

Hackers steal Gmail credentials by hijacking Samsung smart fridge

BY JAMES WALKER 2 HOURS AGO IN TECHNOLOGY

Hackers have successfully extracted login details for Google's Gmail email service from a Samsung smart fridge. The details were unveiled at the recent DEFCON hacking conference, fuelling concerns about the privacy of Internet of Things devices.



The affected fridge is the Samsung RF28HMEBBSR. The fridge is equipped with a built-in display that can be used to view, amongst other things, calendar details. The aim is to let the whole household plan their calendar online, putting an end to the scribbled notes found under fridge magnets around the world. Users have to provide the smart fridge with their Gmail details in order to use this feature.

Unfortunately, the fridge fails to validate the SSL security certificates sent by the Google servers at login. This makes it open to man-in-the-middle attacks because the fridge never checks to see that it is actually connected to Google, although SSL is implemented and certificates requested.

The attack, by Pen Test Partners, is explained in a report in [The Register](#). The hackers have to connect to the same Wi-Fi network as the fridge is using but can then use the man-in-the-middle technique to intercept legitimate traffic from the fridge to the Internet and thereby steal the Gmail login credentials.

The UK-based team say that other potential weaknesses and interesting bugs "definitely merit further investigation". They ran out of time to attempt further hacks, including hijacking communications between the fridge and Samsung software update servers, due to the time-limited nature of the DEFCON conference.

The fridge was part of the DEFCON Internet of Things village and was provided with the message "Can you own our #IoT #Samsung - RF28HMEBBSR fridge ::]" The conference is designed to give hackers a chance to play with new devices and expose their weaknesses, allowing manufacturers to remedy faults in patches.

Pen Test Partners wrote [in a blog post](#):

"As a team we're doing more and more IoT research and hacking so this was a great opportunity to work on something we can't get on our hands in the UK yet. ... We wanted to pull the terminal unit out of the fridge to get physical access to things like a USB port and serial or JTAG interfaces, but ran out of time."

The team adds that it has yet to follow-up on its DEFCON research because the fridge, alongside other Samsung smart models, isn't on sale in the UK. The hijacked fridge is one of several Samsung Smart Home devices that integrate with the Internet of Things to provide at-a-glance information and easy control from a smartphone app.

The issue represents a growing concern regarding the safety of the Internet of Things. Security flaws will always be found and the Internet-connected homes of the future that are envisioned by the designers of today will be so filled with devices that some people think it inevitable that privacy will be irreversibly compromised.

More about [samsung](#), [iot](#), [internet of things](#), [google](#), [gmail](#)

- Latest from **B2B News Network**
- [Report: 55% of Canadian SMBs run from smartphones](#)
 - [4 social media mistakes every B2B marketer must avoid](#)
 - [Ask the B2B Expert: How B2B marketing varies wildly from B2C marketing](#)

- [Une Mère Parisienne Gagne 6.850 € Par Mois En Travaillant À Domicile](#)
- [A Seduction Technique Women Can't Resist](#) [How To Make Any Woman Obsess Over You](#)
- [Natural Fibres Reverse Appearance Of Hairloss](#)
- [Rich People Do Everything To Ban This! This Money-Making Hack is Unbelievable!](#)
- [Shocking Method 'Restores' Lost Hair](#) [Weight Loss System Melts Fat Like Butter](#)
- ['Fat Hormone' Stops Women From Losing Weight](#)

Comments

New Rule Has Drivers Furious



US drivers who drive less than 50 mi/day are in for a big surprise.. [\[read more\]](#)

TOP NEWS

LATEST NEWS

How Minibar manages cash flow to fuel growth

Op-Ed: Time for Liberals to vote NDP to oust Harper Like Share 3.1k

Review: Rock and Roll Hall of Famers ZZ Top rock The Paramount Like Share 2 **SPECIAL**

Touch of Modern SEAMLESS KEY CARRY [SHOP NOW](#)

WORLD PREMIERE Nick Tangorra Band talks Webster Hall show, upcoming birthday Like Share 31 **SPECIAL**

2015 NFL Power Rankings: Updated preseason edition Like Share 0

Woman lives on trains because she's sick of paying rent Like Share 0

Abandoned car found at the bottom of 20-foot sinkhole Like Share 9

The heroes who foiled the French train attack Like Share 0

China shares in dramatic dive as fears mount over economy Like Share 5

Interview: Ben Gold opens up about future plans and Garuda Like Share 8 **SPECIAL**

Ring diagnosing sexually-transmitted infections. Does it work?
[Like](#) [Share](#) 6

CFL Power Rankings: Hamilton Tiger-Cats are on the prowl
[Like](#) [Share](#) 0

Hydrogen-powered phone battery could provide charge for a week
[Like](#) [Share](#) 34

How cryogenic sleep might become a reality
[Like](#) [Share](#) 10

Russia launches military drills in Arctic
[Like](#) [Share](#) 0

Op-Ed: 400m shipping container skyscraper homes for India's poor?
[Like](#) [Share](#) 3

Digital Journal
 45,736 likes

[Like Page](#) [Sign Up](#)

Be the first of your friends to like this

Corporate

- [Contact Us](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Media Center](#)
- [Advertise](#)
- [Leaderboard & Achievements](#)
- [Investors & Partners](#)
- [Board of Advisers](#)

Help & Support

- [Help Center](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Editorial Guidelines](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)

News Links

- [Latest News](#)
- [Live Events](#)
- [News Alerts](#)
- [Digital Journal Mobile](#)
- [Global Press Releases](#)
- [24-7PressRelease.com](#)