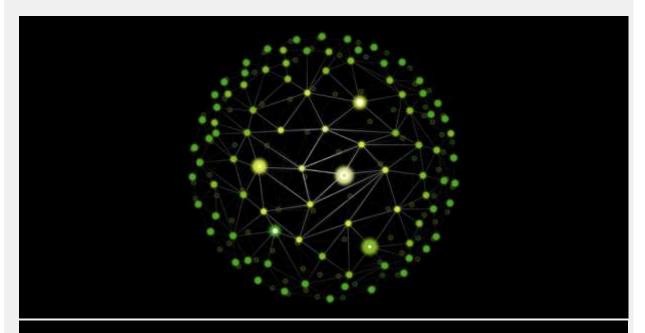
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Issue #4

Azerbaijan

Electronic signature became popular during the "COVID-19" pandemic

Demand for the electronic signature offered by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies increased during the "COVID-19" pandemic. In the period of January-June of the current year, 1244 e-signature certificates were given to citizens, 2144 to entrepreneurs, and 1666 to legal persons. 20% increase in the number of given certificates was recorded in comparison with the same period last year.

Source: xeberler.az, July 2, 2020

Azerbaijan submitted candidacy to the board of an international cybersecurity organization

The candidacy of an Azerbaijani representative was submitted to the board of an international organization FIRST (Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams). The membership of Azerbaijan to this organization means the recognition of the work done in the field of cybersecurity in the country and the ease of access to the global methods and tools used in the fight against cybercriminality.

Source: xeberler.az, July 6, 2020

Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies will hold the "Global Game Jam Next" event

"Global Game Jam Next" event will be held with the joint organization of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies, "SUP" Acceleration Center and "Tech Academy". The main aim of "Global Game Jam Next" is to support teenagers aged 12-17 who are interested in developing video games to acquire basic knowledge in this field. This educational programme will enable them to fulfill their potential by providing them with the opportunity of getting relevant technical knowledge.

Source: mincom.gov.az, July 8, 2020

Research on how the pandemic affected e-commerce in Azerbaijan

The results of the research confirm the development of electronic commerce in Azerbaijan. More than 35% of the respondents of the survey express that they can easily order online any item they wish, such as clothing and home objects.

Source: banker.az, July 7, 2020

Protect the security of your WiFi network

Considering the recent attempts to attack private WiFi networks and network devices such as modems and routers in the country, Electronic Security Services under the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies recommends the users to make adjustments in the security settings of their WiFi networks.

Source: mincom.gov.az, July 16, 2020

How to protect our IP cameras from cyberattacks?

In order to raise awareness in the society, Electronic Security Services under the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies announced methods to identify if the IP cameras are in danger and the necessary measures to take to protect them against cyberattacks.

Source: mincom.gov.az, July 21, 2020

First video conferencing system was tested in Azerbaijan

The first locally produced system software with capabilities of a virtual platform enabling holding video conferences, and online group discussions, and meeting latest technical requirements developed by "Emsys", a company holding the resident status at the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) High Technologies Park, successfully passed the test and was deemed usable.

Source: xeberler.az, July 22, 2020

"Aztibb.az" medical portal was launched

Through the portal, the users will be able to get the official updates and latest news about the events happening in the country and the world, read informative medical articles as well as learn about the latest developments regarding the "COVID-19" pandemic.

Source: xeberler.az, July 22, 2020

Virtual session on "Trust and security while using Information Technologies" was held

Within the framework of the World Summit on the Information Society 2020 which is held online this year with the organization of International Telecommunication Union, a first high-level political session on the topic of "Trust and security while using Information Technologies" was held. The main goals of the session taking place were the possible expansion of the usage of the information-communication technologies, the issues with trust and security while using these tools especially during the "COVID-19" pandemic, as well as the discussions on the work done in this field so far.

Source: xeberler.az, July 14, 2020

New educational platform was introduced in Azerbaijan

The online video conference was held with the participation of the Azerbaijan State Economic University (UNEC), Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) High Technologies Park and local startup "Emsys" which holds the resident status at the High Technologies Park. The event was dedicated to introduction of the new intellectual education platform "Empro" developed by "Emsys". The widespread application of latest technologies in the educational sector in Azerbaijan and further expansion and usage of the innovative technologies as the main tool in the educational process were also emphasized during the video conference.

Source: xeberler.az, July 29, 2020

"Law on classification of information products according to age categories" is approved in Azerbaijan

Prime Minister of Azerbaijan Ali Asadov has signed a decree on "Law on classification of information products according to age categories". According to the new law which was created based on the "Law on protecting children from harmful information content", information products will be classified according to different age categories taking into consideration the psychological development characteristics of children belonging to corresponding age groups.

Source: xeberler.az, July 31, 2020

CIS

Russia

Experts talked about the dangers of using pirated software

According to the report by the "RIA" News Agency with reference to the interview with the experts, downloading and installing illegal or pirated versions of computer programs on the Internet is fraught for users not only with the appearance of phishing ads and advertisements, but also infecting their computers with viruses that can steal personal data.

Source: iz.ru, July 2, 2020

The expert talked about the ethics shown by the hackers during the pandemic

Many hackers involved in DDoS attacks "showed ethics" and did not attack the information systems of Russian medical institutions during the coronavirus pandemic, according to Ilya Sachkov, CEO and founder of the international company Group-IB, which specializes in preventing cyber attacks.

Source: iz.ru, July 5, 2020

Unknown people hacked the Twitter account of the Russian Foreign Ministry, sold the stolen database

Unknown cybercriminals managed to hack the official Twitter account of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The incident occurred on July 2, the hackers tried to sell the stolen database for 66 bitcoins.

Source: antimalware.ru, July 6, 2020

European Court of Human Rights has accepted a claim on the use of facial recognition systems in Moscow

European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) registered a complaint about the illegal use of a facial recognition system operating in the Russian capital. The corresponding claim was signed by activist Alyona Popova and opposition leader Vladimir Milov. The plaintiffs believe that the unjustified and illegal use of the facial recognition system is a direct violation of the rights of Moscow residents, according to which their privacy should be respected.

Source: antimalware.ru, July 6, 2020

Rostelecom has identified critical gaps in Schneider Electric equipment

Ilya Karpov and Yevgeny Druzhinin, experts from the" Cybersecurity Laboratory of the Automated Control System of Rostelecom-Solar", a part of Rostelecom PJSC, identified a number of vulnerabilities in industrial equipment of Schneider Electric, widely used for power system management. Among them are a number of critical ones that allow to take control of the device or achieve a complete shutdown of its operation.

Source: antimalware.ru, July 7, 2020

Russia ranked second after the United States in 2019 in the number of data leaks

According to a study by InfoWatch, the United States and Russia became the leaders in the number of data leaks last year, in Russian Federation personal data and payment information were the most often leaked.

Source: banki.ru, July 7, 2020

Russian cyber group is behind BEC attacks on Fortune 500 companies

Researchers from Agari told about a new group of cybercriminals engaged in targeted attacks on corporate mail (BEC). Experts believe that the criminals are operating from Russia. According to the Agari team, which named the group Cosmic Lynx, cybercriminals managed to take BEC attacks to a new level. The main target of hackers is international corporations.

Source: anti-malware.ru, July 8, 2020

Cybercriminals have come up with a new smartphone resale scam

Cybercriminals have found a new way to scam the sale of smartphones: they lease devices and resell them, but after a while the device is blocked due to lack of payments. This was reported by "RIA" News Agency with reference to Vasily Pitelinsky, Marketing Director of Forward Leasing.

Source: banki.ru, July 8, 2020

The Association of Russian Banks introduces new anti-cyber fraud mechanism

The Association of Russian Banks has presented a new mechanism for combating cyber fraudsters to the banking community, which involves the automatic blocking of funds on the attacker's account at the request of the victim. According to the Head of the Legal Department of the Association of Russian Banks Sergey Klimenko, the corresponding bill will soon be sent to the regulator for approval.

Source: banki.ru, July 9, 2020

Money was transferred: cybercriminals switched to online trading

Theft of money from citizens' cards using fake online stores is becoming widespread: during the quarantine period, the number of such cases has increased six times. Fraudsters lure customers to fake websites, which are often disguised as official and well-known ones. On these resources, a payment form is displayed for a visitor buying goods or services, and in fact, an operation is performed to transfer funds to the attacker's card.

Source: iz.ru, July 9, 2020

The unified biometric system will receive state status

The Unified Biometric System (UBS) will receive state status on a par with the State Services and the Unified System of Identification and Authentication (ESIA), as reported by "Izvestiya" referring to Representatives of the Ministry of Telecom and Mass Communications and the company "Rostelecom", which is the operator of the EBS. State status guarantees the safety of data at the state level and will increase the usability and security of services.

Source: securitylab.ru, July 14, 2020

Experts talked about the increase in the number of fraudulent mailings about payments

According to a study by Kaspersky Lab, in 2020, the number of fraudulent mailings and online ads related to social benefits has grown significantly compared to last year.

Source: iz.ru, July 15, 2020

Russia may introduce liability for the use of illegally obtained personal data

The State Duma Committee on Information Policy, Information Technology and Communications is working on the issue of introducing liability for the use of illegally obtained personal information, according to the head of the committee Alexander Khinshtein.

Source: banki.ru, July 16, 2020

Prosecutor General: "It is necessary to strengthen the fight against IT crimes, their number has increased 25 times"

Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation Igor Krasnov demanded to improve the system of prevention and early detection of cybercrimes in Russia. According to the press service of the Prosecutor General's Office, he set such a task at a meeting of the Coordination Meeting of the heads of law enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation on the issue of suppressing crimes related to encroachments on security in the use of information and communication technologies.

Source: banki.ru, July 17, 2020

Russians will be able to buy tokens in banks

Russians will be able to buy digital financial assets, for example, the so-called tokens, in ordinary banks, following the new version of the bill "On digital financial assets".

Source: banki.ru, July 20, 2020

Russia proposes to create an Internet police and an Internet prosecutor's office

According to RIA news agency, Artyom Kiryanov, First Deputy Chairman of the Commission of the Public Chamber for the Expertise of Socially Significant Bills and Other Legal Initiatives, proposed creating an Internet Prosecutor's Office and an Internet Police.

Source: securitylab.ru, July 20, 2020

Kommersant has learned about the data leakage of 20 million users of VPN services

According to newspaper Kommersant on 20th of July, the personal data of 20 million users of free VPN services, including tens of thousands of Russians, were made publicly available.

Source: iz.ru, July 20, 2020

Consent to the processing of personal data can be given for several purposes at once

The Government of the Russian Federation submitted a bill to the State Duma on the possibility of consenting to the processing of personal data for several purposes simultaneously. The initiative would give the possibility of providing consent in a written form to the processing of personal data simultaneously for several purposes, as well as for several persons carrying out processing on behalf of the operator.

Source: banki.ru, July 21, 2020

The State Duma adopted a law on "tax maneuver" in the IT industry

The State Duma immediately adopted the second and third readings of the law on the "tax maneuver" in the IT industry. Thus, the rate on corporate profit tax to be credited to the federal budget is set at 3%, and the rate on corporate profit tax to be credited to regional budgets is set to zero.

Source: banki.ru, July 22, 2020

The expert compared the position of IT business in Russia with other countries

The tax maneuver will improve the position of IT business in Russia, the head of the Russian Center for Competence and Analysis of OECD Standards at the RANEPA under the President of the Russian Federation, lecturer at the Moscow Digital School Antonina Levashenko told Izvestia on July 22.

Source: iz.ru, July 22, 2020

Scammers disguise malware as Netflix series

Kaspersky Lab experts report that since January 2019, they have detected more than 22,000 attempts to infect devices with malicious files, the names of which mentioned Netflix.

Source: xakep.ru, July 23, 2020

Bank of Russia spoke about a new scheme of fraud with deposits of Russians

Telephone scammers are trying to implement a new scheme in Russia: they warn Russians that their deposits are in danger and offer to transfer funds to a supposedly safe account, said Artem Sychev, First Deputy Head of the Information Security Department of the Bank of Russia.

Source: banki.ru, July 23, 2020

Russia wants to ban taking loans through applications

The head of the public movement "For Security" Dmitry Kurdesov proposed to prohibit the issuance of loans through mobile applications of banks. A copy of the letter addressed to the chairman of the Central Bank of Russia Elvira Nabiullina is at the disposal of RT.

Source: banki.ru, July 23, 2020

The number of fraudulent calls allegedly from banks in the pandemic increased by 300%

The number of fraudulent calls, during which attackers pose as bank employees, increased by 300% during the coronavirus pandemic. At the same time, the amount of damage from telephone scammers remained at the same level, said Artem Sychev, the First Deputy Director of the Information Security Department of the Central Bank, at the Far East Media Summit.

Source: banki.ru, July 23, 2020

Data of about 600 thousand users of Avito and "Yula" appeared on the Internet

Databases with personal data of about 600 thousand users of the Avito and Yula ad sites, which contain, among other things, addresses and phone numbers, have appeared in the Internet, according to Kommersant.

Source: banki.ru, July 24, 2020

The number of cybercrimes in the Russian Federation has grown 20 times over seven years

The number of crimes using the latest information technologies and the Internet in Russia has increased 20 times over the past seven years, said Svetlana Petrenko, an official representative of the Investigation Committee of the Russian Federation.

Source: news.ru, July 25, 2020

The Internet Ombudsman named the reasons for the increase in prices for home Internet

Internet Ombudsman Dmitry Marinichev named the reasons for a possible rise in prices for home Internet services. These include the depreciation of the ruble, the coronavirus pandemic, and the Yarovaya package.

Source: news.ru, July 26, 2020

Kazakhstan

Fintech development concept to be approved in Kazakhstan

In his conversation with financiers, the President noted the importance of effective implementation of monetary policy in the current environment and stated the need to take into account fundamental trends in international markets in the developed Monetary Policy Strategy until 2030. The new Strategy should create incentives for macroeconomic stability and sustainable development of the country's financial system.

Source: profit.kz, June 1, 2020

Mobile application for paying taxes for small businesses is being developed in Kazakhstan

In Kazakhstan, work is being done to simplify the payment of taxes for small businesses. A mobile application is being developed for self-employed individuals and micro and small businesses to pay taxes. Services for non-cash payment of taxes and notification via push notifications are expanding. This was informed by the acting Minister of Finance Berik Sholpankulov at a government meeting.

Source: profit.kz, July 2, 2020

US prosecutors accuse Kazakh citizen of cybercrimes

Seattle authorities have published an indictment against a Kazakh citizen accused of a series of cybercrimes. According to the document, 37-year-old Andrei Turchin participated in attacks on government agencies, schools, banks and hotels.

Source: anti-malware.ru, July 8, 2020

Tracking the use of budget funds will be possible online

The Publicbudget.kz project, a special interactive map of open budgets, is being implemented at the initiative of the Anti-Corruption Agency. It is aimed at simplifying access to information, increasing the level of citizens' confidence in the state, and creating an effective dialogue platform. The map displays detailed information about the allocated budget funds in a real time format that is accessible to the public, thereby allowing people to control government spending.

Source: profit.kz, July 9, 2020

An online monitoring system for medical institutions was introduced in Kazakhstan

The Department decided to introduce an online monitoring system for medical institutions. This format will help coordinate measures and strengthen the fight against CVI in the country. This was announced by health Minister Alexey Tsoi. He noted that now it is necessary to directly observe how each institution works.

Source: profit.kz, July 9, 2020

Switching to remote work increases the vulnerability of Kazakhstanis to hackers

During the pandemic, cyber security becomes more important, as a lot of people are working or continuing their studies remotely due to forced isolation or restriction of movement. According to the results of the first half of 2020, 7.8 thousand incidents of information security violations were recorded in Kazakhstan — 25.1% less than in the same period last year (10.4 thousand). At the same time, the largest number of cyber attacks this year is observed in the "quarantine" April (1.5 thousand incidents) and May (1.7 thousand incidents).

Source: profit.kz, July 10, 2020

Kazakhstan took the 29th place in the UN e-government rating

A new UN survey on the level of e-government development has been published. The study is conducted every two years. In 2018, Kazakhstan was in 39th place, and this year it took 29th place among 193 UN member countries. Thus, the country has risen by 10 positions.

Source: profit.kz, July 11, 2020

Now Kazakhstan debtors will receive SMS notifications

President of the Republic of Kazakhstan signed the law on "amendments and additions to certain legislative acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on improving enforcement proceedings and criminal legislation". A norm has been introduced for switching to electronic notification of citizens by SMS notification to a cell phone number.

Source: profit.kz, July 15, 2020

The Ministry of Justice commented on the statements about the leak of medical data

Marat Beketayev, the Minister of Justice, responded to a statement made by representatives of the center for analysis and investigation of cyber attacks about the leak of personal medical data of Kazakhstanis. According to him, there were no leaks.

Source: profit.kz, July 15, 2020

Anonymous money transfers will be banned

On July 17, 2020, the law "on amendments and additions to certain legislative acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on mortgage loans in foreign currency, improving regulation of payment services market entities, universal Declaration and restoration of economic growth" will come into force. The document includes rules aimed at improving the regulation of non-Bank financial organizations in order to reduce the risks of money laundering, withdraw capital from the country and counter the shadow economy.

Source: profit.kz, July 16, 2020

Phishing and DDoS attacks have increased significantly in Kazakhstan

The Computer Incident Response Service "KZ-CERT" presented an overview of information security incidents in Kazakhstan for the first half of the year. A total of 8,300 is incidents were detected, compared to 2019, the number of phishing attacks increased by 25%, and the number of DDoS attacks - by 42%.

Source: profit.kz, July 21, 2020

Kazakhstan took the first place among the CIS countries in the development of e-gov

In the context of the extension of restrictive quarantine measures in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the provision of services in electronic format, including public ones, is becoming more and more relevant and urgently needed. Today, the country's population is sufficiently prepared to receive public services electronically. So, as of the end of 2019, the share of PC users aged 6-74 years increased to 82.2% (a year earlier — 80.3%), and the share of Internet users increased to 84.2% (a year earlier — 81.3%).

Source: profit.kz, July 22, 2020

Internet scammers have used the Kazakhstani bloggers for profit

The computer incident response service of RSE "State technical service" reported an increase in the number of requests from Kazakhstanis who became victims of fraudsters who allegedly acted on behalf of public figures. The principle of operation of the scammers was that they created fake accounts in the telegram messenger using photos and data of a public identity. These fake accounts were used to send messages requesting financial assistance. All the information received was sent to the Ministry of internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Source: profit.kz, July 22, 2020

Kazakhstanis are rapidly switching to non-cash payment

The analytical center of the AFC presented an overview of statistics on non-cash card payments as of July 01, 2020 in the Republic of Kazakhstan. After updating the historical maximum in may, the volume of non-cash card payments in the country for June again broke the record for the entire history of observations. The indicator increased from 2.4 to 2.7 trillion tenge (+15.4%), while in comparison with the same period last year, there is a more pronounced growth -2.7 times from the indicator of 1 trillion tenge.

Source: profit.kz, July 28, 2020

Uzbekistan

Application for social notification of citizens who are faced with a coronavirus infection is developed

The Ministry for the Development of Information Technologies and Communications, the Ministry of Health and the government of Tashkent city report on the implementation of the Self-Safety mobile application for social notification of citizens who have encountered a coronavirus infection. The application was developed by a Single integrator – UZINFOCOM.

Source: ictnews.uz, July 16, 2020

Kyrgyzstan

A platform to help in the fight against "COVID-19" was created in Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyz activists have set up a coordination center to track the needs of the population in the fight against coronavirus. The coordination center tracks requests from medical professionals and transmits them to performers-volunteers or volunteer organizations.

Source: profit.kz, July 10, 2020















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