

Re: [fw-wiz] LangaList security item

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Firewall-Wizards/2005-07/0002.html>

From: Jim Seymour (jseymour_at_linxnet.com)

Date: 06/30/05

To: firewall-wizards@honor.icsalabs.com

Date: Thu, 30 Jun 2005 08:26:42 -0400 (EDT)

"Brian Loe" <knobdy@stjoelive.com> wrote:

>

> > *From the LangaList – pretty sad it has to be said. Posting since it might
> have some relevance to previous posts about DSL wireless routers supplied by
> ISPs.*

I'm reminded of when I first went looking for DSL service. I was on the phone with tech. support, asking about the DSL device I would get—whether it was a router, with packet-filtering capability, or a bridge. Answer: Bridge. Me (horrified): "But that means your customers' PeeCeess are exposed directly to the Internet, their back-sides hangin' out in the breeze, with no protection at all!" Tech: "Yeah, but they don't know the difference, and wouldn't know what to do about it even if they did." Nice attitude. Needless to say, **that** ISP did not get my business.

I soon found out that ISP's attitude was common. "Oh boy, **this** is gonna be a disaster," I thought. Little did I know how right I was.

> *It's obviously not in AOL's interest to advertise their LACK of
> security, all the while advertising their improved security.*

I had to dig, and dig hard, to get down to (up to?) a level of tech. support that could answer my router/bridge question. It's not that the sales droid and 1st-line tech. support people wouldn't answer my questions, they **couldn't** answer them. They didn't understand what I was talking about.

[snip]

>

> *Oh, jeez----- if anything, AOL members need more protection than others!*

[snip]

Which may explain why AOL is doing what they're doing—whatever that is.

Firewall-Wizards: Re: [fw-wiz] LangaList security item

So, you take a common consumer/residential broadband connection, which has no protection at all, add a wireless AP, configured, by default, in open mode, add an electronic petri dish or two, and what do you have?

Jim

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Note: My mail server employs *very* aggressive anti-spam filtering. If you reply to this email and your email is rejected, please accept my apologies and let me know via my web form at <<http://jimsun.linxnet.com/scform.php>>.

firewall-wizards mailing list
firewall-wizards@honor.icsalabs.com
<http://honor.icsalabs.com/mailman/listinfo/firewall-wizards>