



INFORMATION SECURITY IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Since the arrival of the digital age, information security has never been more pertinent. On a daily basis, cyber-attacks are hitting large organisations that believed their systems were impenetrable. The UK public sector has also been targeted, with both Central Government and the NHS being the victims of two high-profile attacks. As cyber criminals become more sophisticated and we rely increasingly on digital systems, glitches in digital security become more of a risk. As we have already seen, Central Government is a prime target for hackers. With highly confidential information covering anything and everything from national security to personal data just one successful – and potentially catastrophic – hack away, the efficacy of the Government’s digital barriers must be absolute.

WHAT IS IOT?

The ‘Internet of Things’ is a term often associated with people’s home appliances such as a fridge that tells you when you’re out of milk or a coffee machine that reminds you to buy beans. However, IoT goes far beyond the domestic arena. With wireless projectors, CCTV, video conferencing and printers accessed across a company-wide network, public sector offices are very much part of the IoT. These devices are internet connected, constantly communicating with other appliances, and potentially exchanging private information. Now here is an alarming fact. While hackers are lining up to undermine Central government, many people are giving little thought to ensuring their devices are secure, and usually leaving settings at default. Simple – both for the user and the criminal to intercept.

Canon

See the bigger picture

PRINTING NETWORKS

Essentially, a printer is a fully functioning computer that is the interface between your physical and digital world. It is a hugely powerful, hyper-connected device, regularly handling everything from letters to emails, invoices, contracts, and customer records. We know that printers could be easily hacked via Postscript commands, exposing huge vulnerabilities that are widened by people assuming printer security is somebody else's job. To achieve security within printing networks, not only must systems change, but the attitudes of people operating them need to change as well. To ensure security, the following criteria need to be met:

- **Printers and other IoT devices to be configured correctly**
- **Security settings are constantly under review**
- **Evaluate what data is business critical**
- **Train staff to prioritise security**
- **Assume all devices are leaking information**
- **Keep an eye on network traffic**

Any information we send needs to be protected and treated with as much care as, for example, a personal bank transfer or confidential files when they are shared via the cloud.

GETTING IT RIGHT FOR YOUR AREA OF GOVERNMENT

Not every organisation needs privacy levels that require vein or handprint authentication-technologies that are out there right now. Different-sized organisations delivering different kinds of services will have differing requirements. There is no one model to follow. However, with the scale of growth of information in the public sector, procurement decisions need to be made with these considerations in mind. Those working in procurement, IT and facilities need the right software and services with the right configuration options for the scope of their work and size of their operation.

HELPING YOU TO EXPLORE

As the digital world continues to grow at an unprecedented rate, revolutionising the way we live and work, it's never been more important to seek the help of an expert guide who can help you navigate the challenges of today and tomorrow, to find new paths to running a better organisation. With over 80 years as pioneer of imaging and information management, Canon partners with Central Government departments to provide guidance and technology that transforms their processes, saves money, and helps protect the environment. From Managed Print Services to Document Digitisation, Digital Mailroom process, enhancing Central Reprographic Departments or optimising procurement, Canon can help you to better serve your citizens in the way they expect. At Canon we pride ourselves on having a security offering to suit all from small to large environments.

To find out how we can help you accelerate information securely around your organisation, please contact:

E: customer.marketing@cuk.canon.co.uk

T: 0844 892 0810

Canon

See the bigger picture