# CYBER CRIME SENTINEL

ISSUE 15 04-Sep-2020
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This newsletter has been collated by West Midlands Regional Cyber Crime Unit and is intended for wider distribution within the West Midlands Region to raise awareness among businesses and members of the public.

## CYBER PROTECT WEEKLY TIP

**Multi-factor or Two Factor Authentication (2FA)**

In last week's Cyber Crime Sentinel, we discussed business e-mail compromise (BEC) attacks that often involve phishing user credentials and abusing platforms such as office productivity suites that use single factor authentication. Unfortunately, an organization that protects its address books and email accounts with single-factor authentication means it is only one spearphish attack away from significant potential damage, according to a July 2019 Microsoft sponsored SANs paper. Hundreds of popular websites now offer some form of multi-factor authentication (MFA), which can help users safeguard access to accounts when their password is breached or stolen. According to a recent Krebs article, people who don't take advantage of these added safeguards may find it far more difficult to regain access when their account gets hacked, because increasingly thieves will enable multi-factor options and tie the account to a device they control.

You can read about such an incident here:
https://krebsonsecurity.com/2020/06/turn-on-mfa-before-crooks-do-it-for-you/

**What is Multi-factor or Two Factor Authentication (2FA)?**

With regular developments in technology, humans have had to develop new ways to authenticate people they don't directly know. In the physical environment, we often authenticate by looking at someone and/or their physical ID. In the virtual environment, something called multi-factor or, more commonly, two factor authentication (2FA) has been developed as an extra layer of security for online activity. MFA provides a way of 'double checking' who you really are when using online services, such as banking, email or social media.

Check out our quick tips guide on multi-factor authentication and how to use it:
https://www.wmcyber.org/quick-tips/

## IN THE NEWS — TOP CYBER HEADLINES

THE LATEST NEWS ON CYBERCRIME FROM THE REGIONAL CYBER CRIME UNIT

**Public reminded to 'mullet over' when it comes to suspicious emails ahead of National Fish and Chip Day**
As part of the campaign, officers from the national Cyber Protect Network will be taking part in a live twitter chat this Friday 4th September, and hosting a webinar for the public at 10:30am. For more information go to https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/mulletover

**MHCLG outlines five projects for councils' cyber security - https://bit.ly/3jFllMw**

**Cyber security incentives & regulation review - https://bit.ly/2YYiaYo**

**Norway's parliament says it was hit by 'significant' cyber attack- https://reut.rs/3hVqQGc**

**Does Your Board Really Understand Your Cyber Risks? - https://bit.ly/3jBPo7J**

**Report Reveals UK Organisations Need More Consistent Cyber Resilience - https://bit.ly/31Rdgyj**

**Northumbria University hit by cyber attack - https://bbc.in/31Ph2Ic**

**A Tesla Employee Thwarted an Alleged Ransomware Plot - https://bit.ly/3hT3cKE**

**An ex-Cisco employee pleaded guilty to causing damage to the tech giant's network which shut down over 16,000 Webex Teams accounts - https://bit.ly/2EKgIlC**

## TECH TALK

**NCSC Weekly Threat Report Topics**
Dharma ransomware used in recent attacks
Report explores coronavirus impact on breaches
https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/report/weekly-threat-report-28th-august-2020

**UK joins international allies in issuing cyber defence advice for organisations - https://bit.ly/2QPyk1O**

**Alert (AA20-245A) - Technical Approaches to Uncovering and Remediating Malicious Activity - https://bit.ly/2EYfWkw**

**Maze ransomware 'cartel' expands with new members - https://bit.ly/3i5FmLX**

**Google removes deceptive giveaway apps from Play Store - https://bit.ly/3bngNHC**

**New data from Microsoft shows how the pandemic is accelerating the digital transformation of cyber-security - https://bit.ly/34Zq9bA**

**No, A Massive Cyber-Attack Didn't Take Down The Internet On Sunday - https://bit.ly/3jHP3Az**

# EVENTS & ENGAGEMENTS







https://app.sli.do/event/jvodjdcu/




Our lives are relying on technology more every day. Join us each Friday for your bitesize cybersecurity podcast. In this increasingly technical world we deliver non-technical cyber news, and identify the current threats we're facing.

https://cyberthreatweekly.buzzsprout.com/

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THE CYBER RESILIENCE CENTRE FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS

**CORE MEMBER - FREE**

Includes:
NCSC Guidance - How organisations can protect themselves in cyberspace, including the 10 steps to cyber security from the Government NCSC division.

NCSCs Exercise In A Box – a tool to give your organisation a 'dummy' run of a cyber attack. Similar to testing your fire drill. Tailored for different sized organisations.

NCSC Board Toolkit - Resources designed to encourage essential cyber security discussions between the Board and their technical experts.

E-news – regular digestible updates relevant to West Midlands organisations about cyber resilience

https://www.wmcrc.co.uk/

***APPEAL: PLEASE GET IN TOUCH FOR FREE CYBER AWARENESS INPUTS FOR YOUR OWN BUSINESS, ORGANISATION OR GROUPS.***