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Newsletter 27/08/09

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Message from the Editor

It may not come as a surprise this week that Social Networking sites have hit the top of the list of sites that are most likely to be attacked. What may be of more surprise is the number of businesses turning their backs on the technology and blocking access to Web 2.0 sites for their employees. With the same platform being used for both business networking and social chit-chat, its hard to strike the balance between a valuable business resource and an object of employee abuse. So far, anecdotal evidence would suggest that social networking sites have marginal business benefits which are far outweighed by the risks which is why they're being blocked. However, that situation isn't likely to remain the same for very long and ways will have to be found to strike the right balance and reduce the risks.

The same can't be said about peer-to-peer communication tools which are rife in the employee community. Easy to install and providing a hotline into your network, these tools represent a serious risk as described by an article by Network Box which is definitely worth taking heed of.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and if you have any comments or feedback, I'd be delighted to hear from you at jon.newell@prosecurityzone.com

Jonathan Newell
Editor

From the Surveillance Zone

Megapixel technology from IQinVision is fighting the problem of fly-tippers in Massachusetts where IQEye cameras have been installed at dumping hot-spots to act as a deterrent and bring prosecutions.

High Definition is also at the core of an Avigilon installation where fewer cameras with greater coverage was the specification required to meet the needs of a historical and architecturally



significant building in Chicago.

Digital Evidence Recorders from Visimetrics were recently used to convict two casino cheats in London who pleaded guilty when presented with the clarity of evidence recorded.

Vandalism and anti-social behaviour is a constant problem in schools across Britain which has prompted Axis Communications to explain how network video can be used to combat the problem and reduce levels of crime within the educational system.

IDTechEx have produced an interesting article on RFID tagging in the retail industry giving copious examples of how the technology is being used to good effect.

- [IQinVision megapixel technology fights illegal dumping](#)
- [Hi definition surveillance for historic Chicago building](#)
- [DVR footage helps convict casino cheats](#)
- [Network video and crime reduction in education](#)
- [RFID benefits for the fashion industry](#)

From the IT Security Zone

A report from Nebulas Security indicates that the recent growth in social networking hacks has resulted in the fact that now 20 percent of all attacks relate to web 2.0 which has overtaken the Government sector as the most targeted.

Another report, this time from Scansafe, not surprisingly indicates increasing demand from businesses for web filtering software providers to block social networking sites, eclipsing even such categories as shopping and weapons!

It isn't just social networking sites that are under focus of course. Peer to Peer networking has always caused headaches for IT security professionals and Network Box has released a free guide on the subject, the crux of which is to ban them entirely from corporate networks.

Multiple application access and the need for several passwords are issues that have been tackled recently at Winchester Council and the University of Westminster. At Winchester, Council Staff now have a simplified sign on procedure without compromising security thanks to Enterprise SSO from Evidian.

Westminster University decided on Liebermann's Enterprise Random Password Manager for cross platform sign on for administrator access providing productivity benefits with improved audit control.

- [Companies increasingly blocking social networking access](#)
- [Secure single sign on for Winchester City Council](#)
- [20 percent of online attacks target social network sites](#)
- [Cross platform password management for University of Westminster](#)
- [P2P poses serious security risk to businesses](#)

From the Biometrics Zone

South and Central American countries have been taking up biometrics in their Government programs. Bolivia in South America has chosen Livescan Fingerprint biometrics from Cross Match Technologies for its mobile voter registration process employing fast 10-print simultaneous capture technology.

Meanwhile Guatemala in Central America has plumped for multi-biometric technology in its electronic identity program whereby Datacard will supply the biometric identity card production capability for the country.

Securemarques has developed an ideal time and attendance system for workers in remote locations. With fingerprint identification technology to prevent fraudulent attendance claims and GSM or GPRS transmission, the system can be deployed wherever there are employees.

The popular smarti Electra from TAB Systems is set to add to its expanding trophy cabinet having been selected as a finalist for the Security Excellence Awards. This face and voice recognition biometric unit is targeted at the commercial access control and time and attendance market.

- Livescan fingerprint biometrics for Bolivia voter registration
- Multi-biometric e-identity card for Guatemala
- Remote GSM/GPRS Fingerprint based Time and Attendance
- Biometric unit reaches Security Excellence Awards final



From the Alarm and Access Control Zone

The smart laser scan detector from Optex Europe has been short listed for the Security Excellence awards as a result of its ability to detect the size, speed and distance of an object, increasing detection rates and reducing false alarms.

The refurbishment of a Scottish centre for the homeless has included the XS4 programmable electronic locking system from Salto Systems to improve privacy for residents at the centre.

- Salto access for Inverclyde homeless centre
- Innovation prize nomination for Redscan



Protection and Enforcement

UK mobile operator Vodafone is providing South Yorkshire Police patrols with access to central records using their mobile handsets enabling them to conduct identifications and also fill in report forms.

A simulation tool has been produced by TSSI Inc for preparing the US emergency services for incidents at critical facilities. The tool provides a practice capability for locating hazardous

materials and navigating obstacles within buildings.

Police forces in the UK can discover the benefits of biometric face recognition software this autumn in a series of free training workshops being held as part of a road show throughout the country being held by Omniperspective.

For forensic data collection, Intelligent Computer Solutions has released a hand held forensic data imaging tool for field use which operates at high speed whilst maintaining evidential integrity.

- [High speed hand held forensic data imaging](#)
- [Emergency response simulation tool](#)
- [Free face recognition workshops for police](#)
- [Real time police record access with Vodafone](#)

And finally...

Combating fake celebrities and nude crowd surfing at UK events

G4S have recently provided some insight into managing major events in the UK. Confiscating sharpened stiletto heels, refusing entry to the Queen's fourth son, spotting the difference between absinthe and anti-septic mouth wash and restoring the dignity of crowd 'surfers' who've been stripped naked all form part of the working day of Britain's event stewards.

Confirming runway debris keeps Vancouver airport running smoothly

Day and Night cameras have been linked into Qinetiq's radar detection system at Vancouver airport to automatically provide visual confirmation of runway debris picked up by the radar system. With false alarms potentially creating disruptive delays, the integration of security technologies is bringing significant cost benefits to the airport

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