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Catch up on the latest from IoT, InfoSec and Tech. This issue includes: Hungry Hungry Hippos and Alexa, IoT spending, VPN bans, North Korean botnets, Amazon buys Whole Foods, disable UPnP and much more...

IoT

I put together a 30 minute presentation to discuss what is the internet of things, security and privacy, attack surface areas, previous IoT research, is it getting any better and a little on how to protect yourself if using IoT devices.

IoT spending is expected to surpass $800 billion in 2017 according to research firm IDC. Manufacturing, freight monitoring and production asset management are expected to attract the largest investments.

Someone decided to connect the Hungry Hungry Hippos game to the internet and allow it to be controlled by Amazon's Alexa.

The Tweede Kamer is asking the Dutch government to take action in regards to unsafe IoT devices. Tweede Kamer loosely translates to the House of Representatives.

Microsoft has introduced the IoT Hub on the Azure Government cloud platform

to help agencies connect, track and manage connected devices.

Herman Miller of the famed Aeron office chairs brings us sensors that work with desks to track the amount of time employees spend standing or sitting. The system is called Live OS.

Automotive CyberSecurity Best Practices. Essentially things we should be doing regardless of whether it's for cars or other things.

InfoSec

A credit card breach at Buckle stores where malware was found on point-of-sale terminals. Buckle believes customer credit card data was stolen between October 28, 2016 to April 14, 2017. Online sales were not affected.

Wikileaks posted documents about software called CherryBlossom which was used by the CIA to infect Wi-Fi consumer routers. The software especially likes certain models of D-Link and Linksys. One of the features is the ability to extract admin passwords as long as UPnP is enabled.

Russia continues to move forward in their bid to ban VPNs and private messaging apps. New legislation would ban anonymity on messenger apps altogether. Another bill would effectively ban VPN use.

A British man Sean Caffrey, plead guilty to attacking a Pentagon satellite system in 2014 and accessing the personal information of military personnel.

A Jaff ransomware decryption tool has been released.

A new study says that banking websites contain third-party trackers to help rate a user's creditworthiness before they even apply for credit.

The University of College London was hit by a ransomware attack and disabled access to some of their shared drives and other systems to reduce further infection.

Researchers are saying that fixes for Windows Defender are incomplete and the key component, MsMpEng, could still be at risk of remote code execution.

Uber faces a new probe from US regulators over its privacy practices.

Microsoft released patches for 3 more NSA exploits; EsteemAudit,

ExplodingCan and EnglishmanDentist.

The US has warned about a North Korean DDoS botnet named DeltaCharlie which is part of an eight year long North Korean hacking operation.

Germany is planning a new law that will allow them to fingerprint children as young as 6 and view private messages.

Tech

Amazon buys Whole Foods for $13.7 billion in cash.

Amazon has a patent to keep shoppers from comparison shopping while you are in its stores. One thing to note, this is only possible if you're using their Wi-Fi.

Apparently the new Microsoft Surface laptop is so riddled with plastic welding and glue that trying to replace any parts essentially destroys it.

Programmers who uses spaces instead of tabs supposedly make more money according to a 2017 Developer Survey.

You probably don't want to send naked pictures on LinkedIn. There's a lawsuit involving Suntrust and an employee while conducting a recruitment meeting.

GM has begun mass producing its self driving Bolt electric vehicles. I have to hand it to GM, the vehicle doesn't look half bad and it's electric and self driving.

Miscellaneous

Canada is banning locked phones and wireless carrier unlocking fees.

The Trump administration ordered the federal government to stop preparing for the Y2K bug ... 17 years after Y2K.

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