

# MANAGE VULNERABILITY REPORTS

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# Course Aims

Participation in this course should result in an understanding:

- Of new guidance, EN 303 645, and upcoming regulation
- Of coordinated vulnerability disclosure (CVD)
- Of how to be prepared for vulnerability disclosure
- Of how to operate a coordinated vulnerability disclosure scheme

# Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, you should understand:

- The importance of coordinated vulnerability disclosure
- Who the key players are and how they interact
- The process of coordinated vulnerability disclosure
- What is and why to adopt a coordinated vulnerability disclosure scheme

# Security and Technical Education Programme (STEP)

- IoT Security Foundation Quick Guides & training webinars
  - No universal default passwords
  - Managing coordinated vulnerability disclosure
  - Security software updates
- Industry and private sector-led
- Worked closely with UK government
- Technical and regulatory experts

# Who is this course aimed at?

SMEs, start-ups, innovators and researchers

Engage people across the organization...

- Compliance officer
- Board of Directors
- Product Manager
- Product Development Manager
- Product Security Team
- Supply Chain Manager
- Head of Public Relations

# Meet the presenters



# Standards and regulation

# What's the problem with vulnerability disclosure?

87%

of consumer IoT companies don't have a vulnerability disclosure policy



# Standards and regulatory change

## Standards

- ETSI EN 303 645 Consumer IoT cybersecurity
- Subject-specific standards
  - ISO/IEC 29147\_2018 – Vulnerability Disclosure
  - IETF security.txt – File Format to Aid security Vulnerability Disclosure

## Regulation

- US: California Senate Bill #327, Oregon House Bill #2395
- UK: Proposal for regulating consumer smart product cyber security (summer 2020 – consultation on draft legislation)

# What guidance is available?

- Subject-specific guidance

- IoTSF Quick Guides
- IoTSF Best Practice Guides
- UK NCSC

## Codes of Practice

- UK: Code of Practice for Consumer IoT Security
- Australia: code of practice
- Singapore: cybersecurity labelling scheme

# ETSI: Cybersecurity for Consumer Internet of Things Baseline Requirements

## ETSI EN 303 645

- First international standard of its kind
- "Brings together widely considered good practice...baseline provisions."
- "As consumer IoT products become increasingly secure, it is envisioned that future revisions of the present document will **mandate** provisions that are currently recommendations"

Legislation is making these provisions mandatory

# ETSI standard – in brief

## Top 3 Covered in this webinar series:

- No universal default passwords
- **Implement a means to manage reports of vulnerabilities**
- Keep software updated

## Others:

- Securely store sensitive security parameters
- Communicate securely
- Minimize exposed attack surfaces
- ...And more!

# UK proposed regulation overview

Aim: Establish a cybersecurity baseline for consumer IoT products

What does it say *now*?

- Applies to network-connectable consumer IoT products
  - “has one or more network interface that can receive and/or transmit digital data”
  - Consumer market, but could be used by businesses
- Sets out obligations for IoT producers and duty of care for distributors
- Products that do not comply should not be “supplied or made available to consumers” on the UK market

Failure to comply? Fines or removing products from the market

# Requires publication of a vulnerability disclosure policy

...and implementation of a means to manage vulnerabilities.

## Vulnerability Disclosure Policy...

- Publicly available, clear, and transparent
- Reporting allowed in an 'accessible' way
- Include contact info and timelines

## Why?

- Vulnerabilities put users, data, devices and networks at risk
- Without a reporting mechanism issues cannot be flagged (or fixed)
- Failure to respond could result in unfavorable disclosures or damage to your brand

# How can this webinar and Quick Guide help?

- Understanding coordinated vulnerability disclosure
- Guidance on preparing a public vulnerability disclosure policy
- Best practices for responding to and managing a disclosure

# Look out for other resources in this series

Free! Webinars on Vulnerability Disclosure and Software Updates

Free! Quick guides to complement the webinar topics

<https://www.iotsecurityfoundation.org/consumer-iot/>

VulnerableThings.com ...a vulnerability disclosure platform for consumer IoT supply chain.



# Recommendations and Standards

- ISO/IEC: 30111 Information technology — Security techniques — Vulnerability handling processes
- ISO/IEC 29147:2018, Information technology — Security techniques — Vulnerability disclosure
- IoTSF: Vulnerability Disclosure Best Practice Guidelines, Rel. 1.1
- ETSI EN 303.645 Cyber Security for Consumer Internet of Things: Baseline Requirements
- IETF draft informational RFC 'A File Format to Aid in Security Vulnerability Disclosure'

 **Report Vulnerability**  
 Report a vulnerability with a 'thing' or device. Report anonymously or get public acknowledgement.

 **Join**  
 Join as a member. Easily comply with disclosure requirements. Manage disclosures. Get help.

# Consumer Internet of Things Vulnerability Disclosure Platform

Free to report vulnerabilities. Join to manage reports and publish disclosures.

Report Vulnerabilities | Manage reports | Publish coordinated vulnerability disclosures | Access resources

[Read more >](#)



**Consumer IoT Security Quick Guide: MANAGE VULNERABILITY REPORTS**

**IoTSF Website: Manage Vulnerability Reports Quick**



**Twitter: UK Minister Minister for Digital Infrastructure**

# MANAGE VULNERABILITY REPORTS

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# What is Vulnerability Disclosure?

- A set of rules for how companies and security researchers can interact in a way which penalises neither.
- An important component in overall cyber security and keeping users safe



# What do we mean by vulnerabilities?



# Who are security researchers?



# Why should I talk to a security researcher?

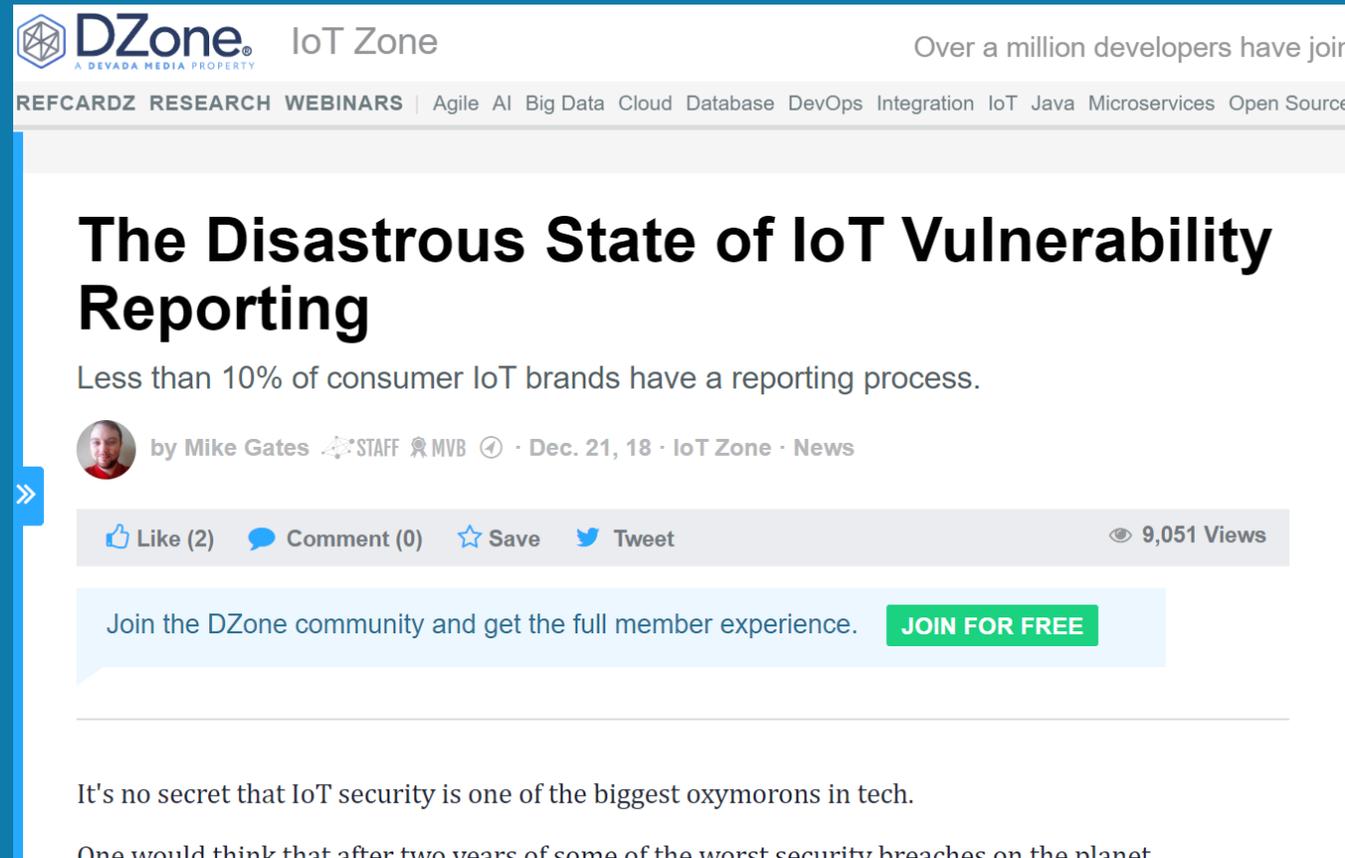
- Security incidents are made worse if your company doesn't even know about the issue!
- Security researchers / reporters are trying to help you.



# History and types of disclosure

- Non-Disclosure
- Limited Disclosure
- Full-Disclosure
- RFPolicy
- **Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure**
- “Responsible” Disclosure is subjective terminology

# Where are we now?



The screenshot shows a web page from DZone's IoT Zone. The header includes the DZone logo (A DEVADA MEDIA PROPERTY) and the text 'IoT Zone'. A navigation bar lists various topics: REFCARDZ, RESEARCH, WEBINARS, Agile, AI, Big Data, Cloud, Database, DevOps, Integration, IoT, Java, Microservices, and Open Source. The main content area features the article title 'The Disastrous State of IoT Vulnerability Reporting' in large, bold black text. Below the title is a sub-headline: 'Less than 10% of consumer IoT brands have a reporting process.' The author information is 'by Mike Gates', with icons for STAFF, MVB, and a lock icon, followed by the date 'Dec. 21, 18' and category 'IoT Zone · News'. A social sharing bar shows 'Like (2)', 'Comment (0)', 'Save', and 'Tweet', along with '9,051 Views'. Below this is a call-to-action box: 'Join the DZone community and get the full member experience. JOIN FOR FREE'. The visible text of the article begins with 'It's no secret that IoT security is one of the biggest oxymorons in tech. One would think that after two years of some of the worst security breaches on the planet'.

# Process Establishment and Readiness

- Basic precursors
- Internal homework!



# Means of contact

- Email address, usually:
  - security@..
- Also – a duty on the company involved to ensure that administrators of addresses like postmaster@... and customer service departments know how to re-direct misdirected disclosures.
- Some organisations recommend a secure web-form to contact
- Companies sometimes publish encryption keys for secure contact

# Website and Vulnerability Disclosure Policy (VDP)

- Webpage: [https://\[companywebdomain\]/security](https://[companywebdomain]/security)

*"[Company Name] takes security issues extremely seriously and welcomes feedback from security researchers in order to improve the security of its products and services. We operate a policy of coordinated disclosure for dealing with reports of security vulnerabilities and issues.*

*To privately report a suspected security issue to us, please send an email to [security@<companydomain>](mailto:security@<companydomain>), giving as much detail as you can. We will respond to you as soon as possible. If the suspected security issue is confirmed, we will then come back to you with an estimate of how long the issue will take to fix. Once the fix is available, we will notify you and recognise your efforts on this page.*

**Thank You**

*Thanks to the following people who have helped us to continue to our millions of users out there by making a vulnerability disclosure to us:*

*David Rogers, @drogersuk  
Xxxx, @xxxx*

# 'Unacceptable' security research?

How does a security researcher interpret this?

*[Organisation] does not permit the following types of security research:*

*Causing or attempting Denial of Service.*

*The attempted or actual destruction or corruption of data.*

*The attempted or actual access to personal or private data.*

*The interception of communications on a network that the public has access to.*

- Some companies choose to outline this
- e.g. research that would disclose customer data
- Companies should not encourage damaging behaviour

# security.txt

- BBC example: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/.well-known/security.txt>

```
# British Broadcasting Corporation - reporting security vulnerabilities to the BBC

# Please report any security vulnerabilities to us via the contact method(s) below, only after reading our disclosure policy.
# Please do not include any sensitive information in your initial message, we'll provide a secure communication method in our reply to you.
Contact: mailto:security@bbc.co.uk

# Our disclosure policy. By submitting a potential security incident to us, you are implicitly accepting these terms - please read this before submitting:
Policy: https://www.bbc.com/backstage/security-disclosure-policy/

# We're continually recruiting, please visit the link below and search for "information security" if you're interested in a career with the BBC in infosec
Hiring: https://careerssearch.bbc.co.uk/jobs/search

# Please see https://securitytxt.org/ for details of the specification of this file
```

# Operating a CVD scheme - walkthrough

- The disclosure
- Time – responding and total timeline

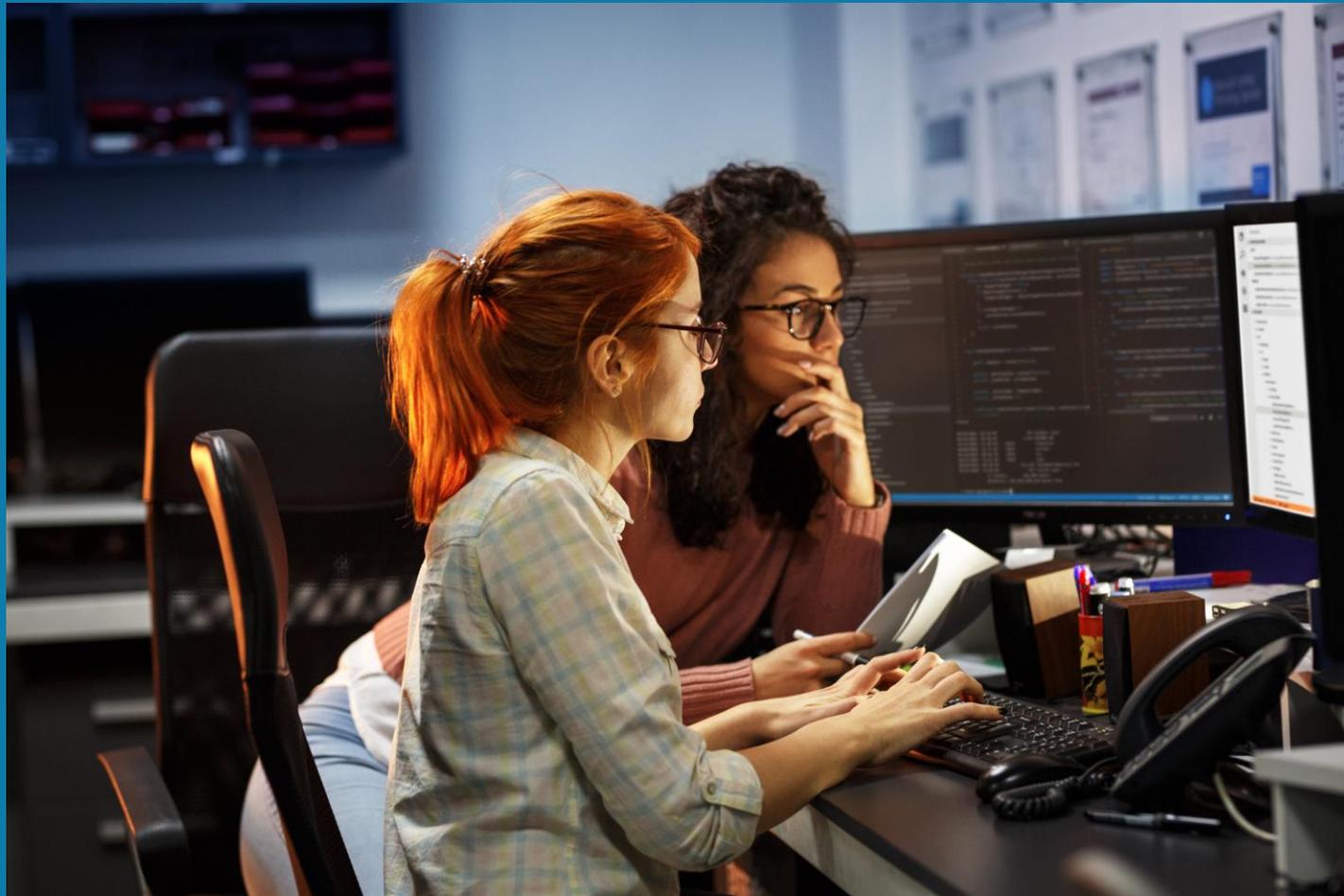


# Working with the researcher

- Consider that the researcher's circumstances are very different to yours. What motivates them?
- Avoid conflict.



# Addressing the vulnerability



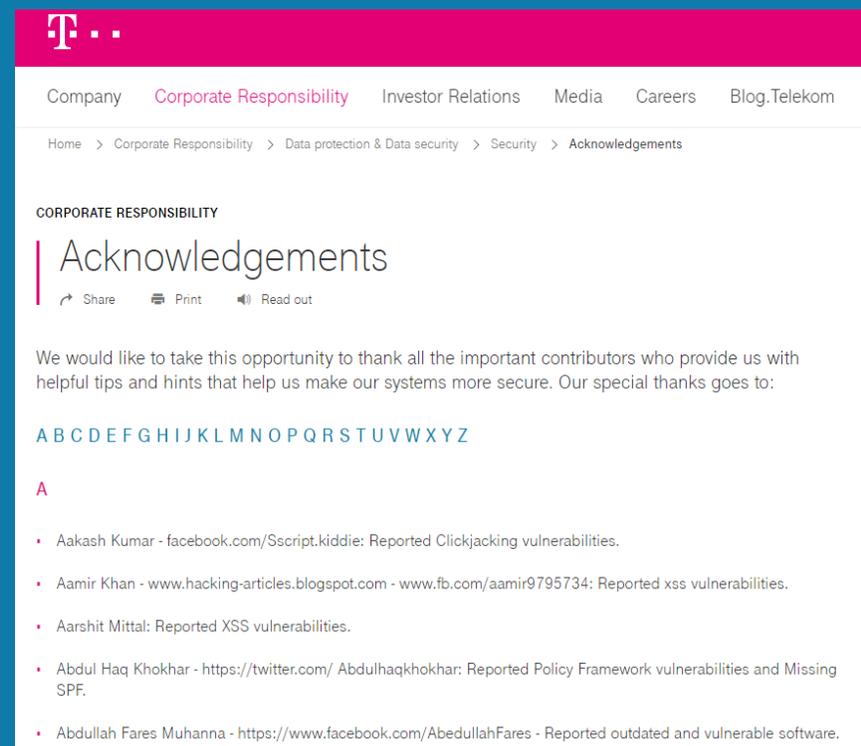
# Going public

- Security Advisory
- Coordinated!



# Crediting the researcher

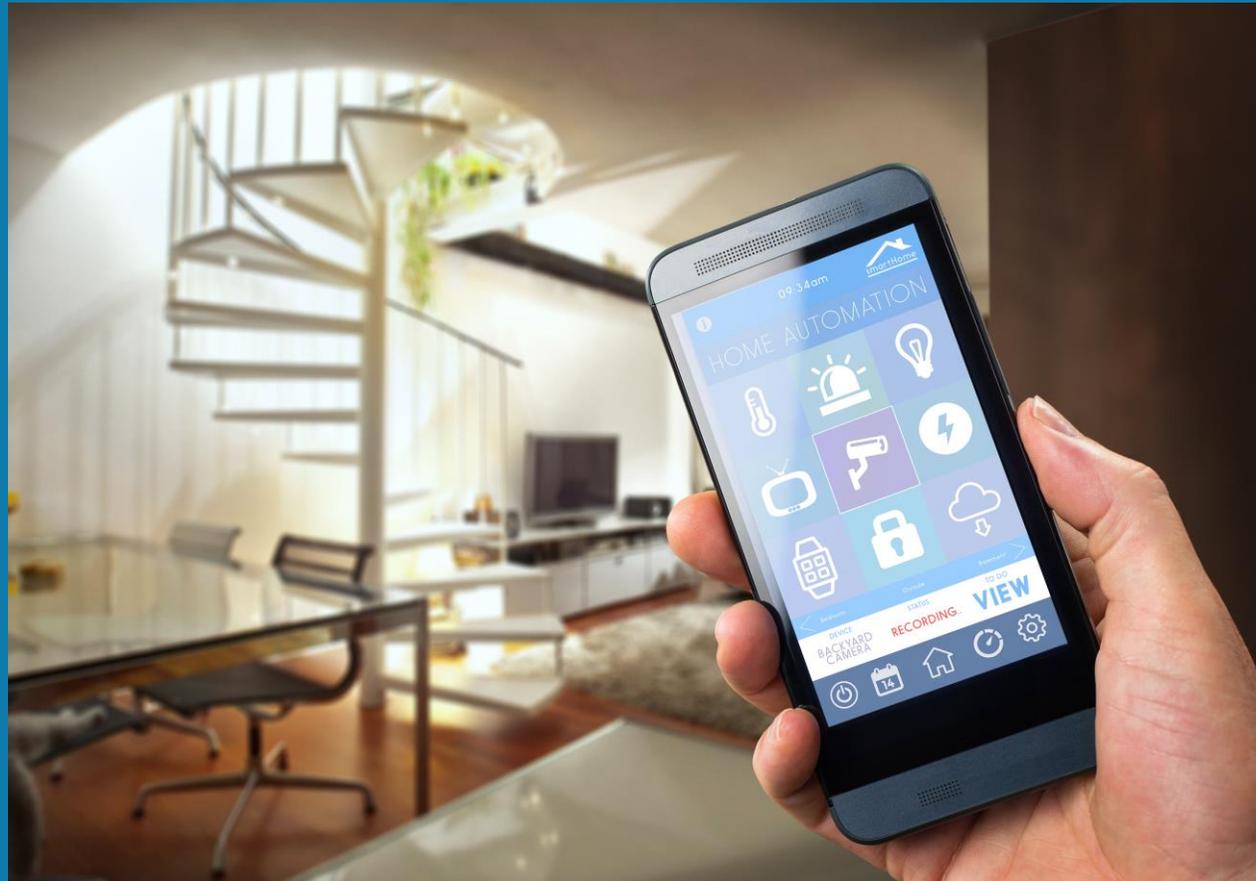
- Acknowledge the security researcher for their efforts:
  - List their name and twitter handle on the security page
  - Thanks in public facing PR



The screenshot shows the 'Acknowledgements' page on the Telekom website. The page is under the 'CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY' section. It features a navigation menu with links for Company, Corporate Responsibility, Investor Relations, Media, Careers, and Blog.Telekom. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Corporate Responsibility > Data protection & Data security > Security > Acknowledgements. The main heading is 'Acknowledgements' with options to Share, Print, and Read out. The text states: 'We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the important contributors who provide us with helpful tips and hints that help us make our systems more secure. Our special thanks goes to:'. Below this is an alphabetical index 'A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z'. Under the letter 'A', there is a list of acknowledgements:

- Aakash Kumar - facebook.com/Sscript.kiddie: Reported Clickjacking vulnerabilities.
- Amir Khan - www.hacking-articles.blogspot.com - www.fb.com/aamir9795734: Reported xss vulnerabilities.
- Arshit Mittal: Reported XSS vulnerabilities.
- Abdul Haq Khokhar - https://twitter.com/ Abdulhaqkhokhar: Reported Policy Framework vulnerabilities and Missing SPF.
- Abdullah Fares Muhanna - https://www.facebook.com/AbdullahFares - Reported outdated and vulnerable software.

# Example disclosures



# Conclusions and Further Resources

# CVD schemes in the wild

- Examples
- Proxy Disclosure



# Recommendations and Standards

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