

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
CABINET SECRETARIAT, CABINET DIVISION  
NATIONAL TELECOM & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY BOARD  
(NTISB-II)

No. 1-5/2003 (NTISB-II)

Islamabad 21 May, 2018

Subject: **Prevention Against Cyber Espionage (Advisory No 125)**

1. **Introduction.** Chrome extension is a built-in feature of chrome browser to install feature based applications like Calculator, Adblock, and VPN etc. Recently, popular chrome extensions are found to be infected with malware which are being used by approximately 20-million users. Downloading and enabling these extensions in chrome can steal sensitive information from the browser.

2. **Affected Extensions.** Following is the list of compromised Chrome browser extensions along with the number of people that have installed it:-

- AdRemover for Google Chrome™ (10 million+ users).
- uBlock Plus (8 million+ users).
- [Fake] Adblock Pro (2 million+ users).
- HD for YouTube™ (400,000+ users).
- Webutation (30,000+ users).

3. **Technical Details**

- The above mentioned malicious browser extensions can access all online activities of user, incl passwords, web history and credit card details.
- These malicious extension can receive commands from the remote server, which are executed in the extension 'background page' and can manipulate browser's behavior in any way.

4. **Recommendations**

- Install extension from trusted sources only.
  - Install and update well reputed antiviruses such as Kaspersky, Avira, Avast etc.
  - Update all softwares including Windows OS, Windows Browser, Microsoft Office regularly.
  - Remove any unwanted extension from Google Chrome by going to **Customize and Control > More Tools > Extensions**
  - Don't download attachments from emails unless you are sure about the source.
5. Forwarded for perusal; and dissemination of information to all concerned, please.

All Secretaries of Ministries / Divisions of Federal Government and PSO to Chief Secretaries of Provincial Governments

Majid  
(Ifkhar Ali)  
Assistant Secretary (NTISB-II)  
Ph# 051-9204560

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CABINET SECRETARIAT, CABINET DIVISION  
NATIONAL TELECOM & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY BOARD  
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No. 1-5/2003 (NTISB-II)

Islamabad 21 May, 2018

Subject: Prevention Against Cyber Espionage (Advisory No 124)

1. Introduction. Recently, a critical vulnerability regarding Microsoft Outlook has been disclosed by the security researchers that could allow attackers to steal sensitive information including login credentials from windows system.

2. Technical Details

- a. This vulnerability resides in Microsoft Outlook that it automatically initiates an SMB connection whenever remotely hosted RTF based email message is previewed.
- b. A remote attacker can exploit this vulnerability by sending an RTF email to a target.
- c. Microsoft Outlook will automatically execute the attacker's malicious content handling over the victim's credentials and allowing the hackers to take control of the victim's system.

3. Affected Products. All outdated versions of windows that utilize Microsoft Outlook are compromised.

4. Recommendations

- a. Update windows immediately.
  - b. Block specific ports 445, 127 and 139 used for incoming and outgoing SMB connections.
  - c. Make use of complex passwords.
  - d. Block NT LAN Manager (NTLM) Single Sign-on (SSO) authentication.
  - e. Don't click on links from un-trusted sources.
5. Forwarded for perusal and dissemination of information to all concerned, please.

All Secretaries of Ministries / Divisions of Federal Government and PSO to Chief Secretaries of Provincial Governments

Major (Iftikhar Ali)  
Assistant Secretary (NTISB-II)  
Ph# 051-9204560

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discuss 29/05/18  
Secy (IT)  
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28/05/18  
Chief (BOT-IT)

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SS (BOT-IT)





**Pakistan Revenue Automation (Pvt) Ltd.**

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Ph. 051-9259435, Fax: 051-9259356

No. PRAL/CEO/ 732

Date: 21-05-2018

**Mr. Farooq Ahmad**  
Secretary (IT)  
Federal Board of Revenue  
Islamabad

**Subject: ADVISORY – PREVENTION AGAINST 7-ZIP VULNERABILITY**

Please refer to the subject cited above;

As per announcement from M/s Kaspersky via their website link

<https://threats.kaspersky.com/en/vulnerability/KLA11240/>, all employees of FBR should be informed regarding the serious risk pose by 7-Zip file achiever software.

Enclosed please find Advisory Notice, which may be circulated within FBR with the purpose of creating precaution and data safeguard awareness among FBR officials.

Additionally, as we are receiving frequent advisories from various security agencies/firms, therefore it is suggested that these advisory notices may be posted online at FBR's website as well, in order to keep FBR personnel aware of the latest cyber security threats.

  
**Mohammad Imran Amjad**  
Chief Executive Officer

Encl: As above.

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*Dated: Friday, May 18, 2018*

## **ADVISORY NOTICE**

A critical vulnerability was found in 7-Zip. By exploiting this vulnerability malicious users can cause denial of service or execute arbitrary code. This vulnerability can be exploited remotely via a specially crafted RAR archive.

**What is 7-Zip?**

7-Zip is a free and open-source file archiver, a utility used to place groups of files within compressed containers known as "archives".

**Affected Products:**

7-Zip versions earlier than 18.03

**Severity:**

Critical

**Recommendations:**

1. FBR IT Security Policy must be strictly followed. Copy can be obtained from FBR IT Wing.
2. Maintain regular offline backups or centralized offline back of your critical data.
3. Use of third party Antivirus is strictly prohibited. Only PRAL approved licensed Antivirus software must be installed on desktops.
4. Keep Windows firewall enabled on your desktops systems.
5. Regular update desktop Operating Systems.
6. Update to the latest version of 7-Zip.
7. Contact your local PRAL technical support team for any assistance.
8. In case of infection/compromise in your computer system by your phone or other media, please disconnect the computer from internet and immediately contact PRAL Support Team.

This advisory notification is being issued on the pretext of <https://threats.kaspersky.com/en/vulnerability/KLA11240/>, issued on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018.



PAKISTAN REVENUE AUTOMATION (PVT.) LTD.

23615

Further information about online security threats and support, please contact PRAL Networks & Infrastructure Department at:

Landline	(051) 9259358
IP Phone	1234
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**DEPARTMENT OF  
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PRAL**

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