Huge Database of User Names and Passwords Made Available on the Internet

April 28, 2021 - A database containing nearly 3 billion user names and passwords has been published on a cybercrime user forum and made available for free to anyone who wants it. Its publication doesn't indicate any new data breaches however. It is actually a compilation of data from other known breaches, some of which go back several years.

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(function() {
var s = document.createElement('SCRIPT'), s1 = document.getElementsByTagName('SCRIPT')[0];

s.type = 'text/javascript';
s.src = 'http://widgets.digg.com/buttons.js';
s1.parentNode.insertBefore(s, s1);
})();
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(function() {
  var po = document.createElement('script'); po.type = 'text/javascript'; po.async = true;
  po.src = 'https://apis.google.com/js/plusone.js';
  var s = document.getElementsByTagName('script')[0]; s.parentNode.insertBefore(po, s);
})();
```

Analysts researching the massive 100 gigabit file have made some interesting findings. The file contains nearly 1.6 million government email sign-ons; more than 1/3 of which were from the United States Government. Their analysis indicates that the inclusion of these government sign-on credentials doesn't mean that the agencies involved did anything wrong, but that they were hacked using a variety of methods.

Because of the massive number of records involved, and the fact that some of the breaches are more recent, all email users would be wise to change their passwords if they haven't done so since March 1st. The file containing this information was published for the world to see in February.
by Jim Malmberg
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