

Hannes Mühleisen in media about insecure wifi in trains



Hannes Mühleisen, a postdoc researcher at CWI, recently found that he could see too much information from the wifi network in NS trains, which are passing close by his home - a houseboat in Amsterdam near Central Station. The network information is not encrypted. With two simple antennas Mühleisen has been gathering data for five months.

After trying to get in contact with the NS many times without success, he was [interviewed by de Correspondent](#) (in Dutch). It was published on 6 August 2015.

According to Mühleisen, people can best avoid using wifi in trains as long as it is not secure. He also recommends to use a VPN connection. The [National Cyber Security Centre in the Netherlands published](#) an updated [fact sheet on VPN and wifi use for travellers](#) on 6 August ([pdf](#)). Several other media also paid attention to this news, such as:

- NPO Radio 2: Hannes Mühleisen was interviewed by Gijs Staverman in his programme Gijs 2.0'. The livestream was broadcasted on [NPO Radio 2 on 6 August 2015](#) at noon on national Dutch radio. The [interview with Hannes Mühleisen](#) can also be found online ([audio, in Dutch](#)).
- NOS op 3 online: [Vanaf je woonboot meekijken op de NS-wifi](#) (video, 6 augustus 2015)
- Radio 3FM, interview door Arno LeBlanc: [Wifi in de trein is zo lek als een mandje](#) (audio, 6-8-2015)
- NPO Radio 1: de Correspondent journalist [Maurits Martijn spoke in NCRV's De Ochtend](#) (audio) with more information on the [website of De Ochtend](#) and a [reaction of NS in De Ochtend](#) (audio), with more information on the [reaction on the website of De Ochtend](#).
- de Correspondent journalist [Maurits Martijn spoke on BNR radio](#) (audio), with [more information on the BNR website](#).
- Information Age: [Man on a houseboat secretly collects train travellers' sensitive data through unencrypted Wi-Fi network](#) (7-8-2015)
- Joop.nl: [NS: Wie gratis wil internetten betaalt met zijn privacy](#)
- AD: ['Wifi-netwerk in trein onveilig'](#)
- De Telegraaf: ['Wifi-netwerk in trein onveilig'](#)
- NU.nl: ['Wifi-netwerk in NS-treinen eenvoudig af te tappen'](#) and ['Openbaar wifi veilig te gebruiken met VPN'](#)
- Security.nl: [NS: wifi in de trein ongeschikt voor internetbankieren](#)
- Nieuws.nl: ['Gebruik wifi in treinen NS onveilig'](#)
- NL Times: [Report: Free train wifi totally unsecured; NS ignored warnings](#)
- and further a.o. [EenVandaag](#), [BN De Stem](#), [RTV NH](#), [het Eindhovens Dagblad](#), [de Gelderlander](#), [NieuwsUit.com](#), [DeOndernemer.nl](#), [Facto](#) and Apparata ([Wifi-gebruik in NS-treinen blijkt eenvoudig te bespioneren](#)).

More information can be found at Hannes Mühleisen's personal website with train data, ['Trainwatch'](#) (<http://trainwatch.u0d.de/>) and [Mühleisen's personal website](#).

Dr. Hannes Mühleisen is a computer scientist based in Amsterdam, interested in data management for statistical processing. He is working as a researcher at the [Database Architectures](#) group within the [Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica \(CWI\)](#) and also serves as an adviser for [MonetDB Solutions](#). He was recently [awarded a Veni grant](#).

Picture: Hannes Mühleisen.