RANE

Risk Assistance Network + Exchange

Weekly Cyber Digest

Curated by RANE editors

Ransomware, Hacking + Emerging Threats

News:

Iran's Cyber War on Dissidents Could Infiltrate Your Mailbox

Jan 02

Defense One - Iran's crackdown on protesters could affect almost anyone in contact with them, thanks to a sophisticated internal police operation that routinely targets not only academics and dissidents but also those who have interacted with them — and even people only tangentially linked.

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Meltdown and Spectre: Patches and Workarounds Appear

Jan 04

Data Breach Today - Microprocessor makers, operating system and software developers and smartphone and other device manufacturers are rushing to prep, test and ship fixes for serious CPU flaws.

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How Antivirus Software Can Be Turned Into a Tool for Spying

Jan 01

The New York Times - It has been a secret, long known to intelligence agencies but rarely to consumers, that security software can be a powerful spy tool.

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Data Breach Affected More Than 240,000 Homeland Security Workers, IG Confirms

Jan 03

Nextgov - Personal information about more than 247,000 Homeland Security Department employees and other people connected with the agency was compromised in 2014, the department's internal auditor said Wednesday.

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NSA Contractor Pleads Guilty to Charge of Hoarding Troves of Classified Docs

Jan 03

CyberScoop - A former US defense contractor who spent nearly two decades mishandling classified information while working inside the NSA and other American intelligence agencies has agreed to plead guilty to a felony charge of illegal retention of national security information, the government says in newly filed court documents.

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Stealthy Crypto-Miners Are Slipping Into Web Ads

Jan 04

Infosecurity - A stealthy attack that slips cryptocurrency miners into ads on unsuspecting websites is making the rounds, according to Israeli adtech firm Spotad.

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GPS Tracking Vulnerabilities Leave Millions of Products at Risk

Jan 02

CSO - Two researchers have disclosed problems with hundreds of vulnerable GPS services using open APIs and trivial passwords, resulting in a multitude of privacy issues including direct tracking.

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This Android Malware Mimics Uber to Steal Your Login and Password

Jan 04

ZDNet - Uber users with Android smartphones are being targeted with malware that shows victims a fake version of the ride-hailing service, in order to steal their credentials.

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Some Android Games Are Quietly Using Your Microphone to Track Your TV Habits

Jan 02

The Verge - Some smartphone games are listening to what your mic picks up — but not to hear what you say. Instead, they're trying to hear what you're watching.

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Legal + Market Intelligence:

Recent Federal Legislation Demonstrates Growing Federal Interest in Blockchain for Cybersecurity

Jan 03

Foley Hoag LLP - Recent federal legislation indicates a growing federal interest in blockchain as a potentially integral technology in cybersecurity systems. This comes on the heels of recent legislation in the New York Assembly also suggesting state level interest in blockchain.

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A Pragmatic Approach to Fixing Cybersecurity: 5 Steps

Jan 03

Booz Allen Hamilton - The digital infrastructure that supports our economy, protects our national security, and empowers our society must be made more secure, more trusted, and more reliable.

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New Google Apps Script Vulnerability Extends URL-Based Threats to SaaS Platforms

Jan 04

Proofpoint - Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) applications have become mainstays of modern business and consumer computing. However, they are also quickly becoming the latest frontier of innovation for threat actors looking for new opportunities to distribute malware, steal

threat actors looking for new opportunities to distribute malware, steal credentials, and more.

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The Internet of (Secure) Things Checklist

Jan 04

Palo Alto Networks - From Internet-connected toaster ovens to smart hairbrushes to popular health trackers, these devices can be risky, especially when used in certain environments. Given the prevalence of these devices coming in and out of corporate networks, not only is it important to be ready to protect your own organization, but it is crucial to understand how far IoT risk can extend.

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Data Governance

News:

SEC Plans Cybersecurity Guidance Refresh: What to Expect

Dec 29

Bank Info Security - The US Securities and Exchange Commission is planning to update its 6-year-old cybersecurity guidance for how publicly traded firms report data breaches to investors.

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Microsoft Calls for Tech Companies to Serve as 'Medics in Cyberspace'

Jan 02

CIO Dive - Microsoft executives renewed calls for a Digital Geneva Convention and for tech companies to act as "medics in cyberspace,"

much like the Red Cross on a battlefield.

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Security Pros Waste 10 Hours a Week Due to Inefficient Systems

Jan 02

Help Net Security - Process and software inefficiencies play a major role in slowing down an organization's ability to detect and respond to cyber threats, according to LogRhythm.

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Legal + Market Intelligence:

FERC Aims to Broaden Cyber Incident Reporting Requirements

Jan 03

Fox Rothschild LLP - In the regulatory realm, complying with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation, which takes effect in May, is expected to be companies' top data privacy task of 2018. But it's not the only one. The Chinese government also plans to impose new, below-the-radar data privacy regs that will make companies jump through another set of legal hoops.

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5 Steps to Lowering Costs and Increasing Transparency in the Cloud

Jan 04

TechTarget - While cloud storage offers huge potential for organizations to lower costs, the reality is that managing costs in the cloud can be complex, inefficient and remarkably wasteful.

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