

Re: BBC-TV Computer Security Video For Non-Techies

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.firewalls/2005-04/0833.html>

From: Chuck (*none_at_example.net*)

Date: 04/26/05

Date: 25 Apr 2005 17:15:03 -0500

On Mon, 25 Apr 2005 23:45:22 +0200, "Andreas Rauer" <*email_address_deleted*> wrote:

>Ian Kenefick wrote:

>> On Mon, 25 Apr 2005 21:48:36 +0100, "Jason Edwards" wrote:

>>> If I did then they'd insist on installing unnecessary personal

>>> firewall software that they wouldn't be able to use and would be

>>> calling me every other day about whether or not somewindowsapp.exe

>>> should be allowed to connect.

>>

>> Unnecessary? I think this is not correct. Everyone should use a

>> personal firewall. It's defense at the application level which in my

>> view is critical!

>

>Why not a simple resolution without adding more unstable and exploitable

>code to your system?

A perimeter defense is a necessity. But protecting yourself within your LAN is a good idea too. Protecting yourself with just a perimeter firewall is a security policy from 5 years ago. Times have changed, and the bad guys have found new exploits. Layered security is a must.

>Just stop offering (unnecessary) network services to the internet.

>http://www.ntsvcfg.de/ntsvcfg_eng.html

>

>

>> Much progress has been made in firewalls which will

>> help the user to make the correct decision as to weather they should

>> leave an application access to external networks.

>

>If you don't trust a software, why did you install it?

Lots of software has programming design mistakes, that can be exploited by the bad guys. You should protect yourself, even with software that you trust.

>

>> *If your
>> client/friend is that important then you will take 5 mins to explain
>> how they can figure out what they should and shouldn't allow access.*
>
>*If the Windows standard installations wouldn't offer half a dozen (for home
>installations) unnecessary network services, we would have a lot less spam
>and virus/worm-mailings.*

Every operating system, if improperly configured, will have security holes. Not just Windows.

>*And people shouldn't click on every colorful icon, which happens to be
>longer than half a microsecond under their cursor...*

Layered security, properly applied, includes updating the CKI (Chair To Keyboard Interface).

And it includes not posting your email address openly, which will get you more unwanted email, than wanted email. Learn to munge your email address properly, to keep yourself a bit safer when posting to open forums. Protect yourself and the rest of the internet – read this article.

http://www.mailmsg.com/SPAM_munging.htm

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Cheers,
Chuck

Paranoia is not necessarily a bad thing - it comes from experience.

My email address is AT DOT
actual address pchuck sonic net.