

Tech fight: PoS technology

Near-field communication

Pros Super-fast wave-and-pay tech ideal for low-value items. Trials with UK banks already mature.

Cons Security not yet proven, high potential for proximity-based attacks unless PIN entry is used, slowing the process and limiting its major USP.

Phone 'dongles'

Pros Paypal Here features encryption of card data; Square is less known, but has handled billions of dollars of transactions since launch.

Cons Both systems rely on magnetic-strip information, which the UK banking industry phased out in favour of Chip and PIN several years ago.

+ POSITIVE NUMBER

14 million

Cloud adoption by enterprises is causing a rise in IT spend that is creating nearly 14 million jobs over the next three years, according to an IDC report. The UK alone can expect cloud-related job growth to rise by 108 per cent before mid-2015, claimed the report, which was commissioned by Microsoft.

- NEGATIVE NUMBER

4.4%

Worldwide PC shipments will total 368 million units in 2012, a 4.4 per cent increase on 2011, according to Gartner. "PC shipments will remain weak in 2012, as the market plays catch-up in bringing a new level of innovation that consumers want to see in devices they purchase," said Ranjit Atwal, research director.



CBI criticises EC's data protection proposals

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) claims the European Commission's proposed data protection review will "restrict and burden businesses and threaten innovation".

In a submission to the Ministry of Justice's consultation on the review, the CBI said compliance will place a cost burden on all businesses, especially those that rely on data-sharing models.

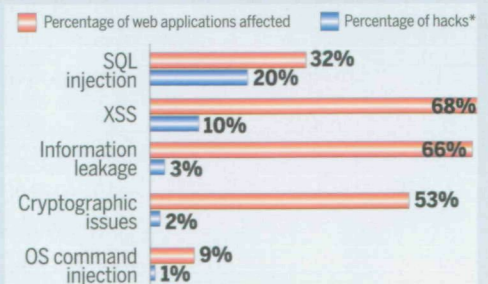
Matthew Fell, CBI director for competitive markets, said: "Many novel business models rely on data-sharing to generate revenue and offer a more individually tailored user experience. Advertising and subscription-based online music-sharing services are a good example, where we've recently seen ground-breaking innovation through partnerships with social-networking sites."

There are a variety of opportunities for amendments to be made, as the legislation is unlikely to come into force before 2015. In the meantime, the Ministry of Justice will be attending industry events to collect the views of interested parties.

Potential penalties for non-compliance are severe, with initial proposals citing up to two per cent of annual worldwide turnover.

Top five application vulnerabilities

Billions of lines of code submitted for analysis by enterprises, software providers, open-source projects and software outsourcers provided the source material for these figures, demonstrating that secure coding practices are still not widespread.



Source: Veracode
*Source: WHiDe

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