Hello I'm Roger and today's Thursday, January 31 in your listening to the information security news podcast brought to you by Northwestern University information technology will start with the updates like we usually do and right now they're just mainly concerned with Apple there was a new version of the IOS that's the software that runs on your Apple iPhone and maybe your tablet you know things like that the to smaller devices and its IOS 6.1 was released and it's got 27 security fixes in it some of them are pretty important remember we talked about the revocation of the the certificates that were being trusted the top-level domains and that's part of this update as well some pretty sure this update for the applies for most of the iPhones I think it might be the iPhone's three year three radiopaque minutes of 3GS and above the touch but probably only the later generation ones the iPad to you know it's it's probably nothing earliest Apple mobile devices but most of them and then there's also Apple TV was updated so you want to make sure that if you got Apple products after checking to make sure that your updates are being applied because I could discuss before was these the updates are out of the bad guys know time is limited never got a attack right now and you want to be there victim so take care this right away and the big news is about the universal plug-and-play it's been again you know that the press seems to grab a hold of things are renowned again and this is one of them and essentially what they're saying is there could be millions of machines on the network right now that are vulnerable because universal plug-and-play is a potential method of attacking the system now universal plug-and-play has been around for an awful long time in fact I first think I started reading warnings about danger danger universal plug-and-play is bad probably at least a decade ago so it's been around for a long long time now on a lot of machines it's probably firewalls already but you know you're older machines or devices that don't even have a firewall or machines that have got issues and people of turned off the firewall or that is configured universal plug-and-play so that every anything to talk to and there's lots of different reasons why universal plug-and-play's can be out there and is can be a problem now what they're suggesting at least a US CERT is suggesting is disable universal plug-and-play and I think that's a good idea going in a you probably for the most part if you disable it on your machine I don't think it's can cause you any problems so go ahead and do that on the other hand if you're running a network or even your home network make sure that you're blocking UDP 1800 go to your router check to make sure that you're blocking UDP 1800 and that the lease make sure that if you are running universal plug-and-play it's only available within your network in a don't want to have people from outside your network probing and seeing if you're running universal plug-and-play now there's a ton of information about this there is the white paper that rapid seven put out there a security company about the issue that sort of fired this whole thing off there is information the US CERT a post a link to one of the articles of the show notes section you can follow up on it but you have no problem finding additional information on this topic there's so many different stories about it's on every single news site so you'll easily find stuff deftly don't ignore it though I found it pretty interesting article about five security holes almost everyone's vulnerable to and these are things that we've talked about before you weaknesses and passwords for example you know it's it's kind of interesting is that what what these kind of articles sort of I wish they always had was solutions in this case there's not a lot of good solutions nonetheless I found the article really interesting and I would encourage you to give it a read as well it's sure it was real
long will I like the way it was written to so please take a look at the show notes read an article in wired aerial fine something about how you protect your phone and your data and again this is a lot of stuff that we've talked about already putting pins on your phone not installing apps that you don't need things of that nature but it's just kind of nice to have all of this stuff in one location you know such a quick little read you know here's things that you can do to make sure that your phone and stated her safe in love when you know these things are kind of that we been saying are echoed out in the real world account at least gives me a little bit of a reality check sign all not completely out in left field which sometimes if you're unlikely in then the there's an interesting article about passphrases now we have talked a lot about using long passwords longer is stronger and what somebody did is they made a password cracker that knew about grammar and so using this password cracker than they're able to have different success rates then you know you might find with other crackers and essentially what they're saying is look if you don't use proper grammar in your password that makes it even stronger and so go and consider the example that they use his and he have three cats is better than she have three cats both of them silently pretty poor grammar to me but I guess Andy have's worst what I was saying is just make sure you break stuff up so that you don't have whole words or at least you don't have all whole words because that's good to make it even tougher and you honestly don't money do the traditional substitutions you know we find people use a three instead of an E for example you know misspell a word in their you know that's a good thing to do as well you know you their there's a lot of different techniques you find one that's been work for you use a good long password you don't overly share your good be fine but nonetheless I like this kind of out-of-the-box thinking here and so this another good article on a cue card should give it a read and then the there's something I don't usually find that it's from a diplomatic news site and basically what it's in is an EU Commissioner saying look in awareness of computer security issues is just not enough we need solutions to these problems as well and I think that's like right on I mean we do need solutions and there are solutions out there but what we really need are solutions that are mainstream you know the average person is able to to do these things without having that you know expend a lot of money or expend a lot of effort or energy or try to learn new stuff don't want to use these things as: become computer security experts they want to use their phone they want to use their laptop you know and that's all they want to do their willing probably willing to take a few precautions may be a password but once you get push past much that you're the consumers then I can go for this stuff so I really need to do things that are done to make it easy for consumers to be secure and I'm not sure that were there not the last article I want to close with here is about ATM scammers and is the reason bring this up is it just generated. Wisconsin displays some of the places that were were bank accounts were stolen for people here in Chicago so you know it did kind hit hit home a little bit and I don't think of dieting about scanning for a little while and I encourage you you know when you go to a cash station whether it's at your bank or your you know or even paying at the gas pump you any time you using your credit card debit cards especially though a debit card you want to make sure that you've got there's no skimmer attached to it so you pull on that front a little bit and see if it will come off your nose or something unusual about it and I encourage you know don't use sort of on of the way but not huge fan of the 711 ATM in all of you undo undo saying if mischief is can happen it's more likely to happen at that location than it is at the bank now I
understand the 711 ATM may be totally convenient sometimes and he have to do it but when you are using it just know that it’s a little riskier to use that ATM than it is to be using the ATM at the bank debit cards are more risky than credit cards so use credit cards if you can when you paying for gas when you're buying groceries things like this here because if worse comes to worse you know you report the fraud and you get a new credit card if it’s you debit card that you know maybe they clean out your bank account that's not a good thing anyway all up post a link to this article and you can take a look at it thanks for listening if you have any comments or suggestions please feel free to send them to our – safe unit northwestern.edu is always to find additional security information is also notes that contain the links for today's podcast at our website www.IT.northwestern.edu/security