Security Awareness & Safety Tips

CAS Information Technology
Security Awareness: Understanding the Risks

• Attacks on devices connected to the Internet can be launched from anywhere in the world
  • According to Panda Security, ~32% of computers worldwide were infected in 2012

• Improve security knowledge and practices to prevent:
  • Compromised personal data
    • Identity theft
    • Monetary theft
  • Compromised organizational data
    • Intellectual property or HIPAA/FERPA-protected information
    • Legal ramifications
Security Awareness: Protecting Sensitive Information

- HIPAA/FERPA compliance
  - Be familiar with UAB’s IT related policies and guidelines: [http://www.uab.edu/it/home/it-related-policies](http://www.uab.edu/it/home/it-related-policies)

- Encryption requirement

- Cloud storage
  - Not currently approved for storage of UAB data; EULA = personal liability

- Data destruction
  - Disposal of hardware used for data storage should be handled by CAS IT
Security Awareness: Types of Attacks

• Malware: viruses, worms, trojans, bots
• Targeted attacks
• Social engineering
• Insider attacks
Security Awareness: Safe Browsing and Online Communications

• Strong passwords for all online accounts

• Social networking
  • Don’t share too much information about work activities or personal life

• Email & instant messaging
  • Don’t click on links or open attachments from unknown sources

• Browsing
  • Be cautious about which websites you visit
  • Don’t install software unless you’re sure of its publisher
Security Awareness: Mobile Devices

- Require PIN/password for access
- Enable auto screen lock after ___ minutes of inactivity
- Configure application permissions
- Avoid unsecure Wi-Fi hotspots
- Open content and attachments from known sources only
- Antivirus for smart phones
Security Awareness: Physical Security

- Don’t leave laptops or other mobile devices unattended
- Lock your office or work area when leaving
- Use a cable lock for your laptop for additional protection
Security Awareness: Protection at home

- Applying updates
  - Operating system (e.g. Windows or Mac)
  - Third-party applications (e.g. Java, Flash)
- Antivirus
- Firewalls
- Backups
- Working remotely
Security Awareness: Resources

- UAB IT Download Site: [www.uab.edu/it/software](http://www.uab.edu/it/software)
  - Free antivirus for personal computers of current employees
  - Microsoft Forefront for Windows
  - Sophos for Mac
- Free safe browsing tools:
  - My Web of Trust
  - AVG Secure Search
  - McAfee SiteAdvisor
- Antivirus for Android smart phones:
  - AVG AntiVirus FREE for Android
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**Working Remotely**

- Install the UAB VPN client in order to access your work computer or network drives remotely: [www.uab.edu/vpn](http://www.uab.edu/vpn)
- Use Microsoft’s’s Remote Desktop Connection on Windows or Mac to access your Windows work computer from home (Mac users can contact CAS IT for assistance setting up remote access) using its IP address or full computer name
- Find instructions on the CAS IT Knowledge Base: [https://helpdesk.cas.uab.edu](https://helpdesk.cas.uab.edu)