Cyber wars

Trends and recent attacks

The more technology evolves, the more sophisticated the cyber attacks on corporations, government agencies, hospitals, and national interests. Here’s what we’ve learned about trends in cyber warfare, and a list of recent serious attacks.

Trends in cyber attacks

Ransomware

Digital version of extortion: Malware that prevents computer or network use until ransom is paid, usually in bitcoin.

Bots and botnets

Bot: Malware that takes control of an infected computer. Botnet: Network of infected machines. They want personal information, credit card numbers, bank credentials, and ransom.

Attacks on third parties

Infiltrations as entry points to larger companies and entities.

Nation-state threats

Cyber attacks against states and societies. Goals: Political destabilization, cyber espionage, monetary gain.

Attacks on the Internet of Things (IoT)

Connected homes, offices, longitudinal, and government-connected to everything. Help hospitals, finance, healthcare, and food.

Hactivism

“Hacking for a cause” to promote political or social agenda. Well-known hactivists: WikiLeaks, Anonymous, Xbox Underground, RedHack.

Data sources:

3. FBI, Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), May 25, 2018.

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