UK Cyber Security Chief wants national filter to block “Bad Addresses”

Summary:

Ciaran Martin is Britain’s new National Cyber Security Agency Chief Executive. In a conference in washington DC, he talked about how his agency was working on a project to block known malware and bad address sites. This statement has been met with a lot of criticism from Internet Freedom Advocates. This is an opt out situation which means you have the choice to join the program. Those Bad URLs will be blocked using a DNS Filter, with the goal to have a user prevented accessing the infected website. The flipside of things sites can be blocked if their is one malicious link on the webpage. They are making a list of known malicious sites to be blocked at the DNS level.

My thoughts:

I view this as a free service that the british government is offering it’s citizens. If you would like this same service you would have to pay money to get it with programs like Mcafee. I think the option to opt out of this new program is a great ability, and helps those people with concerns about internet freedom as well. I think that Blocking known sites is a good thing. It helps prevent malicious code from being spread from computer to computer.

I can see people having an issue with Peer to Peer downloading, because you know that those sites are forsure going to be on the blocked list. Another concern is who is deciding what sites are getting block and for what reason. how much control on the citizens part to add exceptions to the filter would there be?

This reminds me of a law Utah is trying to push through that would filter out porn sites. Which I think is another great idea as well, I talked about last week the public health crisis that porn is. The law would block sites at the ISP level, where you could opt out with your ISP. Which again doesn't take away someone's freedom of watching porn, but it prevents people who have an addiction to porn from watching it, helps prevent children watching it, also blocks malicious sites, and still protects people's first amendment rights. Same situation with the UK. Now this isn't a blanket solution, there will still be risk that some sites won't be on the block list but it will help prevent an accidental encountering of this “Bad Sites”. In summary I think overall that a national filter on bad addresses will be a good thing, for both parties.I think I would opt out because I am more knowledgeable than the average joe and can protect myself. :)

<http://fox13now.com/2016/05/17/utah-lawmaker-plans-porn-filter-legislation-for-cell-phones-libraries/>

<http://www.sltrib.com/news/3915832-155/story.html>