Security strategies for managing mobile devices in SME

Mobile devices have become a part of everyday business and gives a lot of benefits to organizations as well as new security challenges. It gives a great flexibility of time and space when it connects our personal and business lives. Mobile devices are considered to be one of the weakest links in the IT infrastructure of most enterprises. A recent study shows that one out of five companies has experienced a mobile device breach and another 24 % does not know if they have been breached. There is no golden rule for how organizations should deal with these devices, it depends on the amount of control the organization feels they need and what risks they are willing to take.

To manage these new challenges there is a need for a new systematic approach, even for organizations with limited resources. This research aim to support organizations to develop and implement a strategy for mobile devices and make it easier for managers to make decisions about what way they shall go when it comes to mobile devices.

The overall research method is Action Design Research (ADR) where the research is practice inspired and the artefact is theory integrated. ADR deals with two challenges, address a problem from the practice and then construct and evaluate an IT artefact that addresses the problem. As the name reveals the central parts are designing and acting, it means that theoretically design an artefact and then go out and test it in practice. The IT artefact in this research will be a set of tools to help with decision making and implementation in organizations when it comes to device management.

The expected results of this project are a framework to help organizations to man-age strategies for mobile devices in a secure way. The framework will support the work from initial analysis to a fully implemented strategy. It is expected to work with an existing management system as well as stand-alone.