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Sec-U-R-IT-y Tips | Security of Mobile Communication Devices

Mobile communication devices such as Blackberrys, iPhones and other smart phones have become indispensable tools for today's highly mobile society. A significant amount of personal, private and/or sensitive information may accumulate or be accessed via these devices. To read more about the risk and what you can do to secure your mobile device, go to <http://security.arizona.edu/files/aug2009securitytips.pdf>.

Securing UA | University-Wide Risk Assessment

The timeline for this summer's information security risk assessment is at the half-way point. All departments, centers and other operating units need to complete a risk assessment. The Information Security Office has distributed several communications to identified units. If you are a head of a unit and you or your Information Security Liaison has not received any of these communications, please contact the Information Security Office via the contact info below. For more information on the risk assessment, go to <http://security.arizona.edu/risk>.

Alert #1 | Microsoft Issues Emergency Patches for IE

Microsoft has taken the unusual step of releasing out-of-band patches for severe security flaws in **ALL** versions of Internet Explorer, along with related holes in the Microsoft Active Template Library included with Visual Studio. Updating your computer as soon as possible is critical. Check with your local IT staff before installing patches at work. For more information, go to http://www.pcworld.com/article/169213/microsoft_issues_emergency_patches_for_ie.html.

Alert #2 | New iPhone 3GS Hacked in Two Minutes

Information has come to light that the iPhone 3GS can be hacked within two minutes using readily available freeware. For more information on this alert, go to <http://www.fiercemobileit.com/story/new-iphone-3gs-hacked-2-minutes/2009-07-27>.

To watch a demonstration, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wS3AMbXRLs>.

News | Malware Targets Macs and PCs Alike

Security company Sophos has Internet users on the alert for booby-trapped websites. Sophos has identified two new malware attacks that target Mac OSX with the malware OSX/Jahlav-C and OSX/Tored-Fam. Mac users visiting a rigged site receive a pop-up message that indicates a "Video ActiveX Object" needs to be installed. For more information on this vulnerability and how to combat it, go to <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-12607-Sophos-Identified-Porn-Site-Malware-Targeting-Mac-Users.htm>.

Resources | 10 Must-Know Security Tips for Macs

Many believe that malware cannot be created for Mac OS X. Some argue that, even if someone did, it would affect only the small number of Mac OS users. While this may have been so at one time, the increasing popularity of Apple products has changed this. For information on protecting your Mac, go to <http://www.brighthub.com/computing/smb-security/articles/40157.aspx>.

Two more great resources on security for Macs can be found at http://www.macgeekery.com/tips/security/basic_mac_os_x_security and <http://blog.taragana.com/index.php/archive/10-must-know-security-tips-for-apple-mac-users/>.

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