

## UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS office of the secretary-general

UST:SO06-00-ME20
A.Y. 2023-2024

ТО	•	THE THOMASIAN COMMUNITY
FROM	:	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
RE	:	USER END-POINT SECURITY MEASURES
DATE	:	27 April 2024

The University, through the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), implements the basic **USER END-POINT SECURITY MEASURES** in the use of various technologies and applications, ensuring a secure and safe environment for onsite or online teaching, learning, research, and work, as follows:

- 1. **Ensure that the operating system and all installed software are updated** with the latest security patches and updates;
- 2. **Regularly update the antivirus software** and **periodically scan the device/s** to detect and mitigate malware and avoid spreading it in any LAB or WIFI network;
- 3. **Regularly backup important files and data** on a clean external drive or cloud storage service;
- 4. Enable Multi-Factor or Two-factor authentication on your Google Workspace account;
- 5. **Use a strong password** (i.e., secure password should have a minimum of 12 characters, alphanumeric, a mixture of uppercase and lowercase letters, and includes special characters);
- 6. Users should **monitor** their **accounts for suspicious activity**; and
- 7. Should there be any suspicious activity on the account, **report it promptly and immediately change the password**, including any online accounts with the same password, as this might lead to data leaks.

Everyone is urged to be **vigilant and be aware of the following malware** that might compromise the efficiency of online engagement:

Avalanche- Andromeda	Also known as Gamarue or Wauchos, it is a dangerous Trojan virus that can be used for multiple malicious activities. Andromeda was first discovered in 2011. When the malware infiltrates the system, it starts controlling the device and slows down the system. This malware is a modular bot whose functionalities can be modified through plugins. Furthermore, infected machines are then incorporated into its botnet, which enables the distribution of other malware.	
Adload	A malicious adware that targets macOS devices that hijack browsers and forces users to visit potentially malicious websites.	







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Socks5Systemz	This malware installs a proxy bot on infected systems, turning them into proxies capable of forwarding traffic to someone else. These can be			
Socks5Systemz	distributed via phishing, exploit kits, malvertising, and trojanized executables.			

For more information, refer to the OICT Memo <u>UST:S057-00-ME16</u>, dated 15 April 2023.

Your utmost cooperation and appropriate action are highly expected.

Thank you.

**DNEL, OP** FR IFF R. Secrétary-Gene

