

RE: Using Web mail (hotmail, gmail, yahoo, etc) for Business mails

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/securityfocus/security-basics/2006-10/msg00217.html>

- *From:* "Duncan McAlynn" <duncan@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 17 Oct 2006 19:02:52 -0500
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Another issue with these webmail products is the mass storage that they now provide. In highly secured environments they can pose as much of a security risk as USB drives and removable storage. All a user has to do is email himself attachments of company docs, schematics, financials, etc...

It's not to say this can't be circumvented by other means, but by having a policy restricting access to such sites you're demonstrating due diligence and lessening the attack surface of your environment. You can use ACLs to permit users access that have pleaded a worthy argument.

Duncan

-----Original Message-----

From: listbounce@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx [mailto:listbounce@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx] On Behalf Of Murda Mcloud
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2006 8:13 PM
To: sfmailsbm@xxxxxxxxxxx; security-basics@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: RE: Using Web mail (hotmail, gmail, yahoo, etc) for Business mails

At some point email leaves 'your control' and goes out across the wild blue yonder; this is where encryption comes in.

One of the risks of using webmail is that it bypasses any gateway filters you may have so one layer of defense is taken away. If you do have some kind of corporate encryption scheme in place and are sending business email via gmail then it won't be part of that scheme.

-----Original Message-----

From: listbounce@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx [mailto:listbounce@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx] On Behalf Of sfmailsbm@xxxxxxxxxxx
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2006 4:00 PM
To: security-basics@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Subject: Using Web mail (hotmail, gmail, yahoo, etc) for Business mails

Dear List,

It is a common practice among users to use their personal email accounts like hotmail, gmail, etc to send & receive business (and most probably

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confidential) information

This is particularly the case when users are out of office

These webmails are not under the company's control, and hence there is a risk of information loss. However upto now we have not heard of any such cases

Wanted to get the opinion of the list on the security risks of the use of Webmails for business mails

Thanks & regards

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