Company Creates Tool to Secure Private Messages

Posted June 26, 2018

Category : Technology/Innovations

Unlocking Word Meanings

Read the following words/expressions found in today's article.

1. ***eavesdropping*** / ˈivzˌdrɒpɪŋ / (n) – the act of secretly listening to or gaining access to a conversation
   Example: Please lock the door to prevent others from ***eavesdropping***.
2. ***encrypt*** / ɛnˈkrɪpt / (v) – to hide information by turning it into a code
   Example: Employees usually ***encrypt*** their private messages to prevent others from seeing them.
3. ***negate*** / nɪˈgeɪt / (v) – to reduce the effectiveness of something
   Example: Sharing your password with your friends ***negates*** the app's privacy features.
4. ***unrecognizable*** / ʌnˈrek əg naɪ zə bəl / (adj) – not clear enough to be identified
   Example: No one can understand the ***unrecognizable*** text.
5. ***devise*** / dɪˈvaɪz / (v) – to create
   Example: We need to ***devise*** a method that reduces overtime work.

Article

Read the text below.

An information security company has created a tool that can prevent network **eavesdropping** on online private messages.
ネットワーク上の盗聴を予防する事が出来る(prevent：〜を予防する eavesdrop：盗聴する)

MindedSecurity recently developed Shhlack—an extension designed to **encrypt** private messages sent on the popular workplace messaging app called Slack. Currently, Slack enables employers to access data exchanged on the app. However, the new privacy tool **negates** this privilege.
暗号化する為に拡張設計された(extension：拡張 encrypt：暗号化) 〜は使用者にアプリ上で交換されたデータへのアクセスを有効にする(enable：有効 employer：使用者) このツールはこの特権を無効にする(negate：無効にする privilege：特権)

To be able to use Shhlack, users must create and exchange a secret code. However, it is ideal to share this code offline to ensure security. The secret messaging can begin once users have clicked on a lock icon beside Slack's dialogue box.
〜を使用する為に ユーザは、シークレットコードを作って、交換しなければならない しかしながら、オフラインでこのコードを公開するのは、セキュリティを確保するのに理想的(ensure：確保) 一度ユーザがロックアイコンをクリックすると始る

Slack users with no access to the correct password will not be able to see private messages clearly. Instead, these users will see chats only in **unrecognizable** text.
プライベートのメッセージを明確に見る事は出来ない(clearly：明確に、はっきりと) その代わりに、これらのユーザ達は認識できない状態の文字だけ見る事が出来る(in unrecognizable：認識出来ない状態)

Despite the tool's great features, MindedSecurity chief technology officer Stefano Di Paola clarified that Shhlack is currently in its trial stage and will not be available anytime soon.
素晴らしい機能にも関わらず 〜は明確にした(clarifie：〜を明確にする) そのアプリはまだテスト段階(in trial stage：テストの段階)

Aside from MindedSecurity, software developer Open Whisper Systems also **devised** a way to secure private messages by developing an app called Signal Private Messenger. The app works in a similar fashion as other messaging programs, but it is better known for its strong encryption that disables third-party access to private exchanges. Like the Shhlack tool, Signal requires a code to view messages in order to ensure that only the receiver can read them. It also operates under a license that requires experts to test it to guarantee that it lives up to the security it promised.
方法を工夫した(device：工夫する、考案する) そのアプリは同じような仕様で機能する(work：機能する fashion：仕様、方法) 〜としてよく知られている 強い暗号化として 第三者のプライベートメッセージ交換へのアクセスを無効にする

Viewpoint Discussion

Enjoy a discussion with your tutor.

Discussion A

• In your opinion, should MindedSecurity make Shhlack available for use in the workplace? Why or why not?

• If the use of Shhlack was implemented in the workplace, how can employers ensure that it will only be used for work-related messaging?

Discussion B

• Why do you think a lot of people use messaging apps nowadays?

• Aside from privacy features, what other features would you like to be added to messaging apps? Discuss.

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