

In the Boxing Ring DEC 2019



Network Box Technical News

from **Mark Webb-Johnson**

Chief Technology Officer, Network Box

Welcome to the December 2019 edition of In the **Boxing Ring**

Network Box would like to extend our very best wishes to you for the holiday season, and the coming new year. While many businesses may close shop during this time of year, however, *'tis the season to be wary*. Hackers and cyber criminals work right through the festive period, meaning it is crucial that you have the best security measures in place before leaving for the holidays. As such, on pages 2 to 3, we have provided our **Top 7 security tips to keep your business protected during the holidays**.

On page 4, we highlight the features and fixes to be released in this month's patch Tuesday for Network Box 5.

In other news, the next video in the **Network Box Security Focus** series is now available, titled, "Is your Start-up protected from Hackers?" Additionally, Network Box Singapore participated in several premium partner events with **RICOH Singapore**, and **@Creative eWorld**. Finally, Network Box's Managing Director, Michael Gazeley, was invited to give a talk about *the Dark Web* at the **University of Hong Kong Information Security Awareness Week**.



Mark Webb-Johnson
CTO, Network Box Corporation Ltd.
December 2019

Stay Connected

You can contact us here at Network Box HQ by email: **nbhq@network-box.com**, or drop by our office next time you are in town. You can also keep in touch with us by several social networks:



<https://twitter.com/networkbox>



<https://www.facebook.com/networkbox>
<https://www.facebook.com/networkboxresponse>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/network-box-corporation-limited/>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/NetworkBox>

In this month's issue:

Page 2 to 3

'Tis the season to be wary: Top 7 security tips to keep your business protected

While many businesses may close shop during the festive period, hackers and cyber criminals never rest, and carry on working throughout. This is why it is important to ensure that you have the best security measures in place during the holiday season. On pages 2 to 3, we have provided our top 7 security tips to keep your business protected during this critical time.

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Network Box 5 Features

The features and fixes to be released in this month's patch Tuesday for Network Box 5.

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Network Box Highlights:

- **Network Box Security Focus**
Is your Start-up protected from hackers?
- **Network Box Singapore Premium Partners Events**
 - RICOH Singapore
 - @Creative eWorld
- **Network Box Hong Kong**
University of Hong Kong Information Security Awareness Week



'Tis the season to be wary

While many businesses may close shop during this time of year, cyber criminals work right through the festive period – meaning it is crucial that you have the best security measures in place before leaving for the holidays.

Below, we have provided the Top 7 security tips to keep your business protected over the holidays:

Top 7 security tips to keep your business protected

1. Beware of spam and malware emails

During this time of year, there is always an increase in spam, phishing, and malware attempting to take advantage of users being in a holiday mood. Malware masquerading as Christmas cards are always common. In addition to turning 'ON' SSL Scanning, please ensure your colleagues are informed about the dangers of opening suspicious emails that may contain malware or redirect them to malware sites.

2. Automate your security updates

Ensure that your security patches are up-to-date, with the latest signatures and security policies. If you have a patch update system, make sure that this is set to 'automatic' so that your system automatically downloads and installs the latest security updates



3. Update information and general housekeeping

The end-of-year is usually a good time to review your database and security policies. If you have staff that are no longer with the company, remove their records, and make certain that they do not have access to your network or database.

4. Ensure you have secure remote access

If you are going to be away from the office for a significant amount of time, make sure that you have remote access to your network with a secured VPN connection. Hackers and cyber criminals can intercept insecure connections and gain access to your network. Directly opening admiring ports to the Internet is not a sensible approach and is specifically prohibited by most security standards.

5. Turn 'ON' alerts and notifications

Set your monitoring system to send you alerts if there are any issues with your network. Thus, you will be notified, and will be able to respond to any issues that may arise. Please also ensure that your contact information is up-to-date, so that you will receive alerts, and your colleagues can contact you, if needed.

6. Review your disaster recovery plan

The relatively low workload during the holidays may be a good time to review your disaster recovery plan. Most importantly, test it, and ensure all necessary staff are aware of what it is and how it affects them.



7. Review physical security arrangements

The holidays are also a high-threat time for physical security incidents. Remember that no matter how strong your network security system or password policy is, all that is useless in the event an attacker gains physical access to your devices.

**Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to working with you in the years to come.
Stay safe.**

Network Box

NEXT GENERATION MANAGED SECURITY



On Tuesday, 3rd December 2019, Network Box will release our patch Tuesday set of enhancements and fixes. The regional SOC's will be conducting the rollouts of the new functionality in a phased manner over the next 14 days.

Network Box 5 Features December 2019

This month, for Network Box 5, these include:

- Enhanced clustered scanning support for authentication and envelope scanning
- Performance improvements in user port email detail display
- Enhanced flapping detection for Global Monitoring System
- Improvements to VPN status display
- Major update to anti-malware scanning component

This month also includes a major update to our Anti-Malware scanning component. This includes:

- Support for a new cloud based scanning engine
- Improved heuristics, emulation/sandboxing
- Real-time blacklists

The new scanning component requires switching to a new signature database format, and that may impact service availability during the switch (with the impact being dependent on available disk space). Your local SOC will contact you arrange this if necessary.

In most cases, the above changes should not impact running services or require a device restart. However, in some cases (depending on configuration), a device restart may be required. Your local SOC will contact you to arrange this if necessary.

Should you need any further information on any of the above, please contact your local SOC. They will be arranging deployment and liaison.



Network Box HIGHLIGHTS



Network Box Security Focus Is your Start-up protected from hackers?

Continuing with the **Network Box Security Focus** series, the latest video is now available for viewing, titled, "Is your Start-up protected from hackers?"



 **LINK:**
<https://youtu.be/7wtj553ZCN4>

Few organizations require effective cyber-security more than a Start-up. These days, every company is actively connected to the Internet; but most are not effectively protected from hackers, viruses, worms, ransomware, and undesirable content, that make the Internet so dangerous. Too many people fail to realize that when you connect to the world, the world is also connected to you.

In the video, we highlight the many threats and issues for Start-ups, and discuss the measure that can be taken to be protected from hackers and cyber criminals.

Network Box Singapore Premium Partner Events

Network Box Singapore participated in several Premium Partner Events, including *Image Change and Digital Workplaces* for **RICOH Singapore**; and *@Creative eWorld's Managed Security Solution & Services Cybersecurity Workshop*.



Network Box Hong Kong University of Hong Kong Information Security Awareness Week



Network Box's Managing Director, Michael Gazeley, was invited to speak at the **University of Hong Kong Information Security Awareness Week**. The venue was the Meng Wah Complex, which was donated to Hong Kong University, by Michael Gazeley's Grandparents. The seminar was titled, "**The Dark Web: The Dark Side of the Internet.**"



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