IT security newsletter

January 2019



MS Office 365 protection bypassed

Security researchers are warning that cybercriminals and email scammers are using a simple technique to bypass security features of Microsoft Office 365, including Safe Links, which were designed to protect users from malware and phishing attacks.

Included in Office 365 as part of Microsoft's advanced threat protection (ATP) solution, Safe Links works by replacing all URLs in an incoming email with Microsoft-owned secure URLs.



Keypoint comments

Securing your cloud presence requires a comprehensive understanding of cloud architecture and applications. Cloud service providers tend to differentiate the levels of security they provide based on a range of segregators including subscription packages, internal capabilities and market reach, making identifying levels of protection challenging.

We suggest corporate users of MS Office 365 offerings should contact Keypoint to understand the risks and take proactive measures to minimise risks from this breach.

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Airbus suffers data breach - employees' data exposed

Airbus has admitted that a data breach of its commercial aircraft business' information systems had allowed intruders to gain access to employees' personal information. Airbus confirmed that the attackers had accessed confidential data of Airbus employees in Europe in February.

Airbus said it was in contact with the relevant regulatory authorities and the data protection authorities as set out in the European Union's GDPR (general data protection regulation).



Keypoint comments

The impact – and cost – of privacy breaches is steadily increasing, accelerating the introduction of privacy laws globally.

Bahrain's Personal Data Protection Law (PDPL), which comes into force on 1 August 2019, imposes onerous responsibilities on organisations in Bahrain which deal with the personal data of Bahrain residents. Non-compliance may lead to criminal penalties, including jail sentences of up to one year.

We strongly suggest that Bahrain businesses should assess their compliance with the requirements of the PDPL. Keypoint has a leading PDPL team and is well-placed to support businesses with gap assessments and ongoing compliance.

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