'CIOs should focus on a preventative approach'

What kind of caution points do you think CIOs should focus on?

A minimum level of security measures should be enforced that includes password protection and round-the-clock wiping of corporate data from the devices in the network. Application whitelisting should be practiced in order to safeguard the network and confidential company data. Regularly, all the softwares in the network should be updated and tested. A good strategy is necessary to develop a list of approved devices and software in the network.

CIOs should focus on a more proactive and preventative approach to protect their applications and the sensitive information that they contain. They should

—Govind Ramamurthy, MD and CEO, eScan

ensure that their network is locked down in a secure hardened state to prevent vulnerabilities from creeping in and being exploited. Instead of location-centric, data protection should be data-centric.

How is consumerization of IT creating hazards in enterprises?

No matter how beneficial the IT consumerization

is, it has its own limits. If we analyze the current scenario of enterprises wherein consumerization is taking over, the lack of a strategic approach is resulting into security risks, financial exposure, and a management nightmare for IT. With more consumer technologies flooding in the enterprise network, security managers need to be more prepared to manage and face the security risks. Traditional security models lack maturity to manage the risks of consumerization.

As far as social media is concerned, what kind of security lapse can be observed?

With the increase in the usage of social networking sites,

security lapses on such networks can lead to wide-range of consequences. While its users are widely connected globally, these interactive sites give opportunity to connect to a wider networking base. Hence passing on of user names, email addresses, and other site-specific identity-related information is prevalent among websites and social networks, unless the appropriate security measures are followed. One of the commonly occurred flaws is when a visitor clicks on a link to go to another site, the ID information of the user is included in the 'referrer' details that are sent to the third parties.

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