



Cybersecurity and Legal Practice

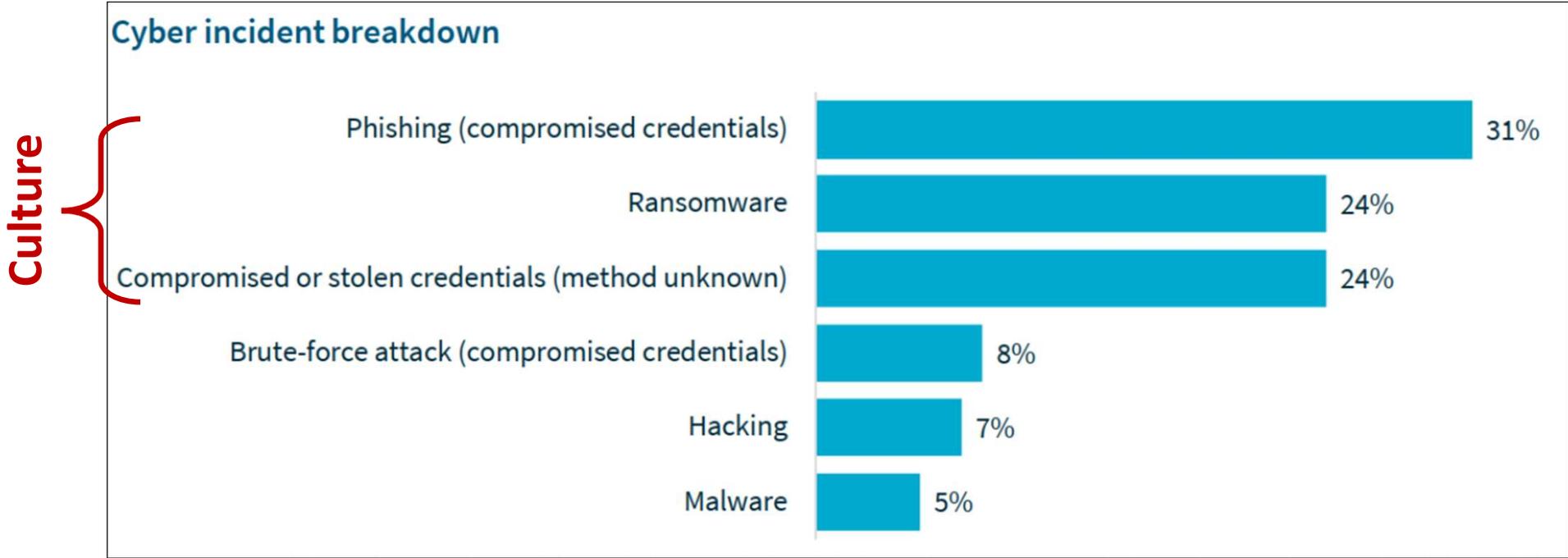


How to Improve Cybersecurity?

Culture

(and some tech stuff too)

Cybersecurity Incidents



Cybersecurity and Culture

Individuals remain a significant threat to the strength of an entity's privacy practices. Entities need to mitigate the potential for individuals to intentionally or inadvertently contribute to the occurrence of data breaches. (emphasis added)

Notifiable Data Breaches Report January to June 2024, 10

The best defence...is training and awareness for your employees, including how to identify scams or phishing attempts. Ensure your staff know to always be cautious of emails... (emphasis added)

Australian Cyber Security Centre, Email Attacks Prevention Guide (April 2023), 7

OAIC is Taking a Firmer Stance

It is **expected** that entities will have appropriate and proactive measures in place to mitigate cyber threats and protect the personal information they hold. (emphasis added)

Notifiable Data Breaches Report January to June 2024, 10

Culture and Impact

Mobius Group Pty Ltd v Inoteq Pty Ltd [2024] WADC 114

- Business email compromise (BEC) case
- Mobius issued invoices for services received
- Mobius' director's email account was compromised.
- Attacker sent fake bank details.
- Inoteq paid ~\$200,000 to fake bank account.

More on *Mobius*

I accept the plaintiff's submission that the defendant was better placed to take precautions to protect itself from the fraud than the plaintiff. [151]

[E]ven if a company such as the plaintiff takes all the recommended safety measures, its email account could still be hacked into. What that means is that ultimately **only the defendant was in a position to be able to take measures to stop itself** from being the victim of a fraud. [153] (emphasis added)

This case is a salutary reminder for those paying money to ensure the veracity of any banking details provided. [158]

LSSA Cybersecurity Survey 2024

- **47%** of respondents do not have any form of multi factor authentication enabled.
- **23%** of respondents do not maintain an offline backup of files away from their internal network or within the cloud.
- **47%** of respondents have not undertaken an IT security audit within the last two years.
- **58%** of respondents retain emails within their email inbox for longer than 24 months or do not delete them at all.
- **31%** of respondents do not train their staff to identify phishing or social engineering attacks.

What the Law Society Has to Say

It is **necessary** that practitioners educate themselves in cybersecurity due to the reliance and use of technology in the legal sector. It is vital practitioners understand how these cyber-attacks occur and how to minimise or protect themselves (or the company) against them. Failure to take appropriate steps to protect and impose proper cybersecurity practices **includes a risk of breaching your professional obligations** as a legal practitioner in South Australia (under the Australian Solicitors' Conduct Rules). (emphasis added)

Law Society of South Australia, *Cybersecurity* (Web page) <<https://www.lawsocietysa.asn.au/site/site/for-legal-practitioners/resource-hubs/cybersecurity.aspx?hkey=0770f82d-8148-433c-880b-9e6735f579c6>>.

What are those steps?

1. Multi-factor authentication (MFA)
2. Password management
3. Backups (and BCP)
4. Application software updates
5. Operating system (server, device) updates
6. Restrict administrative privileges
7. Application control
8. Application hardening
9. Restrict macros

Multi-factor authentication

Step 1
password



Step 2
proof



Step 3
access



Password:

B100dy Pa55w0rd5!

It is not possible for us to
remember passwords

Browser tabs: Hide to s, Imple, Crea, BEC sc, Googl, Occup, 2077, Essent, ACSC, Risk M, Risk M, Risk M, Cyber, Sig X

Address bar: https://docassemble.flinders.edu.au/user/sign-in

Browser bookmarks: AUD HKD, News, Social, ADL Wx, Family, Flinders, Photosucker, Flying, My Westside Folder, Flutter, My MS Bookings Link

Sign in

Sign in

Email

[Forgot your Password?](#)

- FI Flinders DA1
mark.ferraretto@flinders.edu.au
- FI Flinders DA1 admin password
admin@admin.com
- FI Flinders Docassemble DA3
ferr0182@flinders.edu.au
- FI Flinders
ferr0182

Password Managers

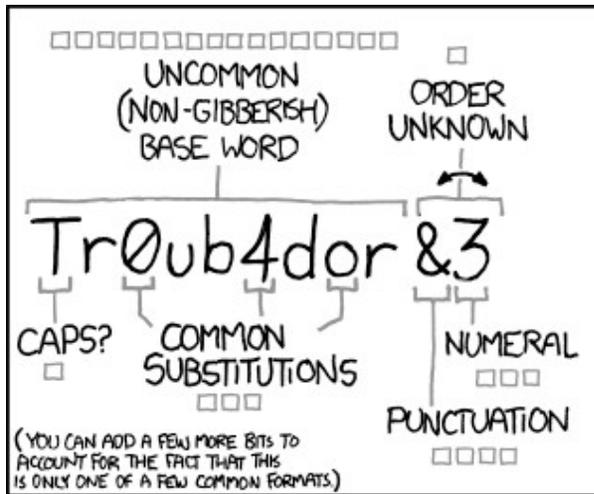
- Manage passwords for your organisation
- Hide password text
- Stronger passwords
- Reduce offboarding risks
- Reduces unauthorised transmission of passwords (via email, text etc)



How l o n g should a password be?

askleo.com/4844





~28 BITS OF ENTROPY

$2^{28} = 3 \text{ DAYS AT } 1000 \text{ GUESSES/SEC}$

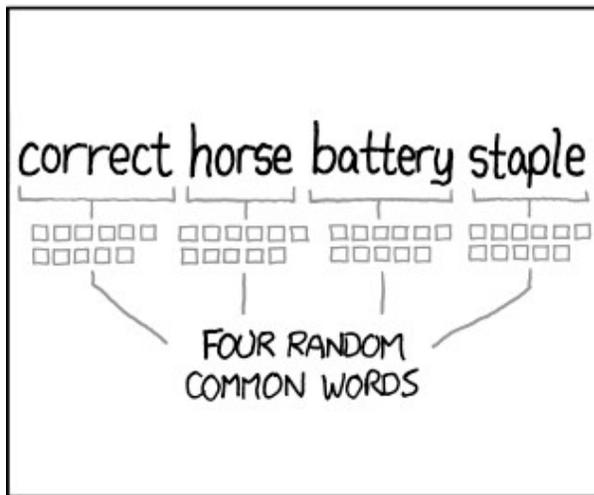
(PLAUSIBLE ATTACK ON A WEAK REMOTE WEB SERVICE. YES, CRACKING A STOLEN HASH IS FASTER, BUT IT'S NOT WHAT THE AVERAGE USER SHOULD WORRY ABOUT.)

DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: **EASY**

WAS IT TROMBONE? NO, TROUBADOR. AND ONE OF THE 0s WAS A ZERO?

AND THERE WAS SOME SYMBOL...

DIFFICULTY TO REMEMBER: **HARD**



~44 BITS OF ENTROPY

$2^{44} = 550 \text{ YEARS AT } 1000 \text{ GUESSES/SEC}$

DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: **HARD**

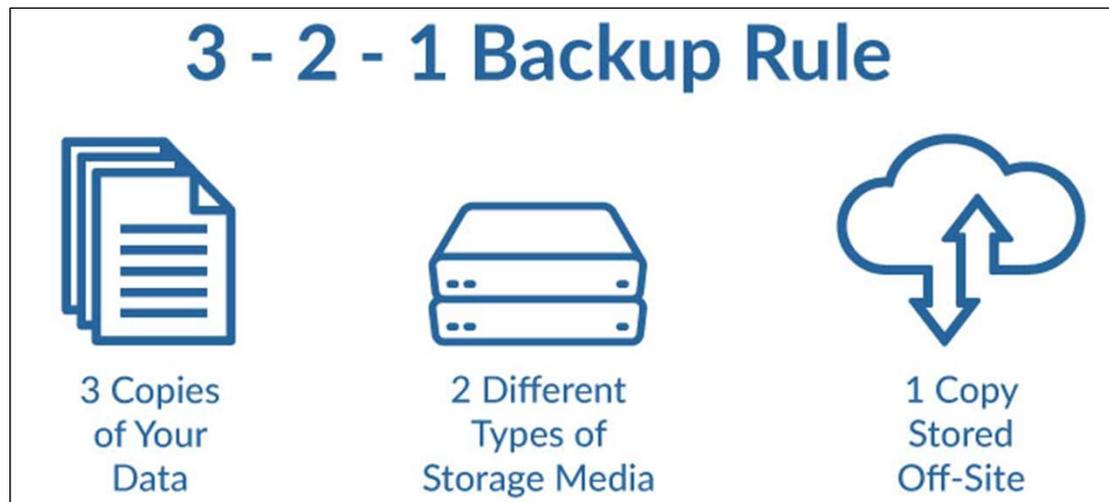
THAT'S A BATTERY STAPLE.

CORRECT!

DIFFICULTY TO REMEMBER: YOU'VE ALREADY MEMORIZED IT

THROUGH 20 YEARS OF EFFORT, WE'VE SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED EVERYONE TO USE PASSWORDS THAT ARE HARD FOR HUMANS TO REMEMBER, BUT EASY FOR COMPUTERS TO GUESS.

Backups (and BCP)



WARNING!! - DO NOT USE

- USB flash drives
- Portable USB hard drives

The Other Five

1. Multi-factor authentication (MFA)
2. Password management
3. Backups (and BCP)
4. Application software updates
5. Operating system (server, device) updates
6. Restrict administrative privileges
7. Application control
8. Application hardening
9. Restrict macros

Questions?



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