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MIIT Holds APP Personal Information Protection Supervision Meeting

On February 5, 2021, China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology ("MIIT") held an app personal information protection supervision meeting in Beijing. Liehong Liu, the vice minister of MIIT attended the meeting and delivered a speech. The responsible person of the Information and Communication Administration of MIIT attended the meeting. Experts and scholars in relevant fields and the company leaders from 14 enterprises such as Baidu, Tencent, Alibaba, Meituan and ByteDance also attended the meeting. During the meeting, MIIT updated the status on the work of app personal information protection. In response to app over-requesting permissions for microphones, photo albums, address books, etc., MIIT carried out special technical inspections and found 179 apps with permission problems. MIIT ordered the apps to rectify the problems within a time limit and later notified 26 of them to society which did not complete the rectification. The officials of MIIT introduced the *Interim Provisions on the Personal Information Protection of Mobile Internet Applications* which is being drafted and discussed with the experts, scholars and company leaders. ([More](#))

MIIT Reports 26 Apps for Infringing Users' Rights and Interests

On February 5, 2021, MIIT issued a circular stating that in response to the recent social concern about the permissions of microphones, address books, and photo albums, in accordance with the *Cybersecurity Law, Telecommunication Regulation, Provisions on Protecting the Personal Information of Telecommunications and Internet Users* and other laws and regulations, combined with the *Notice of Launching a Special Campaign to Further Crack Down on APP Infringements on Users' Rights and Interests*, MIIT organized third-party testing agencies to inspect mobile phone apps and supervised problemed app companies to rectify. MIIT announced 26 apps that have not been rectified as of February 5. The notified apps should complete the rectification before February 10. If the rectification is not completed within the time limit, MIIT will carry out corresponding decisions in accordance with laws and regulations. ([More](#))

MIIT: 37 Apps Pulled off for Infringing Users' Rights and Interests

On February 3, 2021, MIIT issued a circular stating that on January 22, MIIT announced a list of 157 app operators that infringed users' rights and interests. As of February 3, after verification and re-examination by a third-party testing agency, there were still 37 apps that had not been rectified as required by MIIT. In accordance with relevant laws and regulations, MIIT decided to organize the removal of these apps. Relevant app stores were requested to organize the removal of the listed apps immediately after the release of this circular. ([More](#))

TC260 Invites Comments on 2 Draft National Information Security Technology Standards

On February 3, 2021, the Secretariat of the National Information Security Standardization Technical Committee (also known as "TC260") issued two exposure drafts of national information security technology standards, including the *Information Security Technology: Data Security Guidelines for Express Logistics Services* and *Information Security Technology: Data Security Guidelines for Instant Messaging Services*. The deadline for submitting comments is April 3. ([More](#))

Overseas News

FTC Approves to Settle with Zoom Over the Company's Data Security Practices Allegations

On February 1, 2021, the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”) announced that it finalized a settlement with Zoom Video Communications, Inc. (“Zoom”), over allegations it misled consumers about the level of security it provided for its Zoom meetings and compromised the security of some Mac users. The final order requires Zoom to implement a comprehensive security program, review any software updates for security flaws prior to release and ensure the updates will not hamper third-party security features. Zoom should obtain biennial assessments of its security program by an independent third party, which the FTC has authority to approve, and notify the FTC if it experiences a data breach. ([More](#))



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