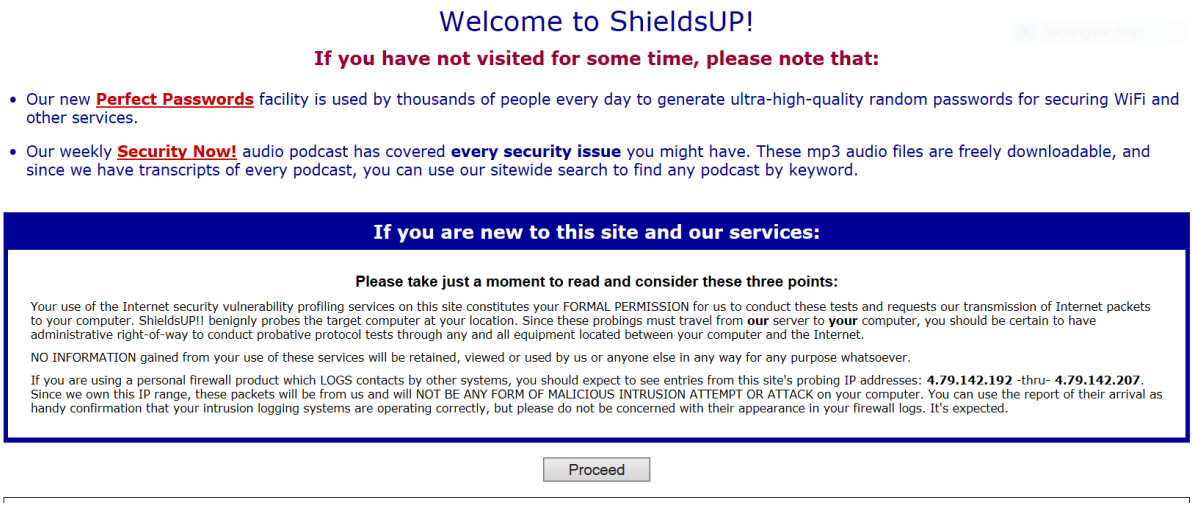
BEWARE OF RANSOMWARE VIA YOUR PRINTER

The criminals who are infesting our computers with ransomware are constantly looking for new avenues of entry. There is now evidence that they have discovered that printer port 9100 may be “open” on some of our systems, thus providing easy access for their malware.

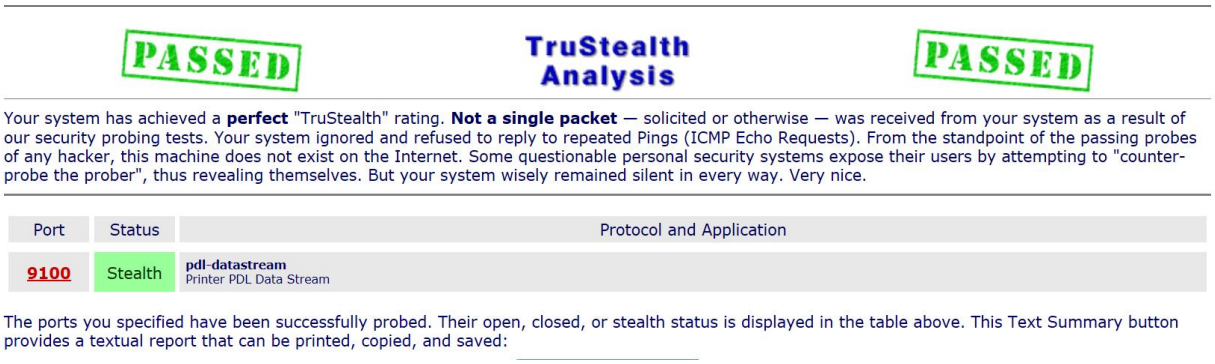
Here’s how to find out whether or not port 9100 is open and vulnerable:

1. Open your favorite browser.
2. Search for **grc.com/shieldsup**, which will take you to the following page.



3. Click on the **Proceed** box that appears on the webpage.
4. After a brief delay, the following section will appear.

5. In the blank box, type **9100**, then click **User Specified Custom Port Probe.**
6. When the next screen appears, scroll down to find a section that looks like this:



7. This demonstration shows that port 9100 is “closed” or stealthed. Thus, through the eyes of any hacker, this port does not exist on the Internet.

What should you do if port 9100 is open? Your printer driver is probably out-of-date. Go to your printer manufacturer’s website and download the most recent driver for the model of your printer.