

Ashley Madison Hack Exposes Cheaters with their Pants Down



Toronto's police force and Ashley Madison, the affair arranging website, are scrambling to find the hackers who were responsible for Ashley Madison's recent security breach. To make sure they find the culprits, Avid Life Media, the website's parent company, has offered a \$377,000 reward to anyone who can provide law enforcement agencies with any information regarding the case.

According to reports, the group of cyber criminals behind the incident call themselves the Impact Team. They came "under the radar" when they stole user information from the same website back in July.

For those who haven't heard of the website, it is where people sign up to have extramarital affairs. The cyber attack was able to get away with account information on 30 million Ashley Madison users. The hackers then threatened to air the dirty laundry of all 30 million Ashley Madison users if the website didn't close shop within a week.

The website refused, which prompted the hackers to live up to their side of the deal, upending the lives of the users who until then thought that their extramarital affairs were a secret.

Although all this happened online, the aftermath proved to be devastating for many users who depended on the site's confidentiality. After the incident, the Toronto police reported that at least two

suicides were a direct result of the hacking incident which is why catching the culprits is so important before more users of the website take irreversible action.

Ashley Madison has also decided to take matters into their own hands by announcing a cash reward for anyone who can provide them with any information that could lead to the capture of the hackers. If the move succeeds, it could help build up faith in the website, which has probably lost a lot of its patrons since the incident.

While we seldom hear any news on a website putting out a bounty on hackers, it isn't unheard of. In the case of Ashley Madison, the reward could help catch the culprits just as Microsoft was able to do back in 2011, when it offered a \$250,000 reward to catch the group that was behind Rustock, which was responsible for sending around 40% of the world's spam in that year.

Would you report information on the hackers if you had it? Do you think Ashley Madison should close shop? Let us know what you think.