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Title: Security Behaviour of System Professionals on their Home Computer.

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Abstract

Home computers play crucial role in the security of cyberspace. It is considered as the weakest link in internet security. It is believed that lack of security awareness is the main reason behind unsafe security practices. This research is aimed at finding out the security behavior of system professionals who are aware of computer security and security best practices.

This single case study research used convenience sampling of system professionals working in a multinational company in Ireland to answer the research question “How do system professionals manage their home computer security?” The data collected using the qualitative and quantitative methods was analysed and found that awareness doesn’t change the security practices. The participants exhibited similar security behaviors like a novice home user. However, when it comes to high severity security practices, security professionals showed increased security behavior compared to the low severity security practices.

This research showed that manufacture-enforced security settings play an important role in ensuring home computer security. However, it is observed that knowledgeable users tend to disable these settings for their convenience. So this research recommends more studies on the effectiveness of self-auditing security implementations for home computers.