A SANS 2021 Survey
Password Management and 2 Factor Authentication Methods

Author: Chris Dale | Date: May 2021

Usernames and passwords have been the mainstay for system access for decades. But today, this duo remains a major Achilles heel, leading to the compromise of critical systems and sensitive data. While numerous organizations are moving to enterprise MFA solutions, many organizations—large and small—are still dealing with a password legacy.

This SANS survey will start with exploring how password management is evolving, including how organizations are managing their passwords across users, devices, and apps. We then look beyond simply passwords to the adoption of MFA solutions and subsequent changes in best practices. If organizations are not adopting MFA solutions, what may be holding them back? Are limitations in password management solutions a contributing factor?

This survey and subsequent analysis by author Chris Dales should provide valuable information to enterprises looking toward the future of improved authentication.

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About the Author

Chris Dale, SANS Certified Instructor, @ChrisADale

Chris Dale has a background in System Development, IT-Operations and Security Management. This broad experience in IT is advantageous when managing penetration tests, incidents and while teaching. Chris is passionate about security - both physical and in IT, and regularly presents and teaches at conferences and workshops. Chris holds the GCIH, GPEN, GSLC, and GMOB certifications. He also has a B.S in Informatics, with specialization in programming from Norwegian University of Science and Technology. He participates in panel debates and is invited to participate in Government related working groups, to recommend and improve the Norwegian private and public sectors.

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Associated Paper or Product Review	Publish a custom paper based on a segment of the report that is of interest to you or a product review that calls on the report as an entry point to the review. This associated paper includes a webcast.
Associated Video	Have a SANS expert interview a representative of your company. The sponsor will receive a branded video(s) of the interview. The video will also be available on the SANS website for lead generation. SANS will organize all logistics.

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