North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit

nerccuprotect@durham.pnn.police.uk

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NORTH EAST REGIONAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT

Exercise ATHENA Information

During the Exercise ATHENA event a number of topics were covered in addition to services that are offered by the North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit. Below is a summary of this information:

Senior Management Awareness / Cyber Lego

One of the services offered by the North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit is to attend and conduct a 'cyber lego' game called 'Decision & Disruptions'. The purpose of the game is to make choices regarding cyber security and the consequences of making or not making the right choices. This is a great game at opening up discussions about cyber security in a way that is fun and informative for those with or without a technical background.

Cyber Information Sharing Partnership (CiSP) / Threat Sharing

The Cyber Security Information Sharing Partnership (CiSP) is a joint industry and government initiative set up to exchange cyber threat information in real time, in a secure, confidential and dynamic environment, increasing situational awareness and reducing the impact on UK business. Becoming a member of CISP requires a two-step process:

> 1.   Your organisation/school needs to join CiSP. The application will take no more than five minutes to complete and if successful, you will receive an invitation for your organisation to join CiSP within five working days.
> https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/keep-up-to-date/cisp-organisation
> 2.   Once your organisation membership is approved, your staff can get individual access to CiSP via individual application forms.
> https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/keep-up-to-date/cisp-individual

To become a registered CiSP member you must be:

> •   a UK registered company or other legal entity which is responsible for the administration of an electronic communications network in the UK
> •   sponsored by either a government department, existing CiSP member or a regional Cyber PROTECT police officer or industry champion. Please use the following emails for sponsorship:
> jonathan.green@durham.pnn.police.uk
> jon.hudson@durham.pnn.police.uk

Cyber Security Training for Staff

The North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit can come to your school or organisation and provide Cyber Security Training for Staff, to find out more information or to arrange a date please contact nerccuprotect@durham.pnn.police.uk

Alternatively, the NCSC's new e-learning package 'Top Tips For Staff' can be completed online, or built into your own training platform.   t's totally free, easy-to-use and takes less than 30 minutes to complete. The training introduces why cyber security is important and how attacks happen, and then covers four key areas:

> •   defending yourself against phishing
> •   using strong passwords
> •   securing your devices

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- reporting incidents ('if in doubt, call it out')

The training is primarily aimed at SMEs, charities and the voluntary sector, but can be applied to any organisation, regardless of size or sector.

https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/blog-post/ncsc-cyber-security-training-for-staff-now-available

Free Vulnerability Assessment

We can offer a **FREE** Vulnerability Assessment, this is a scan of your public facing internet services. A vulnerability assessment is the practice of testing a computer system, network or web application to find areas that an attacker could exploit. The assessments are often conducted by private cyber security providers and have a financials cost.

Vulnerability Assessment

Why are police offering this service?

Simply put we want to have fewer victims of crime, all too often we see businesses fall victim to untargeted attacks were the criminals have found a well-known vulnerability which can be easily exploited. Criminals are constantly using software to scan the internet looking for easy targets, e.g vulnerable and out of date systems. By offering this service we hope to find some of these vulnerabilities before they do, so you can take the appropriate action to defend your network.

Who will be performing this service?

Northumbria Police have recruited skilled volunteers who have the aptitude, skill set and appropriate training to undertake Network Vulnerability Assessments. The volunteers, will work alongside Waterstons, an IT and business consultancy based here in the North East, to produce a vulnerability report, highlighting potential weaknesses in your internet facing systems and infrastructure. All volunteers have undertaken a selection and vetting process, they will be working out of police premises and will handle your vulnerability report in confidence.

What are the advantages of using this service?

You can reduce the chances of your business becoming a victim of common untargeted cyber-attacks. It can help you work towards accreditations like Cyber Essentials and ISO27001 which demonstrate your organisation is taking cyber security seriously, and you're taking steps to protect the data you hold.

How will the assessment be conducted?

By providing some technical information to the volunteers, this assessment can be conducted, remotely – meaning nobody needs to be physically present on your business premises and the assessment can occur at any time of the day.

What is the assessment?

The vulnerability assessment offered uses an industry recognised software package. To obtain such a scan from the private sector could incur a cost. This is not a penetration test, but a basic assessment of a limited scope of systems (i.e. internet facing systems like firewalls, mail servers, etc, not user workstations or internal systems) – it doesn't give protection against complex or persistent attacks, but does give an overview of the network security weaknesses that could be exploited by criminals on the internet.

For more information email: cybervolunteers@northumbria.pnn.police.uk

Who can apply for this service?

At present time the service is restricted to North East businesses only, covered by the Durham, Cleveland and Northumbria Police areas.

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Action Fraud

Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and **cybercrime** where you should report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. You can report fraud or cybercrime using our online reporting service any time of the day or night; the service enables you to both report a fraud and find help and support. We also provide help and advice over the phone through the Action Fraud contact centre. You can talk to our fraud and cybercrime specialists by calling **0300 123 2040**.

The North East Regional Cyber Crime Unit can assist with other areas of cyber crime/security, our time and advice is free, put simply we want to have fewer victims of cybercrime. The best advice we can give is to contact your regional cyber protect officers to see how we can help:

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