Threats of Russian Cyber Attacks Escalating

With world tensions increasing as the war in Ukraine continues, many eyes are shifting to the cyber threat posed by Russia. On Monday, U.S. President Joe Biden issued an urgent warning to American business leaders, telling them to strengthen their companies' cyber defenses immediately. (Read the full statement here)

With specific warnings and classified briefings aimed at businesses in critical infrastructure sectors coming almost daily, it is clear that reliable intelligence and indicators of Russian preparation for cyber attacks are being detected.

Understanding that Russia has sophisticated cyber offensive capabilities, an attack is likely to include methods that have never been seen before. Referred to as "zero day" exploits, these offensive mechanisms may be completely invisible to existing antivirus and intrusion detection systems that rely heavily on identifying current threats based on previous methods of operation.

While preparing for the unknown can be difficult, there are several recommendations that can help you harden defenses and better withstand a cyber attack. These include:

- **Planning Ahead** - Create / update Incident Response, Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity plans.

- **Increase Testing Frequency -** Risk assessments and penetration tests can help detect security gaps before they are exploited by an attacker.

- **Remediate & Mitigate** - Fixing flaws found by cyber security testing and ensuring critical systems are up to date on patches can help stop malware and data loss.

- **Training for Security** - Human vulnerabilities are a leading cause of cyber intrusions and security failures. Comprehensive cyber security training must be required for all personnel.

- **Test Your Recovery Capabilities** - Offline backups of critical data and systems is a key component of every disaster recovery plan. Repeated restoration drills ensure that recovery is possible and personnel are familiar with the necessary steps.

- **Get Help** - Cyber security threats are evolving rapidly. Properly securing your critical assets is not a DIY project. Get expert assistance from experienced cyber security professionals.

Need Help Securing Your Digital Infrastructure?
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