WEEKLY BULLETIN
15-19 JANUARY 2024

Quote of the week

"When functionality is all that matters, security is often overlooked."

Content:

The Importance of Data Protection and ISO 27701 Accreditation in Albania

Albania takes a further step towards strengthening its information security infrastructure by raising awareness and promoting ISO 27701 certification, bringing together all relevant actors in a meeting. NAECCS, as an important contributor to this process, participated in one of the panels of the meeting organized by the General Directorate of Accreditation, supported by RisiAlbania, a project of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and implemented by Helvetas Albania.

ISO 27701 is a data privacy standard that builds on ISO 27001, the most widely used international standard for information security management. Certification and Standards, in addition to being a requirement of the EU, create opportunities for growth, outsource services or exports – processes that will create jobs for young people in Albania.

This activity came as a joint effort to foster a safer and more conducive environment for all stakeholders in the ecosystem. The use of ISO 27701 Standards directly affects the development of business with international standards, promoting the increase of information security and business competitiveness in the domestic and foreign markets and bringing our companies closer to the European market.

During the meeting, discussions were held with experts, who represented important actors in the Albanian market. The panelists, including Blerina Qazimin, Besa Stringën, Sokol Avxhiun, Saimir Kapllani, Alfons Muça, Nikolin Metaj and Raffaelle Regni, shared their knowledge on critical topics such as the need for accredited certifications for standards 27701, 27017 and 2701.

Military Cyber Security Unit Inauguration

A very good news in the field of cyber defense for Albania is the opening of the Cyber Attack Response Center (CCARC) at the Ministry of Defense. This center was made possible with the support of the American government and shows that we take a step further in deepening the strategic partnership, deepening cooperation in increasing security in information systems.

The new center will play a key role in responding to cyberattacks against IT infrastructure in the field of defense and will serve to increase the level of cyber security in the country.
NAECCS, as the Authority responsible for civil information infrastructures, is in continuous cooperation with the Ministry of Defense within the framework of increasing the level of cyber security in Albania.

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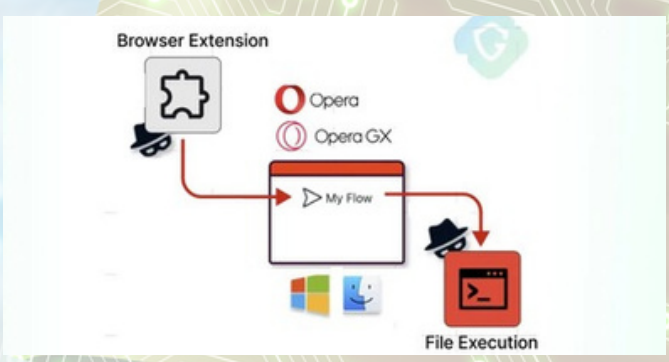
Over 178 firewalls vulnerable to DoS attacks

Security researchers have discovered that more than 178,000 SonicWall next-generation firewalls (NGFW) are vulnerable to denial-of-service (DoS) attacks and possible remote code execution (RCE) attacks.

Administrators are advised to ensure that the SonicWall appliance management interface is not exposed online and to upgrade to the latest firmware versions as soon as possible.

Read more

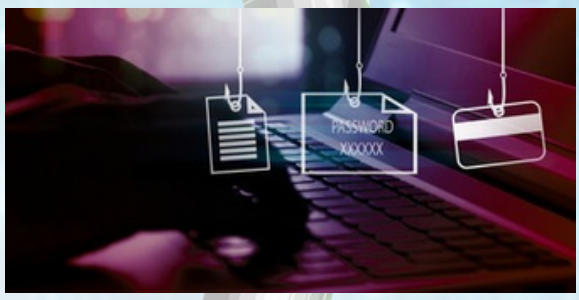


A vulnerability in the Opera browser could allow hackers to execute any file on Mac or Windows systems

Cybersecurity researchers have discovered a security vulnerability identified as "MyFlaw" in the Opera web browser, which can be exploited to execute any file in the operating system.

This vulnerability, which was discovered by the *Guardio Labs* research team, makes it possible to synchronize messages and files between mobile devices and desktops.
Opera has announced that it acted quickly to fix this vulnerability and that it is taking steps to prevent such issues from happening again.

Read more



LockBit Ransomware adds two new victims to the Dark Web

GThe LockBit ransomware group has added two new victims to its list - Maisons de l'Avenir in France and Shinwa Co in Japan. The threat actors have given a strict deadline for their demands, set at February 4, 2024.

If the Maisons de l'Avenir cyberattack and Shinwa Co cyberattack claims are validated, the implications of this could extend far beyond the immediate disruption.
As of now, there has been no official statement or response from the targeted companies, leaving the situation shrouded in uncertainty.

Read more

PATCHING ALERT

Google - patching alert

Google has released updates to fix 4 security vulnerabilities in its Chrome browser, including an actively exploited zero-day vulnerability.

Users are recommended to upgrade to version 120.0.6099.224/225 of Chrome for Windows, 120.0.6099.234 for macOS, and 120.0.6099.224 for Linux to mitigate potential threats.

Read more

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