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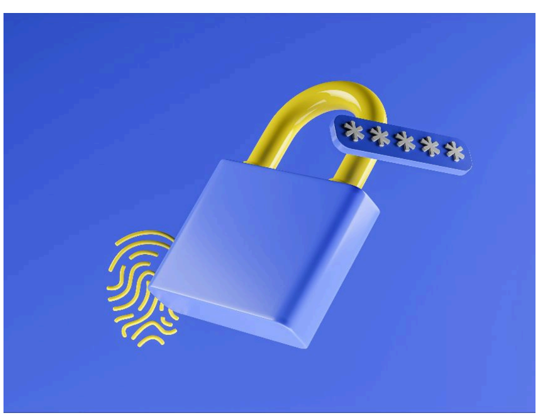
Weekly Insights and Updates

| September 27, 2024

The world of cybersecurity is no stranger to surprises, and this week is no exception. From hackers using AI to write malware to the FBI disrupting a massive botnet operation, the stakes are higher than ever. We're seeing cyberattacks move faster, hit harder, and even outsmart traditional defenses. This week's roundup brings you right to the front lines, where every second counts.



PII Encryption Requirements

This article outlines federal and state requirements for encrypting Personally Identifiable Information (PII). Businesses face heavy penalties if they fail to comply, yet many still lack sufficient encryption strategies.

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FBI Disrupts Vast Chinese Hacking Operation

The FBI dismantled a massive botnet controlled by Chinese hackers, highlighting ongoing nation-state threats. With over 200,000 infected devices, the operation targeted critical infrastructure and government agencies.

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Navigating Cyber Warfare

As cyber warfare increasingly targets private sector infrastructure, this article explores how enterprises can defend against nation-state actors like Volt Typhoon.

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NIST
National Institute of Standards and Technology

NIST Awards $3 Million for Cybersecurity Workforce Development

NIST has awarded $3 million to 15 organizations across the U.S. to address the growing shortage of cybersecurity professionals. The initiative focuses on developing regional partnerships and training programs to equip the next wave of experts with the skills needed to protect critical infrastructure.

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Generative AI Powers Malware Attack

HP researchers have uncovered evidence that hackers are using generative AI to write malware. The ease of AI-driven development lowers the bar for cybercriminals, making it more important than ever to stay vigilant.

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Hackers Exploit Windows Spoofing Vulnerability

A newly disclosed Windows spoofing vulnerability (CVE-2024-43461) has been actively exploited in zero-day attacks, allowing remote code execution through malicious file downloads. Users are urged to apply recent security updates to protect against this critical threat.

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OpenAI’s Press Account Compromised by Crypto Scammers

Scammers hacked OpenAI's press account on X to promote a fake cryptocurrency token, luring users into connecting their wallets to a phishing site. The attack highlights the growing risks of phishing campaigns targeting high-profile accounts.

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AT&T Settles FCC Probe Over Cloud Data Breach

AT&T has agreed to pay $13 million to settle an FCC investigation following a cloud data breach that exposed customer information. This case highlights the critical need for strong vendor management and data protection practices to avoid regulatory penalties.

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Real-Time Runtime Insights Underpin Cloud Security

"In the cloud, security threats can escalate in seconds. Real-time runtime insights provide security teams with the tools to detect and respond to threats as they happen.

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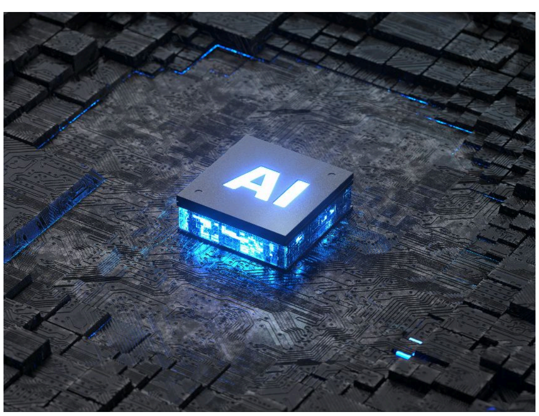

Managing Cybersecurity and Privacy Risks in AI

As AI continues to evolve, it introduces both cybersecurity risks and opportunities. NIST's new program aims to manage AI-related risks while helping organizations use AI to bolster their defenses.

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From AI-crafted malware to state-sponsored espionage and zero-day exploits, the threats we face aren't just getting smarter—they're rewriting the rules. This week's stories show that no organization is too small or too large to be in the crosshairs. But here's the edge: knowing what's coming puts you in control. Armed with these insights, you're not just reacting—you're anticipating. Stay safe.

Phishing and social engineering work not because they're complex, but because trust is easy to exploit.

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