Internet of Things – Blessing or Curse?

What?	• Equipping all objects in the world with machine-readable identifiers could transform daily life. • Researchers suggest that more than 30 billion devices will be wirelessly connected to the Internet of Things by 2020.
A Blessing?	• Businesses may no longer run out of stock or generate waste products due to more precise understanding of needs. • Home management becomes easier as heating, security, health, and even food and drink supplies are monitored and managed. • Our ability to interact with our appliances could be altered remotely based on changing needs.
A curse?	• We are living with an increasing, irreducible cyber threat. • We must ensure our ability to recover swiftly when attacked, while avoiding restrictions on mobility and internet access. • We can limit the number, but some breaches will occur. • The Internet of Things could embed remotely-controllable Trojan horses inside our home, car and office cyber-defences.
Is the threat real?	• Most of today's broadband routers are wide open to exploitation from anywhere on the planet. • Many of our wireless-enabled gadgets can also be intercepted by other devices within range. • Our vulnerability increases as we move to cloud-based servicing of more and more devices. • Some successful attacks have already been recorded.

Talk to us about our approach to cyber-protection:	
Email	Frank.Morris@vecta5.com
Land Line	+44 (0) 1954 250222
Cell Phone	+44 (0) 7768 713084
Skype/Twitter	@vectafrank

Vecta5

www.vecta5.com

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