

From: MGMT Employee Communications
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 2:22 PM
Subject: Webmail
Importance: High

MEMORANDUM FOR: Management Directorate Employees

SUBJECT: Webmail

New restrictions are being implemented that will no longer allow employee access to personal webmail sites from government computers. This action is being taken to strengthen cybersecurity and enhance protection of the Department's computer networks. Effective tonight, access to webmail sites like AOL, Hotmail, Comcast, Gmail, Yahoo, and other email services will be prohibited.

As you know, DHS is the lead agency in securing the federal cyber-environment. The Management Directorate plays a significant role in this important effort. According to the Office of the Chief Information Officer, access to webmail using DHS networks is responsible for almost half of all attempts to compromise DHS network security. In August 2013, during a three-week period, 14 Trojan horses were detected on DHS computers as a result of webmail use. In December, 25 Trojan horses were detected.

In order to provide employees with the means to receive emergency messages, DHS employees are allowed limited personal use of their DHS email address for family members, school contacts, and emergency contacts.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks!

Bob

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