



# Security of Work From Home

Yu On Ng | Security Consultant | May 2020



# Today Agenda

## 1. Secure remote access

- a) Common remote access technologies
- b) Recommendations

## 2. Secure video conference

- a) Latest security incidents
- b) Major security threats
- c) Our advices

## 3. Other security tips

# About Us

## Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Centre (香港電腦保安事故協調中心)

### Mission:

As the **Centre for coordination** of computer security incident response for local enterprises and Internet Users, and the **International Point-of-Contact**

- Founded in 2001
- Funded by Government
- Operated by Hong Kong Productivity Council



Website: [www.hkcert.org](http://www.hkcert.org)  
24-hour Hotline: 8105 6060  
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01

Security Alert Monitoring  
and Early Warning

02

Report and Response

03

Publication of Security  
Guidelines and Information

04

Promotion of Information  
Security Awareness



# **Secure Remote Access**

# Common Technologies

## Remote Desktop Control



## Virtual Private Network



## Virtual Desktop infrastructure



## Major security risks

- Unpatched software vulnerability
- Improper setting of data encryption or poor encryption key management
- Easy guess password
- Connect via untrusted network
- Weak end point security, e.g. outdated anti-virus
- Loss or theft



# Increase in exposure During COVID-19 and also Cyber Attack

RDP brute-force attacks rocketed since beginning of COVID-19

April 30, 2020 By Pierluigi Paganini

## Shodan - Remote Desktop



The number of RDP brute-force attacks is skyrocketing in mid-March due to remote working imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Researchers from Kaspersky Lab are observing a significant increase in the number of RDP brute-force attacks since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Earlier this month, researchers from Shodan reported a 41% increase in the number of RDP endpoints exposed online, since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.





# Recommendations



A close-up photograph of a network switch or patch panel. Several blue Ethernet cables are plugged into the ports. To the left, there are four green indicator lights labeled M/S, SYS, P2, and P1. In the background, other ports and labels like LINK ACT and PON are visible. The image is slightly blurred, focusing on the text overlay.

DON'T Rush to Set Up  
Infrastructure.  
DO Adopt Secure Design  
Principles

# For Organisation

## Provide remote access security policy

- Ensure all staff fully understand the rules of using the relevant services

## Review the security configuration regularly, e.g. encryption,

- Ensure the software is updated and security configurations are tightened
- Details can refer to HKCERT [“Best Practice Guide of Remote Desktop \(for corporate administrator\)”](#)

## Review user list and the access right regularly

- Ensure each employee can only access the systems resources required for their work

## Set up log monitoring and alert mechanism

- Any abnormal logs or suspicious traffic should trigger alert and notify relevant staff immediately. Incident investigation should be conducted.

## Enable 2-Factor Authentication /Multi-factors authentication

- For all privileged and non-privileged accounts

## ■ Consider DDoS protection solution

- Protect against DDoS to ensure systems availability



# For Users

## **Install anti-virus and set up auto-update**

- Only connect to the company network from a secured device and network environment

## **Always update the remote access software to latest version, if any**

- Set up auto-update for the software and Windows

## **Enable the 2FA / MFA feature**

- And use a strong password

## **Beware of phishing and social engineering attacks**

- DO NOT provide sensitive information to unknown person or website

## **• Keep your remote access devices securely**

- Report to your company immediately for any loss and theft



# **Secure Video Conference**



# Security incidents Worldwide

March 30, 2020

## FBI Warns of Teleconferencing and Online Classroom Hijacking

As large numbers of teleconferencing and online classroom hijacking (also called "Zoom bombing") incidents have been reported, the FBI is warning of the potential for malicious actors to exploit these technologies for criminal purposes.

Within the FBI Boston field office, schools in Massachusetts have reported incidents of teleconferencing and online classroom hijacking.

- In late March, a teacher reported that a person had hijacked a teleconference and was shouting obscenities.
- A second Massachusetts school reported a similar incident, in which a person hijacked a teleconference and was shouting obscenities.

Home » Cybersecurity » Malware » Zoom Malware Can Record Meetings; Attack Simulation Shows How

## Zoom Malware Can Record Meetings; Attack Simulation Shows How

by Daniel Petrillo on April 22, 2020



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<https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/boston/news/press-releases/fbi-warns-of-teleconferencing-and-online-classroom-hijacking-during-covid-19-pandemic>

<https://www.bostonherald.com/2020/04/22/zoom-malware-can-record-meetings-attack-simulation-shows-how/>



# Rising concerns in HK as it happened in HK too...

網上授課連結外泄 被插播不雅圖 學生即時截圖放上網 校方跟進

Twitter Telegram WhatsApp Facebook 讚好 722

A+ A- + [Link Icon] [Email Icon] [Print Icon]



圖1之1 - 教師可於Zoom設定「全體參會者 (All Participants) ..... (受訪者提供)

<https://www.singpo.com/ps/eng/article/20200711/s06001/9282865891083/government-and-schools-talk-over-zoom-security>

# Zoom is not the only one has security issues

## System vulnerability

{\* SECURITY \*}

### Cisco Webex bug allowed anyone to join a password-protected meeting

Patched vuln was 'in active use', firm reveals

By Tim Anderson 27 Jan 2020 at 14:44

20 SHARE ▼

Cisco has confessed to a vulnerability in its Webex Meetings Suite sites and Webex Meetings Online sites that allowed an "unauthenticated" attendee sitting on a workstation far, far away to join a "password-protected meeting without providing the meeting password".

<https://www.digitalinformationworld.com/2020/05/it-s-not-only-zoom-google-meet-microsoft-team-and-web-ex-are-also-collecting-your-data.html>

## Privacy issue

<https://www.digitalinformationworld.com/2020/05/it-s-not-only-zoom-google-meet-microsoft-team-and-web-ex-are-also-collecting-your-data.html>

### It's Not Only Zoom! Google Meet, Microsoft Team and Web EX Are Also Collecting Your Data

Daniyal Malik Sunday, May 3, 2020

## Cyber attack

≡ **threatpost** Cloud Security / Malware / Vulnerabilities / Waterfall Security Spotlight / Po

← [TrickBot Attack Exploits COVID-19 Fears with DocuSign-Themed Ploy](#)

News Wrap: Microsc

### Microsoft Teams Impersonation Attacks Flood Inboxes

<https://threatpost.com/microsoft-teams-impersonation-attacks/155404/>

# In terms of security, how to choose the VC software?

## ■ Conduct risk assessment

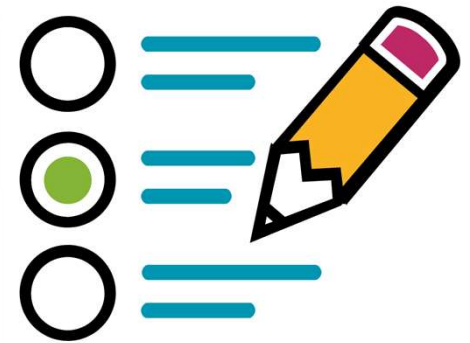
- Data classification, e.g. has confidential information ?
- Understand the threats and root causes. In general 2 types
  - Vulnerability
  - Mis-configuration

## ■ Mitigate the risks

- Choose the one with good track record in patching security loopholes, and regular update
- Set up security controls, e.g. administrative, preventive and corrective

## ■ Perform testing

- Ensure the controls work as expected







# 3 Major Security Threats

Image credit: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/69-indian-firms-face-serious-cyber-attack-risk-study/articleshow/69305216.cms>

# #1 Unauthorised access (e.g. hijacking)

- Unauthorised people entered the class or meeting (e.g. zoombombing)
  - By guessing the meeting link and ID and go into the meeting to do so

- Impact

- Show inappropriate content such as violent images and pornography
- Harassment
- Confidentiality





## #2 Spread Malware / Suspicious URL

- Use chat room function to send malware or phishing URL
  - Previous UNC vulnerability of Zoom allow stealing of Windows logins
- Impact
  - Ransomware
  - Steal confidential information
  - Money fraud



## #3 Privacy issues

■ Recording saved in cloud could be viewed by unauthorised party

■ Impact

- Information leakage
- Lawsuit
- Affect reputation and trust

### Your Zoom videos could live on in the cloud even after you delete them

Yet another Zoom issue found.



Rae Hodge · April 16, 2020 7:00 a.m. PT

ES



2

If you clicked Record to Cloud during a Zoom meeting, you might have assumed Zoom and the cloud storage provider would have password-protected your video by default once it was uploaded. And if you deleted that video from your Zoom account, you might have assumed it was gone for good. But in the latest example of the security and privacy woes that continue to plague Zoom, a security researcher found a vulnerability that turned those assumptions on their heads.

A week ago, Phil Guimond discovered a vulnerability that allowed someone to search for stored Zoom videos using share links that contain part of a URL, such as a company or organization name. The videos could then be downloaded and viewed.

Guimond also created a tool, called Zoombo, that exploited a limitation of Zoom's privacy protection, cracking passwords on videos that savvy users had manually protected. He discovered videos that were deleted remained available for several hours before disappearing.

<https://www.cnet.com/news/your-zoom-videos-could-live-on-in-the-cloud-even-after-you-delete-them/>

# Security Advices

Image credit: <https://www.century-it.co.uk/cyber-security-advice-and-help/>

# Preparation



Set up security and acceptable user policy



Keep the VC software is up-to-date



Make classroom private and deny trespassers



Do not disclose meeting link and password. Send to authorised user (e.g. student) separately



Use different meeting ID & passwords for different class



Enable waiting room function



Limit what participant can do. Allow only when necessary, e.g. video, audio, screen sharing, chat



Monitor the class for inappropriate content



Give participants a prior notice if you will record



Save the recording to PC instead of cloud



Lock the meeting once everyone has joined

# Meeting in progress





# When Prevention Fails: Incident Response Preparedness

## When conducting the class / meeting

- Remove malicious content and participants immediately

## After the class / meeting

- Change related meeting ID and password
- Update your OS, VC software and anti-virus software
- Perform full system scan

# 10 Me Zoom 建議10 網上會

HKCERT

保安博錄

## HKCERT 建議10招保障 Zoom 網上會議安全

發布日期: 02 / 04 / 2020

最後更新: 02 / 04 / 2020



[27113 觀看次數]

因應2019冠狀病毒病 (COVID-19) 疫情，很多公司和教育機構都會安排員工和教師在家中工作或授課，因而使更多人使用網上會議軟件作為溝通工具。其中Zoom因為操作容易及豐富功能，所以成為熱門的網上會議軟件之一。

近日，HKCERT留意到有一種針對Zoom用戶的新興網絡攻擊。這種名為「Zoom-bombing」或「Video-teleconferencing hijacking」<sup>1</sup>的攻擊會嘗試登入至未有安全設定的會議，或利用軟件早前的漏洞來搜尋可用的會議ID，再非法進入會議。一旦成功，黑客可竊聽會議，甚至騎劫會議，散播不當訊息/圖片或惡意軟件。

另外，黑客還會利用操作系統的功能來攻擊用戶。其中一個例子是利用Windows系統中常用的UNC連結（例子 \\evil.server.com\images\cat.jpg）。用戶於Windows中點擊任何UNC連結，系統會自動將用戶的登錄名和NTLM密碼雜湊（hashed password）發送到遠程伺服器。因此，黑客可在Zoom會議期間向與所有與會者，發送惡意的UNC連結來收集個人資料作其他攻擊。

### 10招保障Zoom會議安全

HKCERT 建議用戶可採取以下保安措施，確保會議安全進行：

#### 甲. 所有Zoom用戶

##### 1. 使用最新版本的 Zoom 軟件和保安軟件

- 只在其官方網站或官方應用程式商店下載軟件
- 經常保持軟件至最新版本<sup>2</sup>
- 經常更新操作系統（包括桌面電腦及流動裝置）及保安軟件

##### 2. 提防任何不明的UNC連結

# Security tips

***Bring these messages back to your organization...***

1. Never Share the **Work Device's Account** with Others
2. Ensure **Privacy** in the Working Environment
3. Ensure **Security** of Working Environment
4. Ensure **Wi-Fi Connection** is Secured
5. Encrypt and backup the **Data**
6. Strictly Comply with **Company Information Security Policies**

A blue-toned digital illustration of a server room aisle. In the center, a person's silhouette stands on a path that recedes into the distance. The path is flanked by rows of server racks. The floor is covered with large, glowing binary digits (0s and 1s). The ceiling has several rectangular light fixtures. A semi-transparent white text box is overlaid on the right side of the image.

**Contact your**  
**IT Department** immediately! if you  
have one...





POLICE

**Report to police** if any  
**financial loss** is occurred



# More useful security articles

## HKCERT Blogs



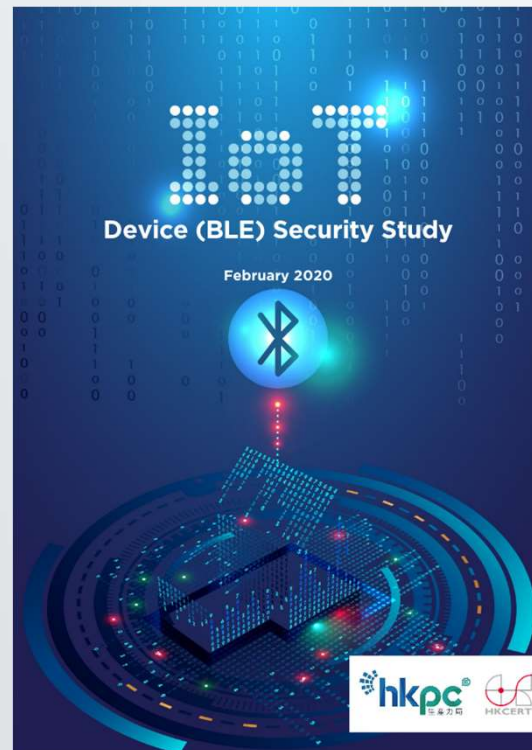
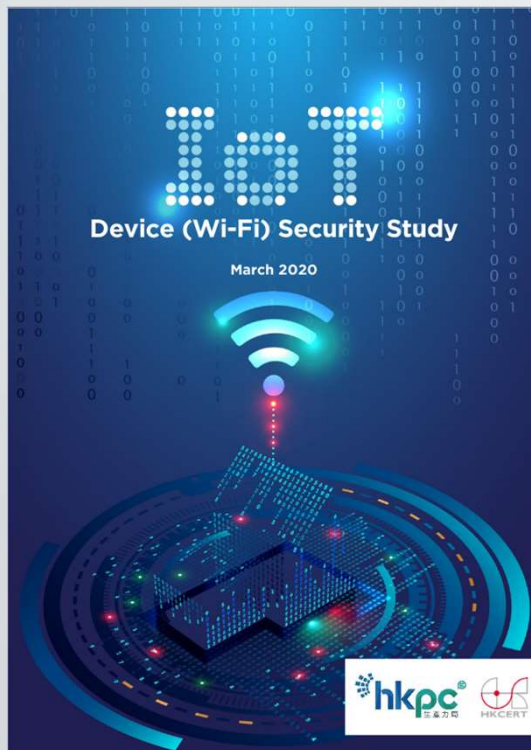
<b>Security Blog</b>	
Featured Security Blog	
HKCERT proposes 10 measures to secure Zoom Meetings	Date: 2020 / 04 / 02
HKCERT Released Guideline for Upgrading TLS to Secure Versions	Date: 2020 / 02 / 28
HKCERT Releases New Study to Raise Security Awareness of Bluetooth Low Energy Devices	Date: 2020 / 03 / 05
<a href="#">Beware of Juice Jacking when Charging Mobile Phones at Public Charging Stations</a>	Date: 2020 / 02 / 28
[Website announcement] HKCERT website will only support more secure TLS versions from April 1, 2020 onwards	Date: 2020 / 02 / 17
Assessing the Security of Remote Access Services Guideline	Date: 2020 / 02 / 20
Six Security Tips for Home Office	Date: 2020 / 02 / 20

1. Go to <https://www.hkcert.org>
2. Select "Alerts & News" -> "Security Blog"

1. Find the blog by title, or filter by date

# Security Guidelines and Reports

## IoT Guidelines



## Security Watch Report

### Report Highlights

In 2019 Q4, there were 8,864 unique security events related to Hong Kong used for analysis in this report. Data were collected through IFAS<sup>1</sup> with 11 sources of information<sup>2</sup>, and not collected from the incident reports received by HKCERT.

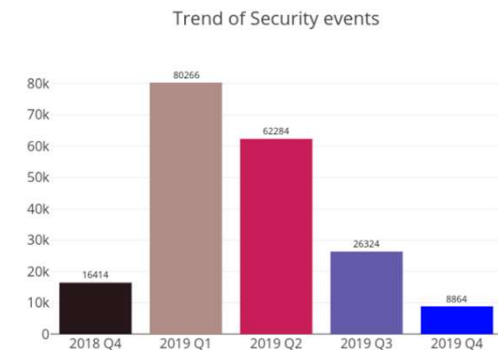


Figure 1: Trend of Security events

Table 2: Trend of Security events

Event Type	2018 Q4	2019 Q1	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2019 Q4
Defacement	590	318	532	1,120	591
Phishing	365	289	1306	849	257
Malware Hosting	8,152	72,201	48,892	17,273	1,185
Botnet (Bots)	7,307	7,458	11,554	7,078	6,831
Botnet (C2)	0	0	0	4	0



**Thank You**





**Hong Kong Productivity Council**  
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