MEMO

To: Leann Nicholson

From: Niladri Sengupta (040777969)

Date: 30/09/2016

Re: Proposed topics for in-class presentation (ENL1813\_075)

For the upcoming presentation during week 5 of this course, I propose two topics regarding the security issues in the virtual world of computers. Computers are not as safe as they use to be a few years ago. This memo briefly describes the outline of the two topics.

The first topic of choice is Firewall. Breaching through someone’s computer to access unauthorized data is becoming more common these days. Programmers are building the proper software and tools to avoid and block these malicious attempts. Firewall is a gateway or a passage where the downloaded content of the internet is passed and scan to make sure it is not a virus, worm, unprivileged access, etc. If a threat is detected the firewall either removes the threat or asks the user for further instructions. Even with the default firewall in many operating systems, hackers and viruses still manage in infiltrate a system, which is one of the reasons users now a days add an anti-virus program on top of the firewall.

All this unauthorized access brings us to the next topic; encryption. A skilled hacker might be able to trespass even after all the added secutriy. Encrypting is the process of handling the bits of a data in a certain way (usually using an algorithm) in order to make the data non-accessible without proper authorization or password. If a system is breached and files are stolen, encrypting the data adds another level of security to the user’s files.

I believe due the increase in cybercrimes, one must always prepare and guard his/her own data. A personal computer usually contains private and sensitive information, which should be never left unguarded. Using a firewall, multiple anti-virus programs and encrypting data is not a guarantee that a user’s data would not be compromised but it does not mean that one shouldn’t try their best to safeguard their personal data. If you have any questions regarding these topics, please contact me at the following email: seng0011@algonquinlive.com