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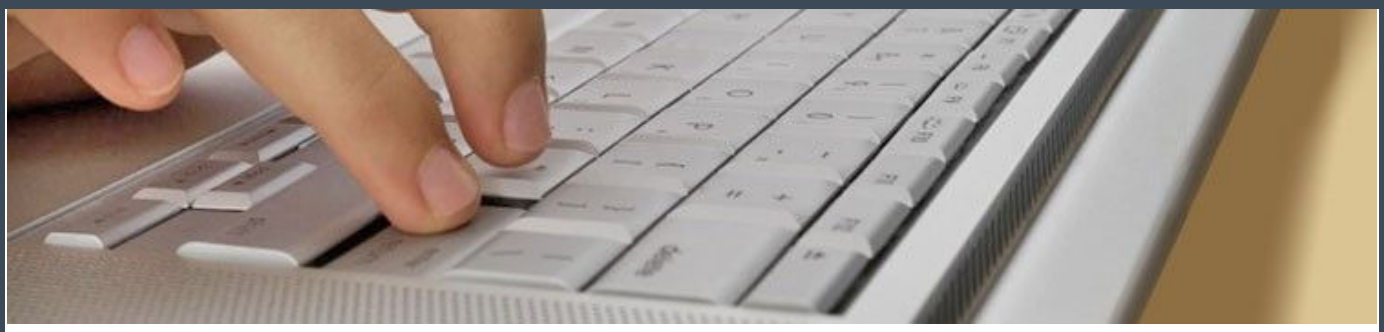

The KIT

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Remote Collaboration and Security Risks

During the Cyber Security and Cloud Expo held on March 17-18, Andrew Tsonchev of DarkTrace made an interesting (and concerning) point about the security impact of moving from an office environment to remote collaboration. Since the pandemic caused a massive shift to working from home, Microsoft365 has added 58 million users, Zoom grew from 10 million to 200 million accounts, GSuite from Google went up 20%, the number of daily users of MS Teams increased by 270%, etc.

Many of these tools are used on personal laptops, tablets and smartphones, which corporate security did not configure and does not control. The exfiltration of proprietary data (either intentionally by the user or by attackers armed with stolen credentials) has become much more likely, and cannot always be detected since the

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breach does not originate from within the company perimeter but in the cloud.

Using AI to detect abnormal traffic (e.g., is someone copying an entire database that they normally would not need?) is a potential solution. And yet, "less than 1/3 of businesses are monitoring abnormal workforce behavior across their cloud footprint." You can find more information here about the strategy (and products, of course...) recommended by DarkTrace.

AI at the Edge

Topio Networks, a technology and market watch company that provides a lot of free information in addition to paid consulting, has partnered with ONE Tech to launch a series of free whitepapers. One of them is about Edge AI -- the placement of AI and machine learning capabilities closer to IoT devices in order to apply those capabilities in real time and when network reliability, latency or cost do not permit a cloud-based AI solution.
"Edge AI calls for standardized solutions with the sufficient efficiency, performance and reliability to support a growing range of use cases. Topio forecasts that the global Edge AI hardware and software market will increase from $720M in 2020 with a 25% cumulative annual growth rate (CAGR) to reach $2.2B in 2025." You can access the whitepaper on the free Topio Networks Market Intelligence Center.

Data Governance Meetup

A new Meetup group devoted to data governance has been launched, based in the San Francisco Bay Area. It has already scheduled a number of presentations and discussions, including data ingestion (April 20), data governance best practices in pharma (April 21), and data problems in finance (April 27). Since meetings are virtual right now, the group's "home location" doesn't matter and the schedule works well for participants in the Americas and EMEA.

The Challenge of Identifying Software Components

Efforts to document the pedigree of software, in order to trace vulnerabilities that may be propagated along the software supply chain, are impeded by the fact that software components do not have "universal product codes" (UPC) or other form of standard identification. The granularity of code is part of the problem: a vulnerability could arise from a single line of code being copied and pasted from an online source repository to a software product. A new report, Software Identity: Challenges and Guidance, produced by a working group under the auspices of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, "reviews the challenges of identifying software components for SBOM (Software Bill of Materials) implementation with sufficient discoverability and uniqueness. It offers guidance to functionally identify software components in the short term and converge multiple existing identification systems in the near future."

Case Management Modeling

While the Business Process Model and Notation (BPMN) is a well-known standard that is quite suited to predictable business processes -- where the sequence of activities is predefined -- there are entire domain in which activities are dictated by unforeseen external events. This includes medical treatment, emergency operations, military campaigns, cybersecurity, and more. The Case Management Model and Notation (CMMN) is the lesser-known standard that addresses these types of situations.

Bruce Silver's article, CMMN Notation and Style - Part 1, is a very well-written and useful introduction to the need for case management models and the principles of CMMN. The author works for Trisotech, a software tools and consulting company based in Canada, which has created a family of tools that allow users to combine BPMN, CMMN, and the Decision Modeling Notation (DMN) to provide comprehensive coverage of an enterprise activity modeling needs.

Seen Recently...

"If you are concerned that DMX and Hank Aaron died within days of receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, then you will be terrified to learn that 95% of people killed in car crashes ate lettuce in the preceding week."

-- Dr. Joe McCreight (Austin, TX) in a Facebook post that is probably the funniest explanation we've read of the difference between correlation and causation