

The Evolving Security Paradigm in An Increasingly Mobile World

As more and more employees use personal mobile devices to access enterprise networks and applications, there are increasing risks to the security of confidential information through new entrance points for potential attacks

Mobile technology today is taking communications and security to a whole new level. Consumers are increasingly looking to bring their smartphones, tablets and other devices that have transformed their personal lives to work. This means people can work anywhere at any time, creating new efficiencies for businesses –but also new challenges for protecting enterprise data.

The impending threat

Rapid adoption of mobile technology will soon make security concerns in the wireless environment at least equal to those in the wired world. While these risks may persuade IT departments to think twice about deploying the latest mobile technologies, the headwind favoring delivery of broader access to applications and emerging cloud-based services underlines the fact that mobile devices are now an essential business productivity tool. However, with the explosive increase in memory and computing capability and the sensitive transactions going through them, mobile devices make for very attractive targets. The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) trend will further complicate the security

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scenario as IT managers are increasingly tasked with ensuring a consistent experience that encompasses both productivity and protection, regardless of the device and operating system.

Unfortunately, many companies simply don't realize the potential of emerging threats. Some are adopting a reactive approach; content with the traditional process of "detect and patch." Despite the widespread information on the increasing number and sophistication of these threats, many businesses continue to treat mobile devices as static devices causing them to overlook significant vulnerability. Protection against cyber-attacks at the network level is critical for businesses to continue reaping the benefits of mobile broadband.

What is needed is a cultural shift to view smartphones and other mobile devices as dynamic entry points to the enterprise network as well as a mindset change to adopt a more flexible approach to mobility



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