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Australian Human Resources Institute warns customers of cyber attack

AHRI has sent out emails warning of malware that could have been spreading fake browser updates.



David Hollingworth

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• Fri, 09 Feb 2024 • SECURITY

The Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI) has revealed that it has fallen victim to a cyber attack.

AHRI sent emails to its customers this morning, 9 February, warning of a “security incident”. The incident appears to have happened this month, when an unidentified threat actor gained access to AHRI’s website via the site provider.

“In February 2024, an unauthorised person/s accessed the website via AHRI’s website provider and installed a script and malware on the AHRI website, which were active between 1 and 2 February 2024,” AHRI said in an email signed by chief executive Sarah McCann-Bartlett.

“AHRI’s website provider informed us the malware may have prompted site visitors to download a fake web browser update. If you visited the website between 1 and 2 February 2024, your device may be affected. Note that if you visited the website using a mobile phone, you would not have been affected.”

AHRI said it has engaged “forensic IT experts” to lead the investigation into the incident. It is not yet known if any data was accessed during the incident. For now, AHRI recommends that its customers run virus scans on any PC used to access its website.

According to ARHI’s website provider, the institute’s website is now safe to use.



Date: 9/2/2024

NOTIFICATION OF AHRI WEBSITE INCIDENT - FEBRUARY 2024

Dear [redacted]

I am writing to inform you about a security incident that has occurred on the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI) website: ahri.com.au.

At this stage, AHRI is notifying you as a matter of precaution.