

COMMON EMAIL SECURITY THREATS



THREAT	WHAT IT IS	WHAT IT CAN DO
<p>MALWARE One of the more common ways to infiltrate or damage computers</p> 	<p>Software that infects computers with viruses, worms, Trojan horses, spyware and adware</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Watch a user through their webcam without their knowledge</i> • Intimidate a user with scareware, usually a pop-up message that indicates the computer has a security problem or other false information • Reformat the hard drive causing loss of all information • Alter or delete files • <i>Steal sensitive information/log a user's keystrokes</i> • Send emails on the user's behalf • <i>Take control of a computer and all software running on it</i>
<p>PHARMING Common type of online fraud</p> 	<p>A way to point users to a malicious and illegitimate website by redirecting the legitimate URL. Even if the URL is entered correctly, it can still be redirected to a fake website</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Convince a user the site is real and legitimate by spoofing or looking almost identical to the actual site.</i> Personal information may be given unknowingly to someone with malicious intent.
<p>PHISHING <i>Used most often by Cyber criminals, easy to execute and produces results with little effort</i></p> 	<p>Fake emails, text messages and websites created to look like they are from authentic companies. Sent by criminals to steal personal and financial information, also known as 'spoofing'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Trick a user into giving information by asking them to update, validate or confirm their account.</i> Often presented in a manner that seems official and intimidating. • <i>Provide cyber criminals with usernames and passwords so they can access accounts (online banking, shopping etc.) and steal credit card information</i>
<p>RANSOMWARE Latest in cyber scams on the Web</p> 	<p><i>Type of malware that restricts access to a user's computer or files and displays a message that demands payment in order for the restriction to be removed.</i></p> <p>Two most common means of infection appear to be phishing emails that contain malicious attachments and website pop-up advertisements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lockscreen: display an image that prevents a user from accessing the computer • Encryption: encrypt files on the system's hard drive and sometimes on shared network, USB, external and cloud storage drives preventing a user from opening them <p>Will display a notification stating the computer or data has been locked and demanding a payment for the user to regain access. Sometimes the notification states that authorities have detected illegal activity and the payment is a fine to avoid prosecution.</p>

EMAIL SECURITY GUIDE

- WHAT TO LOOK FOR -

<p>From:</p> <p>Is the sender unfamiliar to you?</p> <p>When you hover over the email address, is it different than what appears in the header?</p> <p>Is the email out of character?</p> <p>Is the email from someone outside of you organization and asking you to something outside of your typical role?</p> <p>Is the sender a stranger?</p> <p>Does the email include a link or attachment?</p>	<p>To:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Is the email being sent to multiple people that you don't know?✓ Was the email sent to multiple people within your organization who typically would not be cc'd on the same messages?✓ Is your name spelled wrong?	
<p>Subject:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Does the subject line differ from the contents of the email?✓ Does the email subject line have language quirks that seem out of place?✓ Does the subject line say something that makes you panic or feel like something has gone wrong?✓ Does it imply you must take action immediately?	<p>From: CEO Sent: 4:07 PM Subject: Fw: Attached Wiring Instruction To: CFO CC: Admin, Customer Service</p> <p>Paul,</p> <p>Process the wiring instruction attached. Code this to Professional Services as a Prepaid expense, and email me the confirmation when completed. I'll forward support later on. I am currently busy and I'll appreciate swift email correspondence.</p> <p>clickthisandbebreached.com</p>	<p>Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Was the email sent at an odd hour compared to when you received it?
<p>Hyperlinks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Is there a hyperlink in the email?✓ When you hover over (but don't click) on the link, does it go to a different website?✓ Does the hyperlink look similar to a legitimate website but differ slightly?	<p>Attachments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Is there an attachment?✓ Does the attachment end in anything other than .txt?✓ Was the attachment unexpected?	



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IF YOU ARE ABLE TO ANSWER **YES** TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS ABOVE.....**PROCEED WITH CAUTION!**