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Since 'the geek shall inherit the earth', this geek is just waiting for his day to rule the world. In the meantime, he is a young Padawan for CNET Asia whilst toying with a myriad of fun stuff disguised as work and pretending to advise companies on tech business and new media strategies. His playmates range from startups, (un)Fortune 500s, to government organisations. [Subscribe to Geekonomics by Email](#)

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18 Nov

Security implications of new Facebook email service

Internet, Internet Safety, Parental Control, Security, Social Media, news



Facebook has announced its new email service which brings together Facebook messages, instant messaging chat and SMS messages in one place.

This geek was alerted to some of the security implications through an [FAQ guide](#) which Sophos has setup.

"Before signing up, users need to realise that these new features increase the attack surface on the Facebook platform, and make personal accounts all the more alluring for cybercriminals to break into," said Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant at Sophos. More from Sophos after the break.

"Facebook accounts will now be linked with many more people in the users' social circles - opening up new opportunities for identity fraudsters to launch attacks."

"Users also need to be aware that Facebook will be storing a complete archive of all of their communications with one person - this raises concerns as to how this data could be misused if it fell into the wrong hands," continued Cluley. "With this in mind, it will be critical for Facebook to implement more effective filtering mechanisms to prevent fraudsters from manipulating Facebook users into falling victim to new spams, scams and phishing attacks."

Sophos's verdict on the new system? Users will need to take greater care of the security of their Facebook account than ever before. Keeping security up-to-date on computers, policing which applications link with their Facebook profile, and choosing sensible, unique, hard-to-crack passwords will be essential.

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Posted by admin @ 11:43 am

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