

# CyberSAFE

Security Awareness For Everyone

Vol. 9

## Message from the CEO



Best Regards,

Husin Jazri, CISSP

As we embrace 2010, a new year, and the dawn of a new decade, we can no longer ignore our dependence on the internet - in both our professional and personal lives. The internet let us live in an amazing virtual world we fondly call 'cyberspace' or 'cyberworld'. Sometimes the cyberworld feels like a fantasy world where everything seems possible. So much so that we tend to forget that this amazing fantasy-like cyberworld actually comes with the usual real-world nuisance called 'security threat'.

2010 is also the Innovation Year for Malaysia. Our Prime Minister launched Malaysia Inovatif 2010, a year long programme led by the Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (MOSTI). As an agency under MOSTI, CyberSecurity Malaysia will be actively involved in promoting Malaysia Inovatif 2010. We are also looking at innovative ways in delivering CyberSAFE.

For a start, we will be leading the celebration of SAFER INTERNET DAY in Malaysia this February. In Europe, SAFER INTERNET DAY is celebrated on 9th February every year. We thought it is a good way to remind ourselves of internet safety issues in the internet. We have lined up a number of innovative and exciting activities that you could participate in and celebrate SAFER INTERNET DAY 2010 (SID2010). You can find more information about SID2010 in this cybersafe.my portal. Do enjoy reading our latest issue of the CyberSAFE Newsletter.

Wishing you an Innovative 2010 & a prosperous Gong Xi Fa Cai! Be Smart, Be Safe!

## CyberSafety Tips

### Safe Practice on Social Networking Sites

Author: Sharifah Roziah Binti Mohd Kassim, GSEC, GCIH, ISO 27001 Lead Auditor

#### Introduction:

Social networking websites are referred as any website that allows Internet users to create their own public profiles within the selected website and consequently form relationships or networks with other users of the same website. They are similar to online communities that are created for internet users to share common interests like hobbies, religion or politics. Some of the popular social networking sites are Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Friendster, Tagged and Bebo.

Due to increasing number of threats on social networking sites such as impersonation, cyberstalking, cyberbullying, social engineering, spreading of malicious code and data theft, it is extremely important for users of these sites to be extra careful. Some of the below can be practiced by Internet users when getting on social networking sites to prevent and minimise potential risks related to the uses of the sites.

#### Safe Practices:

a) Do not expose too much information about yourself. You must AVOID exposing too much information about yourself such as your home address, your mobile number, your daily routines or activities. The more information you expose about yourself on the net, the more vulnerable you are to online predators.

b) Do not divulge sensitive or personal information about yourself to unknown person such as your bank account information, credit card number, your identity card number and your passport number as these information can be misused by them for fraudulent activities on the net.

c) Restrict access to your page/profile. Consider limiting access to your profile for people you do not know and do not allow them to contact you on these sites. However, you may allow access to your profile for people that are known to you or that you trust such as family members and trusted friends.

d) Be extra careful of people who you interact with on social networking sites as some people may not be truthful with their

identities and may very well have bad intentions towards you. Verify any information or details about strangers you would want to interact with.

e) Always check your settings and take advantage of a site's privacy settings. The default settings for some sites may allow anyone to see your profile. You can customize your settings to restrict access to only certain people. However, there is a risk that even this private information could be exposed, so don't post anything private and confidential that you wouldn't want the public to see or know about. Also, be cautious when deciding which online applications to install on your account and check your settings to see what information these applications will be able to access. One way to do this is by trying to access your profile using a different account and check if your new setting really work or otherwise.

f) Make use of access codes. Some social networking sites require you to login or provide an access code before you can edit information on their site. This actually prevents unauthorized users from adding, changing, or removing personal information, pictures or other data.





g) You must use a strong password with a combination of alphabets, numbers and characters to protect your account from being compromised. If your account does get compromised, someone else can misuse your account to impersonate and start harassing you. You must also take good care of your password by not sharing it with others or leave your written password lying around.

h) You must make sure that your PC is always running an updated version of an Anti-virus software to detect and remove any malware that can be found on your PC. Attackers can take advantage of social networking sites to distribute malicious code. Attackers may also create customized applications on these sites that appear to be innocent while infecting your computer without your knowledge.

i) Avoid using unsecured PCs such as those at Cybercafes or public libraries to log in and access your social networking websites as the unsecured computers could have been installed with malware such as backdoor or keylogger Trojans.

j) Be extra cautious when posting your photos on social networking sites as these photos can be altered or edited to misrepresent you and later broadcasted to the whole wide world via the net.

k) Report to relevant parties if you are threatened or harassed by any parties on social networking sites. You may report to a nearby police station or to your Internet Service Provider providing them as much details/evidence possible. You may also report to our helpline, Cyber999 as per the details below:

E-mail : mycert@mycert.org.my  
Phone : +603 89926969 or 1-300-88-2999  
(monitored during business hours)  
Fax : +603 89453442  
Handphone : +6019 2665850  
(24x7 call incident reporting)  
SMS : CYBER999 REPORT <EMAIL> <COMPLAINT>  
to 15888

Web : <http://www.mycert.org.my>

#### Conclusion:

The social networking sites are indeed the latest trends that are adopted by most of Net users. However, users are advised to take precautionary steps and be aware of what they expose about themselves on those sites, especially since search engines like Google and Bing are now capable of performing deep searches of these networking sites.

#### Reference:

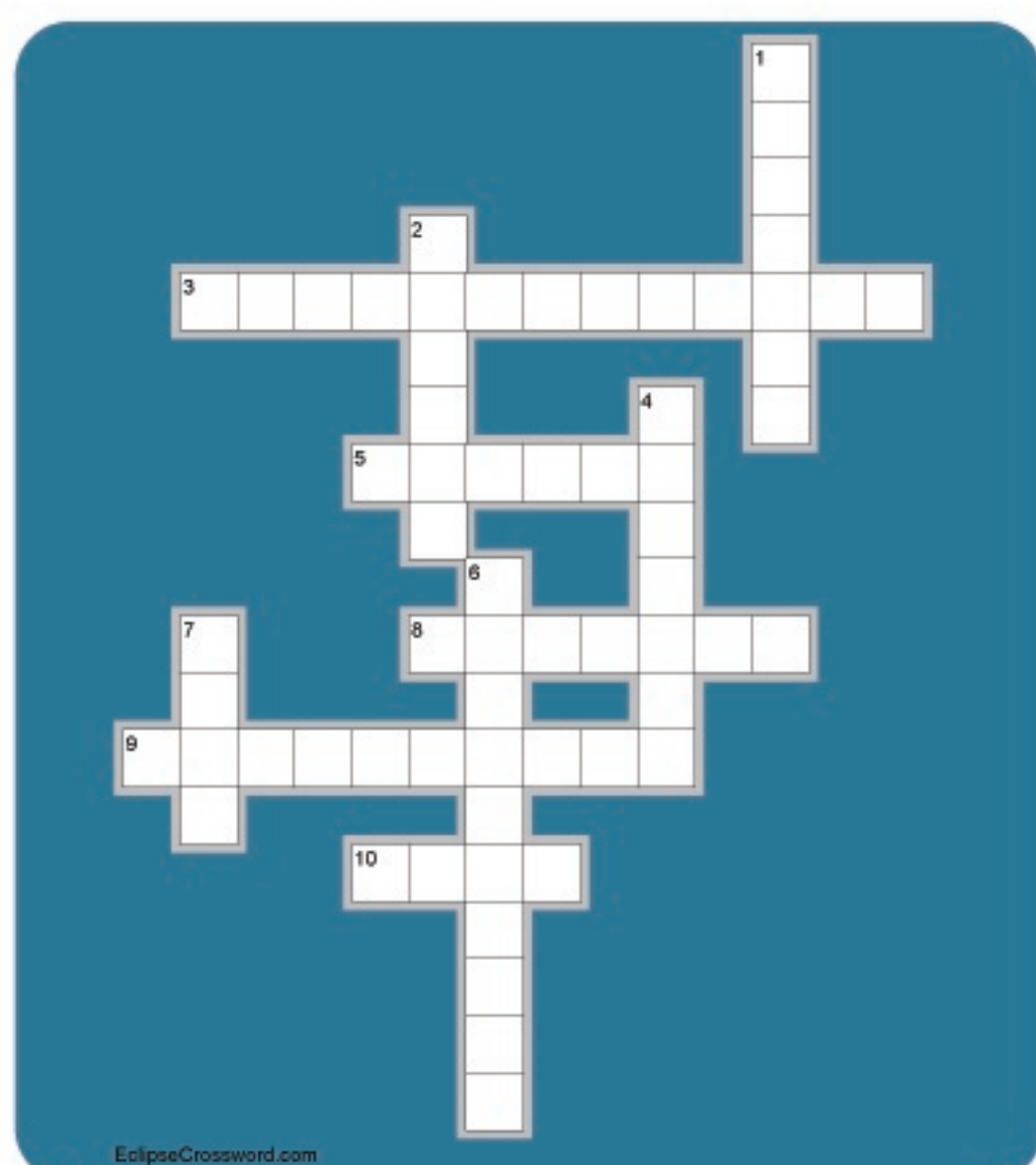
<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST06-003.html>  
<http://www.microsoft.com/protect/parents/social/kidssocial.aspx>  
<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec14.shtm>  
<http://www.nirmaltv.com/2009/12/22/3-essential-tips-for-safeguarding-your-facebook-privacy/>  
<http://social-media-optimization.com/2009/02/top-twenty-five-social->



## Cyber Quote

The good news about computers is that they do what you tell them to do. The bad news is that they do what you tell them to do.  
*Ted Nelson*

## Cyber Crossword



#### Across

3. Most popular image editing software programs
5. Compiler more objects into a single executable program
8. Software.....is a domain dependend of development and programming
9. Controls and coordinates distributed sytems.
10. Physical / emotional injury to someone

#### Down

1. Sending short messages via cell phone
2. A file that records user information when visiting a website.
4. A user created web page on a social networking website
6. Social.....refers to any website that allows users to create public profile.
7. The transmission of voice over an internet connection

Note: The answers will be provided in the next issue



## Confession of Internet Junkie...

(Based on a true experience, as told by Moon (not real name) to Nor Radziah Jusoh)

It started way back in 2002 or 2003 when, Moon's previous employer decided to provide internet access to all their staff. Initially, she surfed the internet mainly to gain knowledge and skills related to her work. The internet opened up a whole new fascinating world to her as she can virtually go to places that she has never been to before and allows her to talk to people who are complete strangers, thousands of kilometers away. Everyday, Moon would look forward to surfing and chatting online. Eventually, she started using the internet as one of her stress-therapy tools, especially when she is having problems dealing with her mood swings and escaping the boredom of her workplace.

Not long after that, Moon found a group of Malaysians who shared the same interest in entertainment as her. That particular moment triggered her newly found enthusiasm in forums. Moon soon shared her interest and fandom towards the entertainment world with her virtual friends especially her interest in TV soap dramas and songs from Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Apart from the things that they shared online, Moon knew very little of her virtual friends and she, in turn did not reveal about how she is in real life. Moon became very fascinated with this new experience that forums was providing her that she eventually became hooked on it and decided to have her own internet access in 2005. It was then that she quickly learned how to download TV dramas, movies and songs from the web and became seriously addicted to these kinds of online activities. She gradually started to neglect spending time with her family and was always squabbling with her sisters if they used her laptop to surf the internet. Consequently, things got worse when she ignored her need for sleep to satisfy her addiction to these online activities. It would seem as though she was spending the most part of her life online.

As if forums were not enough to satisfy her socializing needs, she started to get herself into blogging. She found that blogs provided a medium for her to share anything without having any conflicts with her real personality. Moon was using blogs to attract more and more people from all over the world who share same interest in the Japanese and Korean entertainment scene. Eventually, Moon became bored with the provocative aspects of forums and blogs and decided she has had enough of it.

Ever curious with the behavior of people in cyberspace, Moon started to form a new interest in psychology. She enrolled herself in a post graduate course in Psychology which required her to spend half of her 24 hours in completing assignments and doing a little bit of research. Despite her hectic and busy schedule, she still tried to find ways of squeezing her time to fulfill her internet addiction. The vicious circle starts again as Moon began to sacrifice her sleep and consequently affecting her performance at work. At one point, her addiction has reached to such chronic level that she was getting headaches and fell frequently sick due to insufficient rest.

As a result of her frequent medical visits, the doctor strongly advised her to slow down her online activities. The very same advice was also given by her supervisor because she noticed that the quality of her work was rapidly deteriorating. Moon realized then that her priority was supposed to be her studies and her work and not on social networking. She knew that she needed to put some limit on her online activities and decided that she would focus on her priorities instead.

Moon completed her studies in 2008 and this has left her with a lot of free time. She was looking for a new way to

reconnect with her old acquaintances and through an advertisement of a local telephone service provider, she got to know about Facebook. She became instantly attracted to the layout and the ease of using it. Every time any of her friends commented on or updated their status, she would get quite excited. What attracted her most to Facebook was the ability to share photos with her friends and finding new friends. Unconsciously, her nightmare is coming back to haunt her again when she realized Facebook is not only about social networking, but also about fun and challenging stuff that applications such as various games and quizzes provided. Maybe it is true when people say, "Once an addict, forever an addict." Moon could no longer deny the fact that she has become addicted to Facebook.

She was getting more and more absorbed into Facebook applications such as Farmville, World Café, Happy Farm, Sorority Life and many others. She simply couldn't stop herself from trying to reach another new level in each of these games and found herself spending a lot more of her limited time to satisfy her online needs. Since she was unable to access these games at work, she would then leave her office early just to ensure that she reaches home as fast as she could. Once home, she'd get online and have her dinner while watching television at the same time. This routine continued over a long period of time until one day she suddenly bored with the games. Luckily for her, this time she got tired of it all before it really started to cause her harm. Currently, she is still quite active in Social Networking Sites (SNS) but are now only limiting herself to Facebook and Livejournal.

Social networking sites provide an excellent platform to strengthen relationships within families and friends. However, learned from Moon's experience, some basic safety and security precautions are a must. "Don't get hooked on to SNS or you will eventually become a virtual social butterfly, and end up being addicted to it" is her personal advice to others. While it is ok to add people that you know or trust but it is always wise to never put 100% trust in them.

*See page 04*

### Greetings from the Editor's Desk!

The year 2009 has gone and we are already well into 2010. We have had a fruitful year and are definitely looking at making 2010 an even better year for CyberSAFE. We have some great stuff planned for this year and we hope that you readers will join us and be part of our activities!

During our activities for the past few months, we find that it is more difficult to find people who do not have an account with at least one Social Networking sites (SNS). We also found out that most do not know how to protect themselves when using these online applications. In this issue, the main categories have remained the same but in terms of focus, we are delving a bit more on SNS and how to use them safely.

Other than that, our team has done a lot of work to our CyberSAFE portal ([www.cybersafe.my](http://www.cybersafe.my)) and we now have our own Facebook Page (CyberSAFE Malaysia). Do browse our portal and become our Facebook friend to get the latest updates on CyberSAFE events and activities. You would also get the latest tips and tricks for a safer online experience.

Remember what Nic & Pxl always say... "Be Smart. Be Safe"

#### Produced, Design & Layout:

CyberSecurity Malaysia (726630-U)

Level 8, Block A, Mines Waterfront Business Park, No 3 Jalan Tasik, The Mines Resort City, 43300 Seri Kembangan, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.

#### Printed by:

Mei Design, 22 Lorong Enggang 19, Taman Keramat, 54200 Kuala Lumpur.  
Phone Tel: 03 88811940 Mobile: 019 3977 577



Some photos should be restricted 'for friends only' and some should just be kept to yourself or deleted completely especially those who can cause embarrassment or could put you in a compromised situation.

In other words, common sense needs to be applied when interacting with other people both in the real life as well as in virtual world because we live in communities of differing cultures and values. And as only good doctor would say, "Precaution is better than cure"...agree?



#### Footnote:

1.Fandom is expressed individually (ex. a fan surfing the Web for sites about their favourite celebrity) and/or collectively (ex. a sporting event or concert). (www.urbandictionary.com)

2.Social Butterfly refers to a sociable person who flies from one social event or social networking site to another. (www.macmillandictionary.com)

3.Social Networking sites are web-based services that allow individuals to (1) construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system, (2) articulate a list of other users with whom they share a connection, and (3) view and traverse their list of connections and those made by others within the system. (Boyd, d. m., & Ellison, N. B. (2007). Social network sites: Definition, history, and scholarship. Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, 13(1), article 11.)

## Cyber Quiz

1. When you should do your data backup?
  - a. Whenever there is any changes on my computer/data
  - b. Never, as my computer never crash
  - c. Never, as my computer has antivirus software installed
2. A firewall can
  - a. filter and block unauthorized access/transaction while permitting authorized access/transaction.
  - b. change your password
  - c. format your hard disk
3. How often you should change your password?
  - a. Never, as I always forget new password
  - b. Every 6 months, or whenever my password has been disclosed
  - c. Every 10 years
4. Which of the following is NOT a good practice when opening email attachment?
  - a. Open email attachment from unknown sender
  - b. Scan email attachment with antivirus software
  - c. Check with sender prior to opening email attachment
5. Information security is the preservation of
  - a. confidentiality, integrity and availability
  - b. virus, password and Trojan Horse
  - c. Internet, worm, spyware

## Contact Cyber999 if you have problems online!



If someone makes you feel uncomfortable (harass or make threatening comments)

or if you face some issues (identity theft, Internet scam) while online, seek assistance from Cyber999.

Cyber999 is a service offered by MyCERT (Malaysian Computer Emergency Response Team) to handle security incidents faced by Internet users. This service is provided free and your information submitted will be treated with strict confidentiality.

### Cyber999 Contact Details:

Online	: <a href="http://www.mycert.org.my/cyber999">http://www.mycert.org.my/cyber999</a>
Telephone	: (03) 8992 6969
Mobile Phone (24 hrs)	: (019) 266 5850
SMS	: (019) 281 3801
Email	: <a href="mailto:cyber999@cybersecurity.my">cyber999@cybersecurity.my</a>
Fax	: (03) 8945 3442
Print online form	: <a href="http://www.mycert.org.my/report_incidents/online_form.html">www.mycert.org.my/report_incidents/online_form.html</a>



## Cyber Resources & Reporting



Security Awareness Portal - [www.cyberSAFE.my](http://www.cyberSAFE.my)

[www.cyberSAFE.my](http://www.cyberSAFE.my) is a portal developed by Cybersecurity Malaysia to educate computer users on various cyber threats and to provide tips and best practices for them to be safer online.

The content of this portal is contributed by local and international organisations and security experts. The website is targeted at three target audiences, namely kids and teenagers, parents and adults, and organisations.

The website covers many tips for creating strong passwords, safe chatting, handling spam emails, safe online banking and more. The website is also populated with awareness materials and information such as video, posters, newsletters and more. The website is regularly updated with new safety tips for computer users and organisations.