



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER

Vol. 1 Ed. 5
Dec. 3, 2020



THE MONTHLY MESSAGE



DON'T FALL FOR HOLIDAY SHOPPING SCAMS!

With more shopping occurring online this year, and with the holiday season upon us, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) reminds shoppers to remain vigilant. Be cautious of fraudulent sites spoofing reputable businesses, unsolicited emails purporting to be from charities, and unencrypted financial transactions.

HOW DO ATTACKERS TARGET ONLINE SHOPPERS?

- **CREATING FRAUDULENT SITES AND EMAIL MESSAGES**
Unlike traditional shopping, where you know that a store is actually what it claims to be, attackers can create malicious websites or email messages that appear to be legitimate. They may misrepresent themselves as charities, especially after natural disasters or during holiday seasons.
- **INTERCEPTING INSECURE TRANSACTIONS**
If you do not use encryption, an attacker may be able to intercept your information as it is transmitted.
- **TARGETING VULNERABLE COMPUTERS**
If you do not take steps to protect your computer from viruses or other malicious code, attackers may be able to gain access to your computer and all of the information on it. It is also important for vendors to protect their computers to prevent attackers from accessing customer databases.

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

BRANDON COLWELL - TECHNICAL CONSULTANT INTERN



Year Started at SNS:
2019

What is your favorite holiday movie?

My favorite holiday movie would have to be the "Polar Express" or "A Christmas Story"

What is the best gift you've ever received? Why?

An Xbox 360 when I was younger, it really introduced me to some of my favorite games like Halo, Call of Duty, and Battlefield. It also got me into online gaming which created a lot of really great memories!

What is your favorite holiday tradition?

Spending time with family and having a HUGE dinner a couple of days before Christmas, we usually pass around 1 present for the each of us!

What is your favorite memory at SNS?

Getting to work in the office with everyone before we had to work remotely; it really gave me the chance to connect and build relationships with everyone here!

HOLIDAY GIVE BACK!



We are working with Solider Angels.org to adopt a military family to help make Christmas special for them! However you can, give back to others!

**We work to provide clients with the right tools and people to support their Technology.
From a growing business to a multi-site enterprise,
as your Managed IT Partner we are with you every step of the way.**

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HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOURSELF?

- **DO BUSINESS WITH REPUTABLE VENDORS**
Before providing any personal or financial information, make sure that you are interacting with a reputable, established vendor.
- **ENSURE YOUR INFO IS BEING ENCRYPTED**
Many sites use secure sockets layer to encrypt information. Indications that your information will be encrypted include URL that begins with "https:" instead of "http:" and a padlock icon.
- **BE WARY OF EMAILS REQUESTING INFO**
Attackers may try to gather information by sending emails requesting that you confirm purchase or account information. Legitimate businesses won't solicit this type of information through email.
- **USE A CREDIT CARD**
There are laws to limit your liability for fraudulent credit card charges, but you may not have the same level of protection for your debit cards. You can minimize potential damage by using a single, low-limit credit card to make all online purchases.
- **CHECK YOUR SHOPPING APP SETTINGS**
Look for apps that tell you what they do with your data and how they keep it secure. Keep in mind that there is no legal limit on your liability with money stored in a shopping app (or on a gift card).
- **CHECK YOUR STATEMENTS**
Keep a record of purchases and copies of confirmation pages, and compare to your bank statements.
- **CHECK PRIVACY POLICIES**
Before providing personal or financial information, check the website's privacy policy.

WHAT'S NEW WITH SNS?



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
To Our
Owner,
ALAN!
(12/12)

We welcome TWO
new Technical
Consultant Tier 1s to
the SNS team:
Jeremy Cardel and
Aidan Gordon!

WELCOME TO THE SNS FAMILY!



"DCA Pharmacy is changing lives and making a difference nationwide as a recognized full-service Pharmacy Leader that provides innovative and reliable solutions to a happier and healthier life with focused personalized care, professionalism and commitment."

SNS has been speaking on and off with DCA since Summer of 2016 and we are happy to announce that we finally get the opportunity to work with them. We look forward to building a strong relationship with everyone there over the coming years!

TOOLSET SPOTLIGHT: liongard™

We are utilizing Liongard on a fairly small scale across our client base slated as "advanced network monitoring." Liongard allows us to monitor and audit all changes automatically with connectors to network gear, email hosts, and servers. By default most providers will only supply a log of 30 days worth of changes, and beyond that you lose the information. If something happens after that, related to a prior change made there is no way to track down how it happened, preventing it from happening again in the future.

Liongard is a major tool in our NIST Security arsenal covering numerous protections in three out of the five categories all of which are proactive security measures; 6 in detect, 5 in identify, and 1 in protect. Historically our visibility in to security incidents had been poor, with the implementation of Liongard we can help move our response from reactive to prevention!

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