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Risks associated with watching online live broadcasts in office Fortinet preaches Olympics security policies

Online live broadcasts of the Olympics are prevalent. In Hong Kong, Cable TV also offers such channels. However watching the Olympics online in office may impact on work performance and incur losses.

High-level risks associated with the worldwide mega event

Fortinet the security vendor is concerned about enterprise security threats posed by the Olympics. Chris Simmons, Senior Product Marketing Manager, Fortinet said the Olympics create spikes in Internet traffic, and with the increased amount of media online for this year's Olympic Games, corporate networks will likely be put to the test. The increased traffic and interest in the games also builds the perfect storm for hackers and cybercriminals to do their bidding. As employees get emotionally caught up in the Olympics games and results, they might inadvertently let their guard down against network security threats.

Simmons added that even a simple search engine query for sites to watch the games in action might lead to a compromising situation, as the number of sites containing malware will likely spike. The result is that employees could be unwittingly drawn to phishing sites or a compromised site that might download malware into the enterprise network.

Flexible enforcement of web filtering

How to prevent employees watching Olympics videos and news in the workplace? To combat these potential threat occurrences, Fortinet encourages a multi-threat solution:

1. Adopt Web filtering technology, to offer a limited and controlled access for employees looking to view streaming Olympics sites.

2. Update or strengthen security devices to combat threats such as malware and intrusions.
3. Provide additional defenses during peak times so as to protect critical assets.
4. Identify and remove malicious payloads and exploit attempts before reaching the end-user's computer.

Simmons suggested enterprises to instill clear policies on Internet usage to ensure that employees are aware and understand the guidelines and consequences of not observing these policies. To ensure compliance, enterprises using filtering tools to control Web site access should inform their employees what types of sites will be blocked. Enterprises can also make use of time-based filters to allow access during non-working hours, such as before and after work and during lunch hours. Alternatively, offer access to the games in common areas, such as staff lounge or break room areas.

Stringent policies have negative repercussions

Simmons said challenges lie in evaluating employees' emotions. Difficulties often arise when policies come across as "draconian filtering practices" rather than a less aggressive, "goodwill" approach, so a good communication process is very important. Users tend to find workarounds when companies adopt an autocratic approach. This situation can be circumvented by offering employees limited access, so they can enjoy the games without impacting their work.

Fortinet strongly recommends security mechanisms, including antispam, antivirus, intrusion prevention, and Web filtering systems to be deployed for enterprise security. Operating system patching is also a must. With products to protect their mission-critical infrastructure from a wide range of attacks, enterprises can minimize business downtimes, reduce the complexity of security infrastructure, enjoy multi-threat protection without degrading network performance. Fortinet enables customers to save time and money for other investments.

Caption 1: Chris Simmons, Senior Product Marketing Manager, Fortinet pointed out that by implementing flexible web filtering, enterprises allow employees to savour the fun of the Olympics without impeding work performance.

Caption 2: The FortiGate series offer real-time anti-spam, antivirus, IPS and web filtering functions.

辦公室看網上直播危機四伏 Fortinet 授奧運保安政策

網上直播奧運全面普及，全球各大電視及新聞網站均提供直播比賽實況，搶先向網民公布賽事成績。香港有線電視也提供兩個網上直播頻道，方便市民透過電腦收看。可是當大家熱烈投入奧運盛況時，在辦公室內上網時刻留意奧運消息，會影響工作表現，甚至令公司蒙受損失。



Fortinet 高級產品市場經理 Chris Simmons 指出，辦公室內彈性實施網站過濾功能，在不妨礙工作的情况下，讓員工享受奧運樂趣。



網上直播北京奧運全球普及，世界各地的電視及新聞網站如 NBC 等也免費提供網上直播。

全球盛事網絡高危

經營企業防火牆的網絡保安公司 Fortinet 關注奧運對企業網絡安全的威脅。據該公司高級產品市場經理 Chris Simmons 指出，奧運會在互聯網上創造巨大交通流量，特別是大量線上直播網站出現，對企業網絡會受到考驗。網絡交通流量大增引起市民廣泛興趣，也使奧運會裝束黑客注意，成為高科技罪案的溫床。而員工對奧運會的熱情，對喜好項目與成績的關注，容易對網絡保安掉以輕心。

他舉例指出，員工簡單地在搜索引擎上找直播或新聞網站觀看賽事內容，往往引起嚴重後果。由於大量網址充斥惡意軟件，員工可能被引導至誤中網絡釣魚詐騙或是在收看節目過程中下載了惡意軟件，從而打破企業網絡上的保安屏障。

彈性實施過濾內容

究竟如何防止員工在辦公室內收看網上奧運視像及新聞？Simmons 表示，Fortinet 鼓勵採用多重防範方案杜絕在網絡入侵。第一，實施網上過濾技術，限制與控制員工上網功能，禁止收看串流直播；第二，企業必需更新或加強保安軟件，掃除來自惡意軟件及網絡入侵等多重威脅；第三，在繁忙時間提升額外的保安防禦，保障關鍵業務；第四，透過認證技術、移除惡意收費下載及阻隔攻擊嘗試等，阻截針對終端電腦的保安漏洞。

在執行上述政策時，有甚麼地方要留意？Simmons 指出，網上安全政策除了技術限制外，也要加入人性化考慮。在奧運期間建立明確的網上應用安全政策，確保員工了解安全指引及相關結果。為了確保大家遵從政策，企業應採用過濾工具來控制瀏覽

網站類別，也應通知員工哪一類網站會被阻隔，禁止進入非工作相關的網址。同時，也可以實施時效性的過濾守則，准許員工在非工作時間例如工作前後或午膳期間，上網收看奧運內容。甚至讓員工在休息室或茶水部等公眾地方上網收看奧運消息。

管制過嚴惹反效果

Simmons 也認為，過程中最大困難是評估員工感受，因「過於嚴格」多於「好意取向」，容易引起員工強烈不滿。在推行過程中配合良好的溝通非常重要。事實上，每當公司實施高壓政策時，反會激起員工刻意尋找工作範圍內的特別渠道。因此，建立奧運保安政策的大前提是不要妨礙工作的情况下，讓員工享受奧運賽事的樂趣。

Fortinet 對於奧運會期間的網絡保安事宜，推薦一系列保安基建，如反垃圾電郵、防毒軟件、入侵防護及網絡過濾系統等。Simmons 強調，由於黑客會不斷提升網絡入侵及攻擊技術，企業經營系統也要同步提升，防患未然。加入新產品保護企業關鍵任務，阻斷廣泛攻擊，減低業務中斷的可能。該公司致力減低保安基建的複雜性，在不影響網絡表現下，提供多重保護及提升生產力。讓客戶節省更多時間與金錢，用作其他方面的投資。□

撰文：文輝



FortiGate 企業防火牆系列，在網絡邊界提供實時的反垃圾電郵、防毒軟件、入侵防護及網絡過濾功能。