



# Information Security Updates

Thomas Tyler, Cybersecurity Advisor  
05.12.21



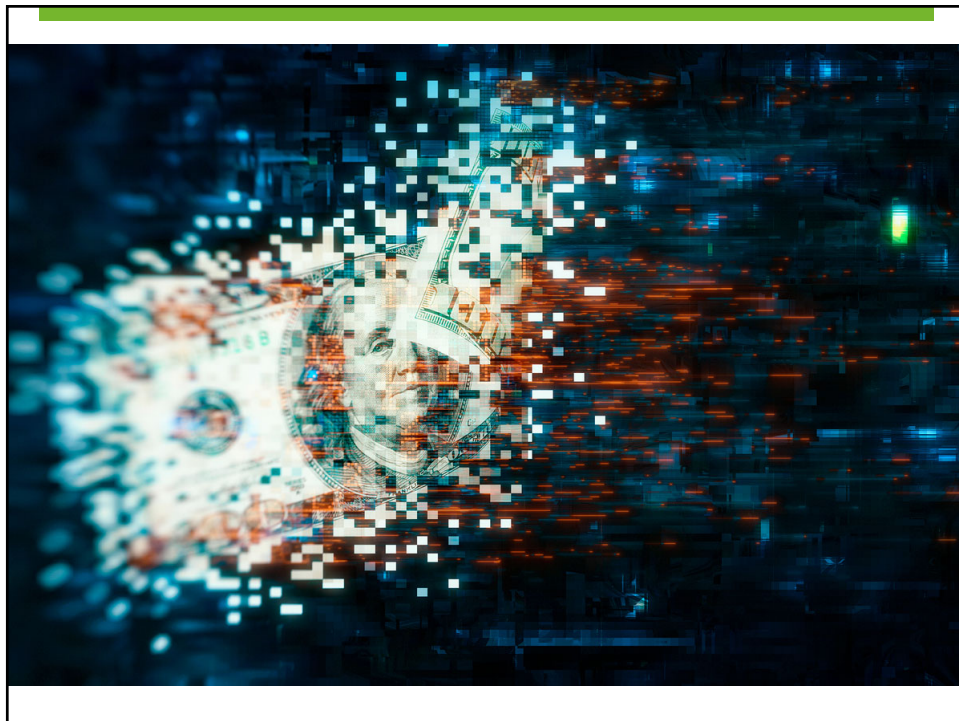
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- Device and IoT vendor
- Unauthorized access to database through third-party cloud provider
- Undisclosed number of records
- Not certain that user data was exposed

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- Chinese social media management company
- Unsecured database leak exposing 214m+ records
- Accounts across various social media platforms



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February 2021

- COMB – “Compilation of Many Breaches”
- Largest of all time
- 3.2 billion unique credentials
  - New and previously breached information
  - Easy to search and well-organized

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March 2021

- Four flaws granted access to 30k+ U.S.-based organizations
- Range from small businesses to city governments
- Total remote control of affected systems

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- Operator of one of nation's largest pipelines
- Precautionarily shut down, work to restore systems continues...
- 2.5m barrels daily – 45% of east coast fuel supply
- Ransomware on corporate systems

*"Our goal is to make money and not creating problems for society." - DarkSide*

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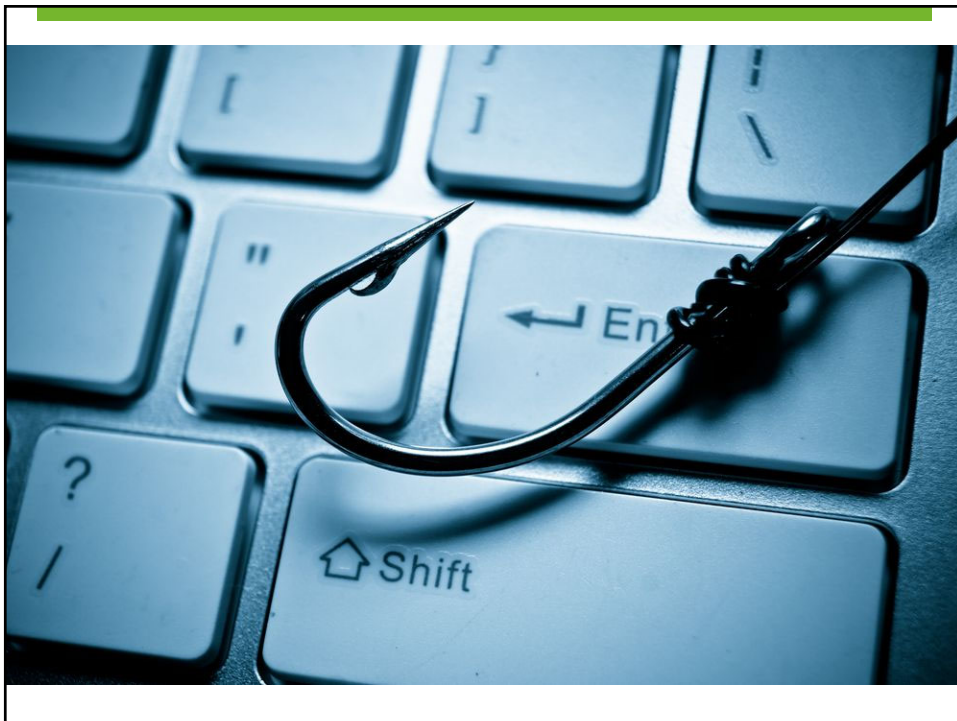


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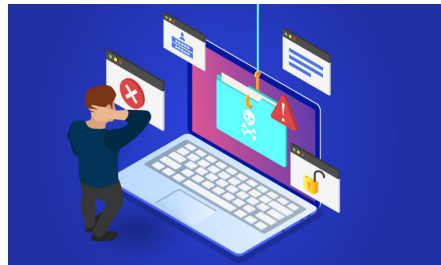


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## Phishing Background

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- Install malware
- Steal credentials
- Obtain information
- Perform a task



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## Phishing Background

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- 3% of users will click on any phishing campaign
- 16 minutes until the first click
- 28 minutes until the first report



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## Classic Examples



Allison Davis <box@itservermailbox.net>  
Tue 12/18/2018 6:11 AM  
Christina Bishop ☑



**\*\*EXTERNAL\*\***

Morning Christina

I would like to update my direct deposit details as i have just switched banks, would the change be effective for the next pay date?

Thanks

Allison Davis

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## Classic Examples

**From:** Susan Fry [<mailto:sfry@yourcompany.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018 9:25 AM  
**To:** ~~Hamil~~, James <james.hamil@yourcompany.com>  
**Subject:** Please handle ASAP

– External email. Forward any suspicious emails to [bad@yourcompany.com](mailto:bad@yourcompany.com) –

Hi James,

I'm currently tied up in a meeting for the next six hours, but we have a vendor saying we're late on paying an invoice. Can you handle the attached ASAP? I can't take calls, so just email me if you have questions.

Susan Fry  
Chief Operating Officer  
[sfry@yourcompany.com](mailto:sfry@yourcompany.com)

*Sent from my iPhone, please excuse typos*

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## Classic Examples

Microsoft account unusual sign-in activity



Microsoft Team <outlook@microsoft.com>  
Today, 4:58 PM  
Lindsey Whinnery

📧 ⚙️ Reply all ▾

**\*\*EXTERNAL\*\***

Email account

[Unusual sign-in activity](#)

We detected something unusual about a recent sign-in to the email account Lindsey@trainacpa.com. To help keep you safe, we required an extra security challenge.

Sign-in details:

Country/region: Krasnodarskiy Kray, Russia

IP Address: 31.181.250.117

If this was you, then you can safely ignore this email.

If you are not sure this was you, a malicious user might have your password. It is strongly advised that you change your password immediately.

[Reset Password](#)

Thanks,

Mail support team

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## Classic Examples

ⓘ Not Secure phishing.trainadvisory.com/as08293009s8fda9802f90q3f098qf0f32Reset029835Password/PasswordReset.php?URL=Lindsey@trainacpa.com



Reset your password

Current Password

New Password

Confirm Password

Cancel

Next

[Terms of Use](#)

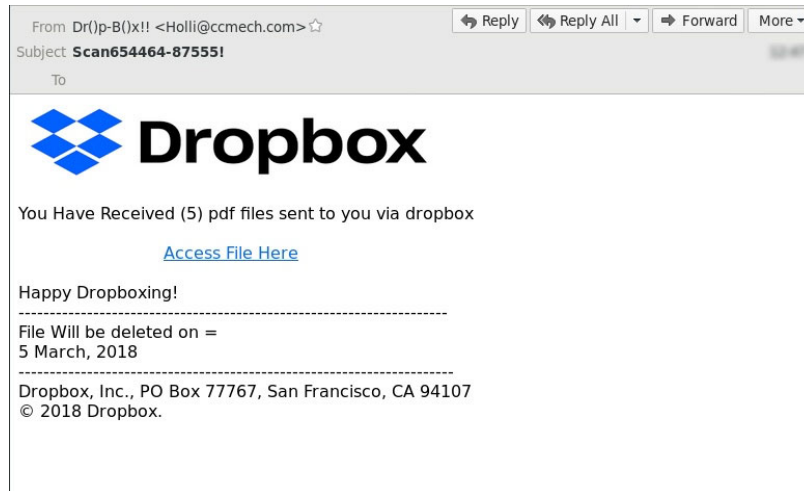
[Privacy & Cookies](#)

[Sign in](#)

Microsoft

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## Classic Examples



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## Classic Examples

**From:** No.replay.Netflix@update.com [mailto:nacsaflixo36@1nitflix1nitflix2nitflix3.onmicrosoft.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 11, 2016 10:19 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** UpDate your PaYmenT MeThOd

**NETFLIX**

Please Update Your Payment Method

Hello,

Sorry for the interruption, but we are having trouble authorising your Credit Card. Please visit [www.netflix.com/YourAccountPayment](http://www.netflix.com/YourAccountPayment) to enter your payment information again or to use a different payment method. When you have finished, we will try to verify your account again. If it still does not work, you will need to contact your credit card company.

If you have any questions, we are happy to help. Simply call us at any time on 0800 096 6380.

-The Netflix Team

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## Classic Examples

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: Wed, Nov 14, 2018 at 1:06 PM  
Subject: Re[2]: Follow up  
To: [REDACTED]@nyu.edu>

I'm in a meeting right now and that's why I'm contacting you through here. I would have called, I don't know when the meeting will be rounding up. And I want you to help me out on something very important right away.

I need you to help me get an Amazon gifts card from the store, I will reimburse you when I get to the office.

I need to send it to someone and it is very important I need to get it sent asap.

It's one of my best friend son's birthday!

The amount I want is \$100 each in two (2) piece making it a total of \$200 I'll be reimbursing back to you. I need physical cards which you are going to get from the store. When you get them scratch off the cardboard take a picture of them and attach it to the email then send it to me here okay.

--

[REDACTED]

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## Classic Examples

From: Donna <donna.xxxx@alttitle.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:08 PM  
To: xxxxxxx@gmail.com  
Cc: closingagent29@gmail.com  
Subject: 2 Meadowview Mont

Dennis,  
Your cash to close is \$30,518.97, And we don't accept cashier check for down payment above 10,000. Can you wire today? Advise asap so that I can forward you the title wire instructions. I advise you wire today.

Thank you,

From: Dennis [mailto:xxxxxx@gmail.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:13 PM  
To: 'Donna' <closingagent29@gmail.com>  
Subject: RE: 2 Meadowview Mont

Ok please give me the address to wire it to

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## Classic Examples

**Subject:** Your account is being used by another person!

**\*\*EXTERNAL\*\***

Hi, stranger!

I hacked your device, because I sent you this message from your account.  
If you have already changed your password, my malware will intercept it every time.

You may not know me, and you are most likely wondering why you are receiving this email, right?  
In fact, I posted a malicious program on adults (pornography) of some websites, and you know that you visited these websites to enjoy (you know what I mean).

While you were watching video clips,  
my trojan started working as a RDP (remote desktop) with a keylogger that gave me access to your screen as well as a webcam.

Immediately after this, my program gathered all your contacts from messenger, social networks, and also by e-mail.

What I've done?

I made a double screen video.  
The first part shows the video you watched (you have good taste, yes ... but strange for me and other normal people),  
and the second part shows the recording of your webcam.

What should you do?

Well, I think \$670 (USD dollars) is a fair price for our little secret.  
You will make a bitcoin payment (if you don't know, look for "how to buy bitcoins" on Google).

BTC Address: 1GzSjnpU4ATTS8vmre6x7eQgeMUq8VYr  
(This is CASE sensitive, please copy and paste it)

Remarks:

You have 2 days (48 hours) to pay. (I have a special code, and at the moment I know that you have read this email).

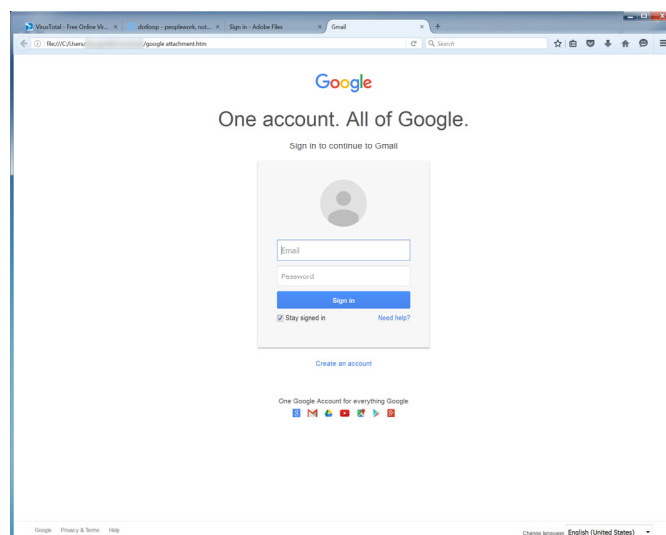
If I don't get bitcoins, I will send your video to all your contacts, including family members, colleagues, etc.  
However, if I am paid, I will immediately destroy the video, and my trojan will be destructed itself.

If you want to get proof, answer "Yes!" and resend this letter to yourself.  
And I will definitely send your video to your any 11 contacts.

This is a non-negotiable offer, so please do not waste my personal and other people's time by replying to this email.

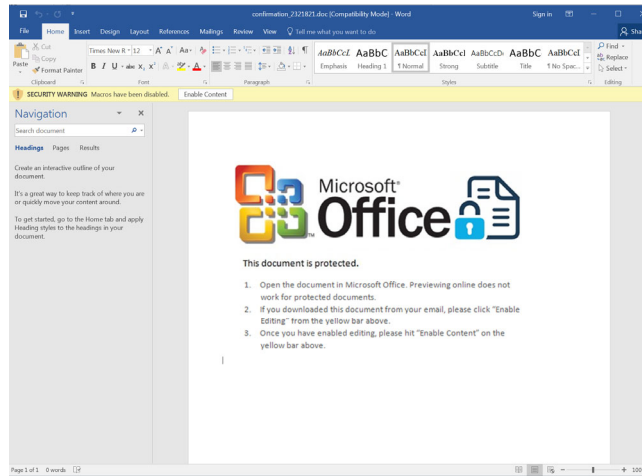
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## Malicious Attachments



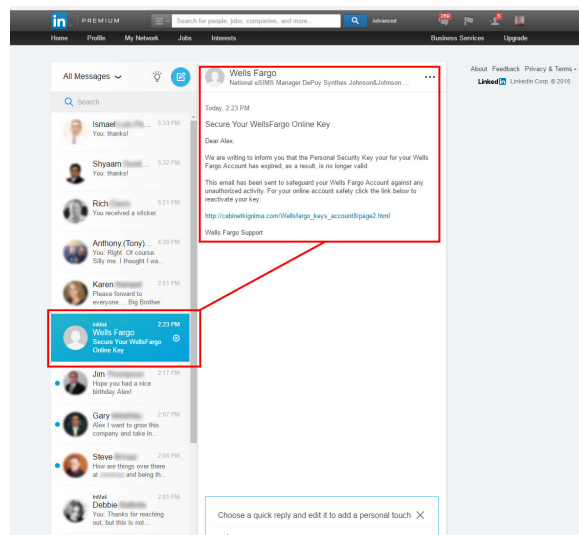
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## Malicious Macros



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## Social Media Exploits



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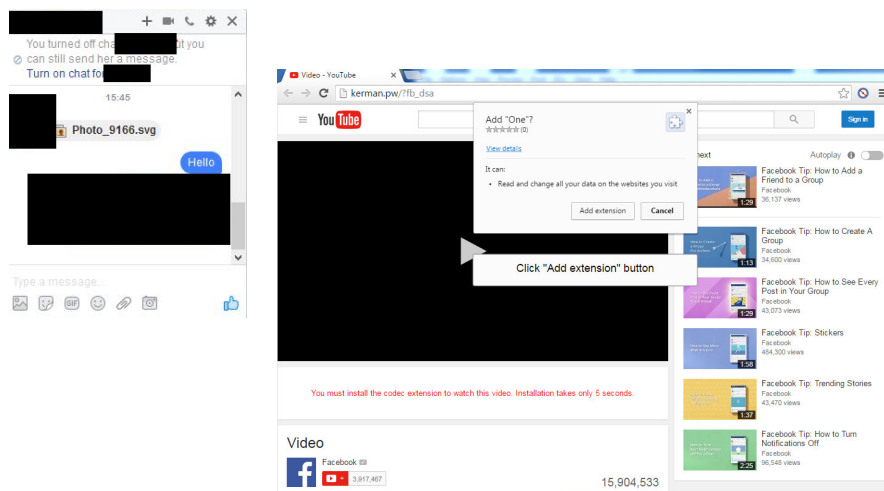


## Social Media Exploits

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "cabinetgigima.com/Wellsfargo\_keys\_account8/page2.html". The page features the Wells Fargo logo and a form for account verification. The form includes fields for "username", "password", "Social Security Number", "Card Number", "Expire Date", "Cvv", "ATM PIN", "Full Name", "Account No.", "Phone Number", "Zip Code", "Driver License", "Driver License Expire Date", "Mother's Maiden", "Date Of Birth", "Email Address", and "Email Password". A "Submit" button is located at the bottom right of the form. The page also includes a "Privacy, Security & Legal" link and a copyright notice: "© 1999 - 2016 Wells Fargo. All rights reserved. NMLS ID 399801".

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## Social Media Exploits



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## Other Examples

- Posing as vendor to change bank account information
- Use similar domain name
  - joe@alliedconsulting.com
  - joe@alliedconsulting.com
  - aliiedconsulting.com



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## Phishing Attempts

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- Inspect for typos
- Check email address and domain name
- Click correctly
  - Hover over link
  - Right click and copy
  - Visit website manually

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## Phishing Attempts

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- It doesn't feel right
- Tone is off
- Urgent/threatening
- Unfamiliar or unexpected

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## Account Takeover



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## Account Takeover

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- Criminals gain access to business finances
  - Unauthorized transactions or funds transfer
  - Creation of new/fake employees
  - Stolen customer information
- Criminals gain access to bank information



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## Account Takeover

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- How is this accomplished?
  - Lack of security
  - Phishing/malware
  - Credential stuffing
  - Business email compromise



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## Account Takeover

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- Lack of security
  - Logged into Internet banking
  - Password management auto-populates passwords
  - Sends code to text or email on device



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## Account Takeover

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- Phishing & Malware
  - Exploited devices allow access
  - Sensitive information obtained
- Credential Stuffing



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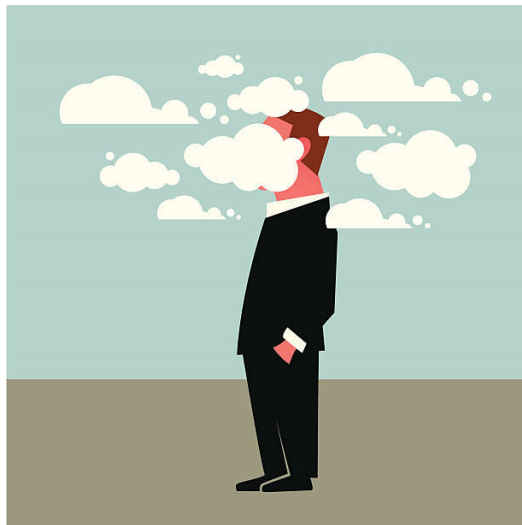
## Account Takeover

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- Business Email Compromise (BEC)
  - Emails appear legitimate
  - Requests seem normal
  - Utilize spoofed/fake email accounts or malware



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## Protection & Prevention

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- Banking Controls
  - Multi-factor authentication
  - New user alerts
  - Device authentication/restriction
  - Enhanced high-risk transaction controls



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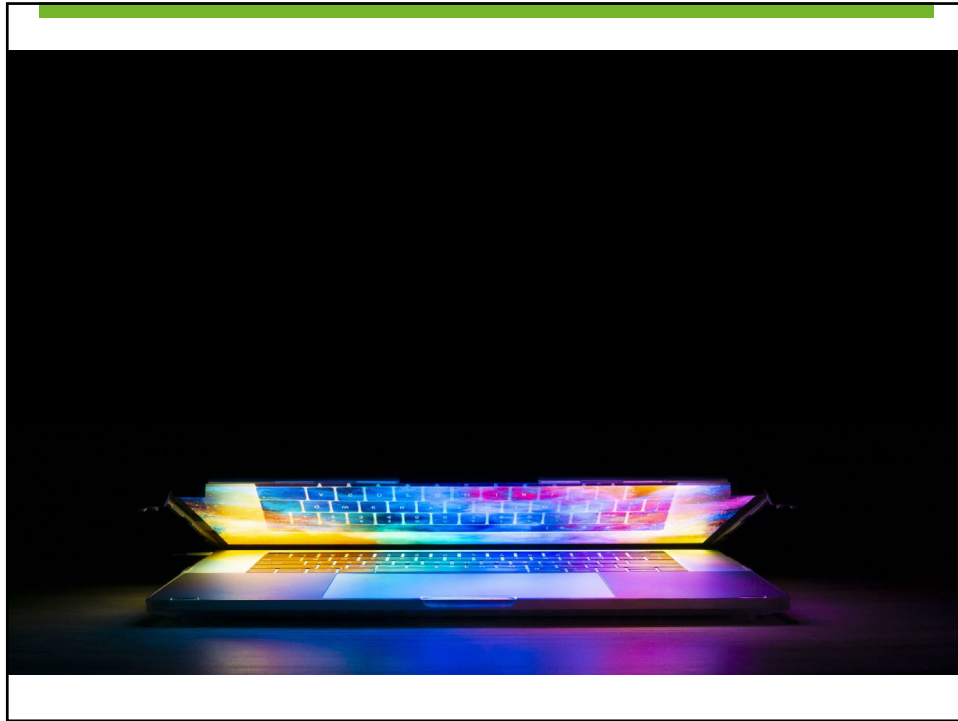
## Protection & Prevention

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- Organization Controls
  - Employee education
  - Proper security
  - Monitor for suspicious activity
  - Understand responsibilities



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## Security Concerns

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- Third-party vendors
- Organization responsibilities
- End-user assistance



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## Third-Party Vendors

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- Business, financial, and reputational risks
- Data loss via deletion, corruption, or alteration
- Comingling of data
- Unauthorized access
- Malware
- The list continues...



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## Third-Party Vendors

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- Initial and ongoing due diligence
- Critical vs. non-critical vendors
  - Managed service providers
  - Accounting platforms
  - Customer/client management
- The list continues...



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## Third-Party Vendors

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- Annual risk assessment
- Financial condition
- Security controls
- Business continuity and disaster recovery planning
- Incident response (breach notification, insurance)
- Fourth-party vendor management
- Compliance (PCI, GDPR, Identity Theft)



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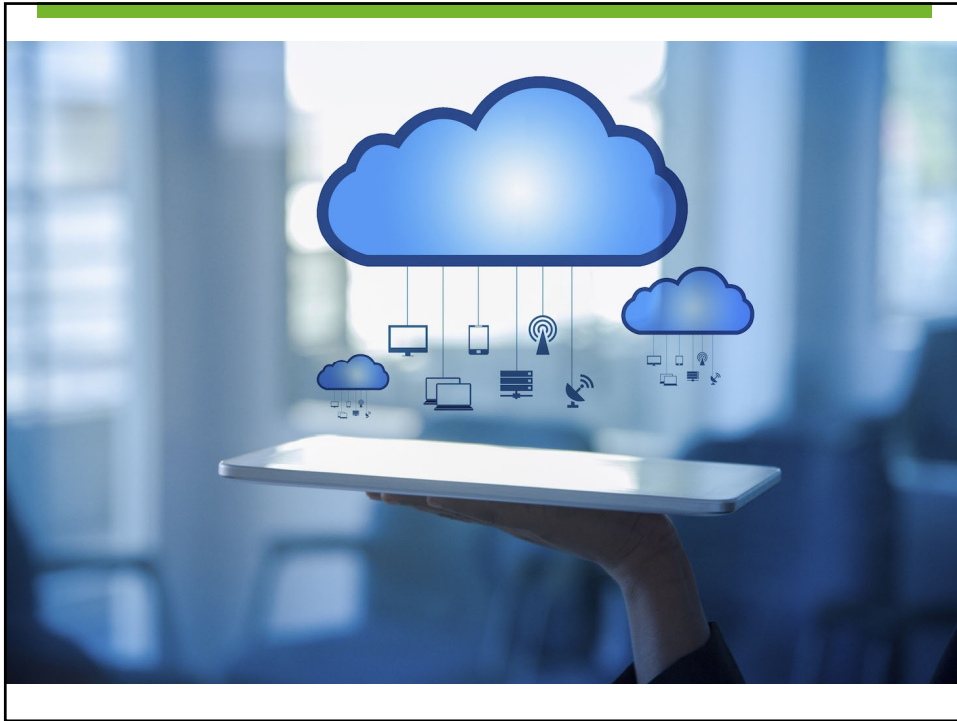
## Third-Party Vendors

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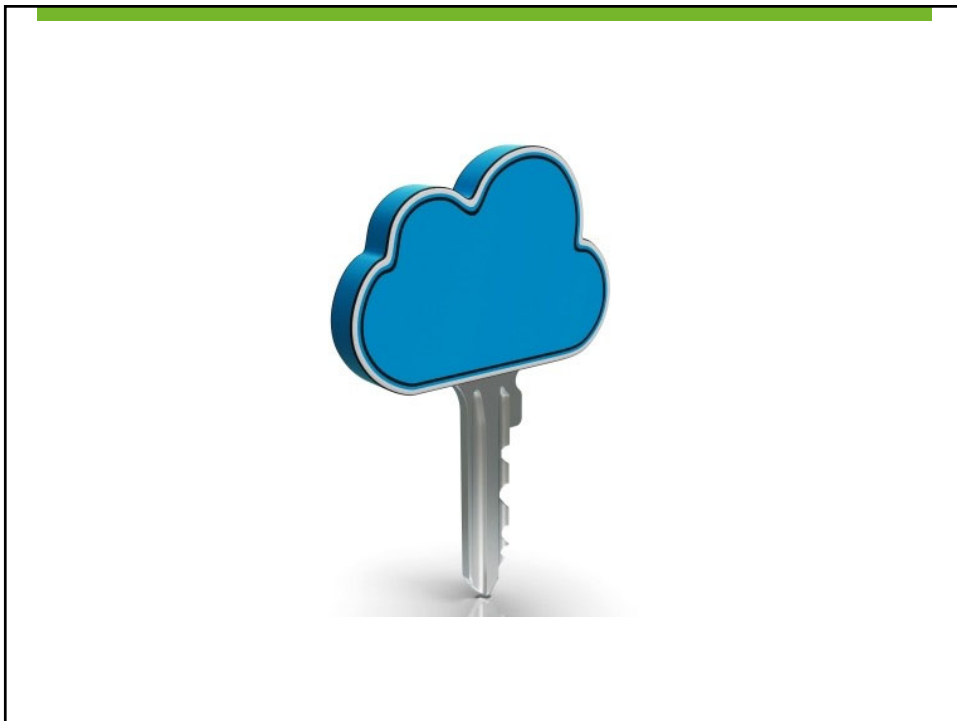
- Contract review
  - Confidentiality, InfoSec, and breach requirements
- Vendor evaluation
- Product/service/technology risk assessment
- Approval, modification, termination



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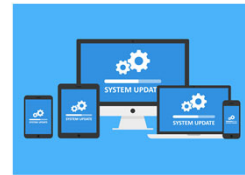
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## Device Management

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- Centralized system
  - All devices receive latest updates or definition files
  - Remediate issues
- Limit access
  - Application and browser add-ons
  - Avoid sharing devices

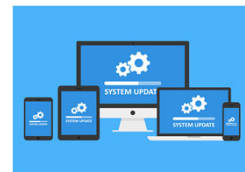


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## Device Management

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- Personal Devices
  - Update and secure across home network
    - Patch and anti-malware management
  - Router, streaming devices, voice assistants, appliances, smart home devices
  - Establish Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
  - Obsolete software



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## Mobile Devices

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- Inherent threats for devices
- Maintain inventory, regardless of ownership
- Enforce restrictions
  - Passwords/biometrics
  - Encryption
  - Remote wipe



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## Mobile Devices

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- Consider mobile device management (MDM) software
- Establish data removal procedures
- Cloud data restrictions



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## Mobile Devices

- Recently released: iOS 14.5
- Focus on Privacy
  - “Privacy Nutrition Labels”
  - App Tracking Transparency
- Unlock with Apple Watch



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## IoT Devices

- Inventory devices in use
- Layered security controls
  - Strong passwords
  - Evaluate data and analytics sharing
  - Patching procedures
  - Disable features
  - Segmented network



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## Password Security

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- Numbers, characters, symbols
- Avoid common words
- Change often, and when compromised
- # of characters (8...12...??)



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## Password Security

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- Unique and private passwords
  - Password manager?
- Business  $\neq$  Personal
- Account lockout and inactivity threshold
- Biometrics
- Layered security



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## Multi-Factor Authentication

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- Critical for all cloud applications
  - Remote access
  - Email
  - AWS/Azure
- Consider IP address, time, and day restrictions
- Mobile devices, email message, tokens



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## User Provisioning and Access

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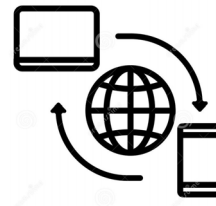
- Minimum rights for users
- Review regularly
  - Job transfers
  - No longer needed



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## Remote Access Tools

- VPNs, LogMeIn, GoToMyPC
- Increase in end-users
- Require proper security measures
- Quick fixes vs. long-term solution



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## Wi-Fi Networks

- Use properly secured Wi-Fi at work and home
  - Encrypt network appropriately (at least WPA2)
  - Secure password for access
  - Guest network
- Be wary of public Wi-Fi (VPN)
  - Mobile hotspots



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## Shadow IT

- Apps or devices that are utilized without IT knowledge
  - Personal or mobile devices
- Rogue cloud services
  - Personal email, document scanning, cloud storage
- Appropriate authorization procedures



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## Training

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- All employees should participate
- Methods will vary — webinar, email, newsletters, etc.
- Review policies and procedures
- Real-world examples
- Build culture of awareness



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## Key Takeaways

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- New threats to consider that weren't on our radar 12 months ago
- Loss of reputation can be significant
- Maintain adequate security controls
  - Provide critical tools for users
  - Doesn't have to be expensive!

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## Join Us for Our Next Cyber Series Webcast

### **The State of Ransomware and Enhanced Controls**

Wednesday, June 23

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. EDT

Learn more and register at  
[capincrouse.com](https://capincrouse.com)



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  - Watch the recording of within one week of the webcast date
- Winner announced in December



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# Thanks!

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Cybersecurity Advisor

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