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Balancing Human Error

Cybersecurity has deep roots as a behavioral science when introduced to concepts such as social engineering. It is believed by some that humanity is the biggest weakness in cybersecurity. "The impact of human behavior on security" written by Jeff Capone talks about how we must completely automate the network trafficking process as the involvement of human employees is too much of a liability in and of itself. Fulfilling the task of automating functions such as logging, packet trafficking, and file sharing is costly for a company, and the immediate benefits do not many times outweigh the cost.

In a more realistic setting, one will have to balance the human employee liability and the cost of buying equipment that prevents such liability. Training employees on how to recognize phishing scams, how to avoid clicking on links from untrustworthy sources, and making sure each employee is following the policies and procedures set in place to guarantee the safety of the company's assets is essential to maintaining a safe work environment. In order to mitigate some of the risks involved with human behavior, automated logging systems with established baselines that continuously monitor, log, and report network traffic can be implemented. In order to reduce human error, a system that establishes roles and permissions can also be implemented that only allows authorized employees to view/modify specific data with a way to authenticate each individual who accesses the system.

Combining this with the automated logging system and making sure all systems in the company are up to date with the most recent security patches will greatly reduce the risk of an attack and prevent any vulnerabilities from being exploited and becoming threats to the organization.

References

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