



# HACK LIFE

Risk Factory's Monthly Information Security Awareness Bulletin

## STORY OF THE MONTH: NEW YEAR, OLD PROBLEMS

There seems to be a subconscious, innate expectation for us humans that somehow the beginning of a new year will wipe the slate clean and issues we experienced in the old year will miraculously disappear in the new one. Unfortunately as my strained, top jeans' button will attest, this often isn't the case. Less than 24hrs into the new year and a **large scale breach** was already being reported, this time by the folks 'down under' in the government of the State of Victoria in Australia. Apparently after being fooled by a phishing email (yep, yet another phishing attack) a government employee managed to leak the details of around 30,000 Australian civil servants: STRENGTH! The good news is that it looks like it was mainly corporate data – work phone, email, job title – that was divulged rather than any financial or HR related information. Here at Risk Factory we get really bored of saying it but we're going to keep on till something changes: Please, companies large and small, families – everyone.. Don't get bamboozled and seduced by the shiny baubles of AI (Artificial Intelligence) labelled anti-virus solutions and the like thinking that they will stop hacks on their own. Sure, AV is absolutely a pre-requisite but don't forget about HI – that is, Human Intelligence, or rather the lack of it sometimes!! Rant over.

## DID YOU KNOW ?

If you're an information security professional, or someone who aspires to be, the SANS institute is landing in London from 8 – 13 April, bringing with it a bigger selection of techy security courses than ever before. You'll find all manner of courses, from Windows Forensics through to Hacker Tools, techniques, exploits and incident handling.



## RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

Did you know that those secretive spooks over at GCHQ actually have an outward facing, open and friendly cyber security support and information resource? No? Well they do, it's called the National Cyber Security Centre and you'll find them on the web at [www.ncsc.gov.uk](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk). It really is worth a visit, excellent and up-to-date advice. And come on, when was the last time you heard that James Bond got hacked!?

## MONTHLY QUIZ

*Who was responsible for the years long and prolific hacking of German politicians data? (Clue: it wasn't the Chinese, the Russians or the North Koreans!) Our winner will be chosen randomly from correct answers and will win a HACK LIFE t-shirt!*

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