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On Small-Scale IT Users' System Architectures and Cyber Security: A UK Case Study

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Emma Osborn is a doctoral candidate in cyber Security at the University of Oxford Department of Computer Science. Her doctoral project focuses on small-scale cyber security – cyber security for small organisations and individuals. The aim is to understand the different drivers within the system: to establish what the need for cyber security is, where that need is not being met and what measures might be best suited to improving the security of this sector.

Andrew Simpson is a University Lecturer in Software Engineering at the University of Oxford, where he teaches on the MScs in Software and Systems Security and Software Engineering. He holds a DPhil in Computer Science from the University of Oxford. He has published widely in the fields of Information Security and Software Engineering.

Abstract

Despite long-standing predictions that developments in, for example, personal and cloud computing practices would change the ways in which we approach security, small-scale IT users (SSITUs) remain ill-served by existing cyber security practices. Following an extensive study of the adoption of cyber security in UK-based SSITUs, this paper discusses results pertaining to technologies employed by such organisations, with respect to their ability to apply security measures. We determine: that the system architectures employed by SSITUs are significantly

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