RECAP OF 2023 AND TRENDS TO WATCH FOR IN 2024

January 2024| Issue 2024:1

Security Operations Center Always Working to Address Cybersecurity

DTI's Security Operations Center (SOC), in collaboration with other DTI teams, is responsible for protecting Delaware's network from threats, intrusions, phishing emails, and denial of service attacks, just to mention some of their 24/7 responsibilities. Let's take a look at some of their major accomplishments in 2023.

CrowdStrike is a cybersecurity provider dedicated to stopping breaches through endpoint security and cloud-native network security solutions for enterprise organizations. The SOC deploys its cybersecurity tools to protect Delawarean's data.

- **CrowdStrike blocks**: Over 5,652 abnormal events blocked in CrowdStrike.
- **CrowdStrike Detections**: Over 14,804 abnormal events detected by CrowdStrike.
- **Notable Alerts** - Over 7,243 alerts detected by custom alert logic.
- **Fixed vulnerabilities** – Over 767,778 vulnerabilities fixed.
- **Phishing emails blocked** – Over 208,710 phishing email blocked.

Each of these alerts are investigated, whether or not they are blocked, to ensure that the tools are reporting accurately, and malicious activity was not successful.

The SOC processed over 485 Secure Socket Layer (SSL)certificates in 2023. A SSL

CYBERSECURITY TRENDS FOR 2024

Forbes magazine has released their cyber predictions for 2024. The information is collected from a variety of sources, including the FBI.

Election Year Disinformation
Election years provide fertile ground for social engineering and disinformation campaigns, and there's no reason to believe 2024 will be an exception. As political tensions rise, so do efforts to manipulate public opinion and undermine democratic processes.

Cybercriminals exploit societal divisions, using sophisticated social engineering tactics to spread misinformation. The FBI also warned of cybercrimes against election officials during the last election cycle.

Rise Of Cybersecurity Artificial Intelligence (AI)
In 2024, AI's role in cybersecurity will expand to encompass automated responses and predictive analytics. It's about taking preventive measures in advance, using AI to anticipate future cyber threats by analyzing historical data and current trends.

With cyberattacks becoming more sophisticated, AI's ability to analyze vast datasets and identify patterns will be pivotal. Since AI has become a major part of cyber criminals' toolkit, AI is expected to become a mainstay in cybersecurity solutions.

AI-Based Predictive Social Engineering
2024 will likely see a rise in AI-based predictive social engineering and a disturbing convergence of AI and social manipulation techniques.

Leveraging AI, cybercriminals can prey on human weaknesses such as impulsiveness, greed and curiosity to more convincingly create personalized phishing campaigns at scale. AI-facilitated social engineering attacks have been reported to the Federal Trade Commision.

Cyber or Virtual Kidnapping
This is a form of extortion that deceives family members into thinking that their loved ones are in grave peril, being held for ransom, and threatened with harm or death. "Unlike traditional abductions, virtual kidnappers have not actually kidnapped anyone. Instead, through deceptions and threats, they coerce victims to pay a

certificate is a digital certificate that authenticates a website's identity and enables an encrypted connection between the website and the user's browser.

The SOC owns the tool utilized to distribute these certificates throughout the State and K12, and recently had a large effort to migrate to a new SSL certificate distribution platform. The SOC now has automatic deployment of these setup for many applications.

Solomon Adote
Chief Security Officer

quick ransom before the scheme falls apart," according to the FBI's website.

DTI provides opportunities for State and K12 employees as well as private entities to improve their knowledge of protecting themselves in the workplace and in their personal life, through annual security training and phish tests, monthly security reminder videos, and live security awareness training. Be on the lookout for more information and guidance on the proper use of Artificial Intelligence with Delaware's data.

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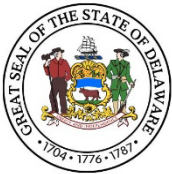
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