Yui Kee Computing Ltd.

Newsletter

February 2016

Contents

VTech Quietly Passes Privacy Responsibility to Customers

<web-link for this article>

Following a massive data privacy breach in November 2015, Hong Kong electronics manufacturer VTech quietly updated its Terms and Conditions on December 24 to absolve itself of responsibility for its customers' data.

Clause 7 of the new Terms and Conditions includes the sentence, "YOU ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT ANY INFORMATION YOU SEND OR RECEIVE DURING YOUR USE OF THE SITE MAY NOT BE SECURE AND MAY BE INTERCEPTED OR LATER ACQUIRED BY UNAUTHORIZED PARTIES." and continues to say that they will not be liable for and loss or damages. VTech sells toys that require registration on VTech's Learning Lodge site that allows downloading of apps, learning games, e-books and other educational content to the products. The registration includes the first name, gender and birthday of the children and names, email addresses, passwords, and home addresses of their parents. Thus, the Terms and Conditions seek to absolve VTech of responsibility for securing personal data. This is in conflict with the requirements of Hong Kong's Personal Data Privacy Ordinance, so it is doubtful whether the attempt could succeed.

Yui Kee's Chief Consultant, Allan Dyer, commented, "Having been caught not protecting their customers' data, VTech has decided to continue being irresponsible. This is a clear indication that they have no intention to mend their ways or become a responsible company."

More Information

- VTech Terms and Conditions updated as of December 24, 2015
- No, VTech cannot simply absolve itself of security responsibility
- Security? We haven't heard of it, says hacker magnet VTech
- VTech Data Breach Exposes Personal Data of Hundreds of Thousands of Children

Urgent Encryption Software Bug Fix to be Released 1st March 2016

The OpenSSL project team has announced that OpenSSL versions 1.0.2g, 1.0.1s will be released on 1st March 2016 between approximately 1300-1700 UTC (Tuesday 2100 and Wednesday 0100 Hong Kong time). They will fix several security defects, at least one of which is severity High.

Administrators can prepare for the release by checking which of their systems and services will need to be updated after the release. The OpenSSL library is widely used, some estimates suggest that 2/3rds of web servers rely on it for securing connections. The library is also used in many other packages, including the popular open-source virtual private network OpenVPN, and in commercial products, such as many devices produced by Cisco.

More Information

- Awoogah – brown alert: OpenSSL preps 'high severity' security fixes
- [openssl-announce] Forthcoming OpenSSL releases

Suite C & D, 8/F, Yally Industrial Building

6 Yip Fat Street, Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong

Tel: 2870 8550   Fax: 2870 8563

E-mail: info@yuikee.com.hk

http://www.yuikee.com.hk/