

Newsletter

October 2009

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Identity Theft is Easy with a TV Camera

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At the end of the UK's <u>National Identity Fraud Prevention Week</u>, Sophos researchers Graham Cluley and Carole Theriault <u>took to the streets of Bristol</u> with a TV camera to find out how willing people were to divulge personal information. Most were willing to provide name, date of birth and email address. Then came the key question:

Would you give your personal identifiable information to a complete stranger?

With answers ranging from:

What, like I just did now? Obviously, yes I will.

To the rather less aware:

No.

Although the angle presented is identity fraud, considering the current <u>Review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance</u> in Hong Kong, there are a lot of wider questions to ask:

Why are organisations using non-secret information - such as ID card number, date of birth, and mother's maiden name, for authentication? Should organisations that do this be held financially responsible for the resulting identity fraud?

We are highly social creatures that depend on myriad relationships in different contexts, is it feasible to restrict the flow of our identities?

More Information

Video: Stealing identities on the street is easy

Thoughts on National Identity Fraud Prevention Week

National Identity Fraud Prevention Week

Constitutional and Mainland Affiars Bureau > Topical Issues > The Rights of the Individuals

Review of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance

Jeremy Clarkson Demonstrates Personal Data Leak Threat

Pig Identity Theft

<web-link for this article>

Identity theft is so easy, even pigs can do it. <u>Pigs have learnt</u> how to defeat RFID-based feeding computers by taking other pig's collars.

More Information

<u>Pregnant pig computer hackers - Clever Critters - BBC Pets & Animals</u> Identity Theft is Easy with a TV Camera

Paypal Admits Loosing Suspicious Email Reports

<web-link for this article>

Approaching two months after <u>Paypal was informed about lack of follow-up on suspicious email reports</u>, Paypal has admitted that it is "endeavoring to find" previous reports, and claimed that they, "have fixed the issue after we receive your feedbacks and the address spoof@paypal.com.hk is working now for Hong Kong users to send fake emails for review", without specifying what "the issue" was.

Paypal has been asked for details of the issue, and how long it persisted, their response will be reported in a follow-up article.

More Information

Paypal Hong Kong Neglects Customer Security



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