We know tech and marketing can be daunting, but we break it down into byte sized chunks.

https://www.t2techtalkpodcast.com/

Orlando Power Lunch

In May, The Orlando Power Lunch is proud to feature Sherry R. Gutch, the Business Development Division Manager in the Economic Development Department at Orlando. You will not want to miss these events! https://www.orlandopowerlunch.com

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