Phishing E-mails

Topics

- Understand E-mail Security Incidents
- Explain different types of E-mail attacks and their impacts
- Discuss the preparation required to handle E-mail incidents
- Identify email attack indicator
- Detect phishing and spam mails
- Contain email attacks
- Device methods of eradicating email incidents
- Explain steps to follow to recover after email incidents

Overview of Email Security Incidents

Introduction to Email Security Incidents

Types of Email Incidents

Spamming

- Spam refers to undesired emails used to distribute malicious links and attachments, cause network congestion, perform phishing and financial frauds and so on.
 - The spam may also consume bandwidth of the email servers causing DoS conditions.
- In the example the email address doesn't match the sender name or the content of message

□ ☆ ▷ R · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	24 Hours Left 😯 Grab The Deal - Upto	Dec 7
	You have coupon worth Rs 200 inside	Dec 6
□ ☆ ▷ F	Surprise Sale 🔮 A Deal Not to Miss 😯 -	Dec 4
□ ☆ ⊃ C [.] ra.	Save Big Up to 70% on your Car Insura	Dec 3
□ ☆ D R	Cyber Monday Sale Extended 🔮 - Cyb	Nov 28
	Hurry! offer expiring today. Use Code:	Nov 27
	Pre-qualified* top-up loan on your 🚗	Nov 23
□ ☆ ▷ D'' ' '' ar	Choosing great stocks now - View this i	Nov 22
	You are missing out online! Property D	Nov 22
	🔯 Closing Tonight (Hindi Blogging Co	Nov 19
□ ☆ D UR	Don't seize the day! - Especially not if it'	Nov 18

Phishing

- Phishing is a cybercrime in which a target or targets are contacted by email, telephone or text message by someone posing as a legitimate institution to lure individuals into providing sensitive data such as personally identifiable information, banking and credit card details, and passwords.
- The information is then used to access important accounts and can result in identity theft and financial loss.

Examples of phishing

Phishing involves fraudulently acquiring sensitive information (e.g., passwords, credit cards) by masquerading as a trusted entity.

🖬 🕤 🗇 🚸 🍷 Debt Notification - Message (Plain Text) 🔯 🗆 🗙	H 5 0 1 I I Payment declined for invoice # 277861 - Message (HTML)
File Message 🛛 Tell me what you want to do	File Message 🖓 Tell me what you want to do
Delete Archive Reply Reply Forward Move Move Move Translate Zoom Delete Respond Quick Steps Forward Move Translate Zoom Zoom	Image: Steps Image: Steps <td< th=""></td<>
FR Frederick / Customer Relations Department <svyaz< th=""> > 12/22/2016 Debt Notification 12/22/2016 12/22/2016 12/22/2016 12/22/2016</svyaz<>	LA nathorus@ on behalf of LogMeIn.com Auto-Mailer <no_reply@logmein-llc.co< td=""> 241 12/12/2016 Payment declined for invoice # 277861</no_reply@logmein-llc.co<>
We removed extra line breaks from this message.	LogMeIn ID: list-sscescalationteam@
Dear Customer! It is Frederick Riley from the Customer Service Office, JPMorgan Chase Bank. My position obligations stand for contacting clients of our bank on condition of incidents regarding accounts, current problems; for maintenance and control advisory, etc. In the present instance, I am contacting you to inform you about your debt regarding previous-year mortgage. We have revealed that the sum to be paid was not fulfilled fully and timely. Speaking of more information, you had had a mortgage whose sum came to \$39,300. By this day, our systems witness for the acute insufficiency in the sum already paid compared to the amount payable. More specifically, \$4,339 are still remaining and to be paid by you. I also must learn your honest reason for such overdue. This is not because I am doing the investigation but just trying to help you as my client. That is why, I have to warn you that taking into account the fact that the debt is last-year, you must pay the remaining amount as soon as possible. As for fines and charges, they have been already applied. Now they come to \$394.43. The period for processing the required payment is two weeks. For your consideration, there is the full report containing all information pertaining to the mortgage, with remaining amount, and further possible actions. The report is here: http://217.23.5.200/c0fbce7f58/upload/CustomerRelationsDepartment.doc	Invoice: #277861 To download your payment invoice, click on this link: https://accounts.logme.in/billing/viewbill.aspx?id=277861 In order to continue using our services, please pay the invoice using an alternate payment method. For your security, the link above expires in 24 hours. Important Security Notice: LogMeIn never asks for your password or other sensitive information by email. Replies to this email are not monitored. Need help with your account? Contact Customer Support http://help.logmein.com/?cu=1 LogMeIn Inc, 320 Summer St., Boston MA, 02210

SPEAR-PHISHING

- Spear-phishing is a targeted attempt to steal sensitive information such as account credentials or financial information from a specific victim, often for malicious reasons.
- This is achieved by acquiring personal details on the victim such as their friends, hometown, employer, locations they frequent, and what they have recently bought online.

SPEAR-PHISHING VS. PHISHING



PHISHING

IS A BROAD, AUTOMATED ATTACK THAT IS LESS SOPHISTICATED.

SPEAR-PHISHING

IS A CUSTOMIZED ATTACK ON A SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE & COMPANY

Preparation for Handling Email Security Incidents

Preparation

- Email Filtering
- Email monitoring tools
- Communication
- Training and awareness to employees
- Acceptable usage policy
- Local archive or backups
- Email logs analysis tools

Detection and Containment of Email Security Incidents

- Indicators of Email attack
- Detecting Phishing/Spam emails
- Containing Email incidents
- Analyzing Email Headers

Indications of Email Attacks

- Unavailability of the email server.
- Inability to access the system or the email accounts after opening an email.
- System showing signs of malware attack after opening a link or attachment from an email such as finding suspicious process running on your system.
- Sudden increase of advertising and spam emails.
- Change to the theme or interface of the email web page.

Detecting Phishing/Spam Emails

- Unexpected attachment from user, client, vendor, or peers.
- Attachments with unusual or unrecognized formats.
- Difference in the email ID of the sender and display name.
- Email format IDs that don't have incomplete or incorrect organization name or use numbers in the place of letters in the name.
- Having generic greetings such as dear customers.

Detecting Phishing/Spam Emails

- Emails with links, which display a different website or URL when hovered on or have URL with incorrect name or domain
- Emails presenting offers that are too attractive to believe, such as winning the lottery, a competition, a free subscription, vacation, and job offers.
- Emails that seem to be from user's bank, financial institution, organization, service provider, and other associate, which ask to reveal sensitive information or login to their accounts using provided links or install updates.

Tools for Detecting Phishing/Spam mails

PhishTank

- Phishtank is a collaborative clearing house for data and information about phishing on the internet.
- It provides an open API for developers and researchers to integrate antiphishing data into their application.
- It helps in detecting phishing and spam emails easier as API is available for all developers.



Containing Email Incidents

- Isolate the targeted system from the functional network immediately after receiving the incident report.
- Interview the users or compliment about the email incident to find details of the attack and user actions.
- Ask if the user had downloaded the attachment, clicked the link, provided the requested information, and so on.

Containing Email Incidents

- If the email consist of links, find further details of the link by opening it in a sand box environment to perform behavior analysis.
- Report and block the malicious links in the server, network devices, and across all security solutions.
- In case of malicious attachment sent through email, incident responders must open the email account in sandbox environment, download the attachment and perform behavior analysis of the system and check if it has malicious code.

Containing Email Incidents

- Perform malware incident handling process if the email contain malicious programs.
- In case of spam or phishing emails, issue a notification to all the employees to find if others have been facing the same issue.
- Report the spam and phishing mail to service providers.

What is an Email Header

- The email header is a code snippet in an HTML email, that contains information about the sender, recipient, email's route to get to the inbox and various authentication details.
- The email header always precedes the email body.

Email header Analysis Example



What purpose do email headers serve

Providing information about the sender and recipient

- Preventing spam
- Identifying the email route

Example of Email Header



© 2019 Lewes Technology Consulting, LLC and Mat Oldham

큢

Analyzing an Email Header

The appearance of the email header differs between ESPs. To analyze it, you need to find the email header and examine the lines of interest to you. All the code from the beginning, until the <body> tag, represents the header.

Analyzing an Email Header

- return path
- Recipient's email address
- Name of the email server
- Type of email sending server
- IP address of sending server
- Unique message number
- Date and time of email was sent
- Attachment file information
- Sender Policy Framework (SPF)
- Domain Key Identified Mail (DKIM)

Example of Email Header Analysis

Consider an example: Rudy sends an Email to Timmy

From: rudy@bieberdorf.edu (Rudy) To: timmy@immense-isp.com Date: Tue, Dec 11 2018 14:36:14 PST X-Mailer: Loris v2.32 Subject: Lunch today?

Received: from mail.bieberdorf.edu (mail.bieberdorf.edu [124.211.3.78]) by mailhost.immense-isp.com (8.8.5/8.7.2) with ESMTP id LAA20869 for <timmy@immense-isp.com>; Tue, Dec 11 2018 14:39:24 -0800 (PST) Received: from alpha.bieberdorf.edu (alpha.bieberdorf.edu [124.211.3.11]) by mail.bieberdorf.edu (8.8.5) id 004A21; Tue, Dec 11 2018 14:36:17 -0800 (PST) From: rudy@bieberdorf.edu (R.T. Hood) To: timmy@immense-isp.com Date: Tue, Dec 11 2018 14:36:14 PST Message-Id: <rth031897143614-00000298@mail.bieberdorf.edu> X-Mailer: Loris v2.32 Subject: Lunch today?

Sender Policy Framework (SPF)

- SPF is an email validation protocol used to by domain owners for preventing spoofing of email.
- Incident responders can analyze the authenticity of the sender using the SPF results.
- The SPF will display results mentioned in the following:
- 1. None : no SPF records are found for this domain
- 2. Pass: SPF records exist and IP address is authorized it include plus (+) sign in front of the IP
- 3. Fail : IP address is not authorized to send email for this domain. This shown by a –all command in the record

Steps to Analyze Email in Gmail

- Open an email you want to analyze.
- Click "more" option (three vertical døts) from the top right of the message.
 - From the drop down menu click "show original" option.
- The mail will open a new tab display the original message.

Original Messag	e
Message ID	<caak3wb26uontcubn1n8uxsxe-sya8in=gvffas3pcqx1-o1yxg@mail.gmail.com< td=""></caak3wb26uontcubn1n8uxsxe-sya8in=gvffas3pcqx1-o1yxg@mail.gmail.com<>
Created at:	Wed, Aug 1, 2018 at 3:11 PM (Delivered after 32 seconds)
From:	j <1 org>
To:	, <
Subject:	Birthday Wishes!
SPF:	PASS with IP 209. Learn more
DKIM:	'PASS' with domain Learn more

Steps to Analyze Email in Yahoo Mail

- Open the mail you want to analyze.
- Click the "more" option (three horizontal dots) from the top of message.
 - From the drop-down menu click "view raw message" option to see the complete message source

X-Apparently-To: ;	Fri,	08	Jun	2018	06:26:48	+0000
Return-Path: <mail@product.communications.yaho< td=""><th>o.cor</th><td>n></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></mail@product.communications.yaho<>	o.cor	n>				
Received-SPF: fail (domain of product.communic	ation	ns.ya	ahoo	.com	does not	
designate 98.137. as permitted sender)						
X-YMailISG: baMCC94WLDuFmpnMHBbW5YU8InDSevNQ0t	Hn_th	KvcFl	Fzxl	Jm4		

X-Originating-IP: [98.137.
Authentication-Results: mta4449.mail.gql.yahoo.com
<pre>from=product.communications.yahoo.com; domainkeys=neutral (no sig);</pre>
from=product.communications.yahoo.com; (dkim=pass (ok))
Received: from 127.0.0.1 (EHLO sonic331-54.consmr.mail.gg1.yahoo.com)
(98.137.
by mta4449.mail.gql.yahoo.com with SMTPS; Fri, 08 Jun 2018 06:26:47 +00
DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed;
d=product.communications.yahoo.com; s=201402-std-mrk-prd; t=1528439207;
bh=rXQbgUAznRDNjm7LCdWXv9cuKmvVF/yHKGYHim1x2Jg=; h=From:Reply-
To:To:Subject:From:Subject;

Tools to Analyze Email headers

MxToolbox

This tool will make email headers human readable.

		X			Upgrade	Delivery Center	Supertool	Monitoring -	Blog Products	About Us
欲	MX Lookup	Blacklists	Diagnostics	Domain Health	Analyze Headers	Free Monitoring	DMARC	Investigator	DNS Lookup	More +
	Email Hea	der Analv	7er							1
		aci / mary	201							
Pa	iste Header:		aam Tu	05 Des 0040 00 4	2.44.0000					
	X-Apparentiy-10:		com; Tu	2, 25 DEC 2018 06.4	(:41 +0000				11	
	Received-SPF: non	e (domain of Im	1 1	does not designate	authorized sender host	s)				
	X-YMailISG: Vf2sA	WWLDvMsu H	whiuUKDNuOW7	GpggnodBGLEGri43	syhv	- <u>-</u>				
	WAVTKytfFbgwuRu	unclbF OfiAUC	SkRpIWo2fvH1D	gLLrGXtVja0Ozonbl	1f3V					
	ul3gzr2McG.X7eMl	DCDR94ABxCF	HrofsiwZcvlejizjC	WDoOm5UmKIROC	olYM					
	CSk2q719Qik 7MG	mQG.NOWqHE	BD9CkXIRHyEeJr	ICLFH5.4YxucsINw	<u>wmXJ</u>					
	Du5LmjLrNvzpexK	HYnYDMlpOUv	gtkmjgVlcLCxIrAL	VLVumnYwZ9QQ95	A3bC					
	E207H Mb VCCCaus	AkpDSbg8TVj0	SOKwkyH9fyW_8	Zq.snwX167PqdxLS	OZrt					
	F 397 UVIDAG SCZYC									

ABOUT EMAIL HEADERS

This tool will make email headers human readable by parsing them according to RFC 822. Email headers are present on every email you receive via the Internet and can provide valuable diagnostic information like hop delays, anti-spam results and more. If you need help getting copies of your email headers, just read this tutorial.

Email Header Analysis using mxtoolbox

	Phishing 🗙 🔁 Comme	x b mxtoolb x b mxtoolb x C	🗿 Email He 🗙 🛛 🔥 whois - T 🗙 🛛 🧞 Whois IF 🗙 🛛 📴 Loai Ash 🗙 M Spam (2 🗙 M Original 🗙 🕇 🕂 🗖	×
\leftarrow	ightarrow C $$ $$ $$ ht	ttps://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#spam		
=	M Gmail	Q in:spam	× 幸 ⑦ �� ⅲ	L
(+	Compose	□ - C :	3 1-4 of 4 < >	31
-	Cabadulad	Messages that have	e been in Spam for more than 30 days will be automatically deleted. Delete all spam messages now	
	All Mail	🔲 🖕 应 Loai Ashraf Hosni	Fw: Emails From: Loai Ashraf Hosni Sent: Sunday, July 11, 20 19:55	0
0	Spam 2	🔲 🚖 🖸 Jeff	test - test 7 Jul	
Î	Bin	🗌 🖕 应 Hajar ElGhareeb	We brought you a whole week in a mailshot We Brought You A whole week In A Mailshot! Dea 5 Jul	0
\$ +	Manage labels Create new label	🔲 🚖 Ď Quora Digest	During the Vietnam War, how did the Viet Cong manage to cook underground in tunnels w? - A 14 Jun	
Me	et			+
	New meeting Join a meeting			
Ha	ngouts	1.69 GB of 15 GB used 🖸	Terms - Privacy - Programme Policies Last account activity: 0 minutes ago Details	
	AASTMT-P1-1-Course			
•	Orientation You were on a video call		Activate Windows Go to Settings to activate Windows	>
	÷ 🍳			

Email Header Analysis using mxtoolbox

🛅 🛛 🗿 Phishing 🗙 🛛 🙆 Com	ume 🗙 🐌 mxtoolb 🗙 🐌 mxtoolb 🗙 🚺	Email He 🗙 🚺 whois - 🗙 🧖 Whois IF 🗙 🔯 Loai Ash 🗙	M Inbox - X b mxtooll: X +	- 0 ×
\leftarrow \rightarrow C \bigcirc	https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox		∞ € @ €	@ ● …
😑 附 Gmail	Q Search mail	:	5≟	۵ 🖩 🚺
- Compose	□- C :		↓ 1-50 of 173	< > 🗾
Inbox	Primary Capture	ocial Promotions Dup Upyk1hUWKe.mp4 h9AsiBXXhA.mp4 dXl	J9vg51p.mp4	
★ Starred	Workflows	test - test		20:08
SnoozedImportant	After capture tasks	Figure 1 (1) Provide the second secon	Av sent to account Status tick	19:59
> Sent	Application settings	Figure Fake Mailer to	nd Raout <mnomsn com=""> Sent: S</mnomsn>	19:57
Dratts	2	Db1772YSTi.mp4 wxC6lsvgZ2.mp4 HGn test-test	ABR24yX.mp4	19:56 +
New meeting	📄 🏫 🕽 🖨 Screenshots folder	test-test		8 Jul
Join a meeting	Pristory Pristory Pristory Pristory Pristory Pristory Pristory	Fw [Gyber Chief Magazine] June 2021 - From: Netwrix [mai	torix.emea@netwrix.com] Sen	7 Jul
Hangouts	Desuto	test - Test Sent from Mail for Windows 10		6 Jul
Loay -	+ 🗌 🙀 🖬 About.shraf	Dco417UXR.mp4 HR7u6CwloO.mp4 Ioai ashrat shared "Phishing Presentation 1" with you Ioai	ashraf shared a file with you loai as	28 Jun
AASTMT-P1-1-Course		FW: [eBook] Kickstart Guide to Implementing the NIST Cybe	security Framework - Com: Netwrix	24 Jun
Orientation You were on a video call	🔲 🕁 🗩 loai ashraf	loai ashraf shared "Loai's Evaluation" with you loai ashraf	shared a file with you loai ashraf shandow Go to Settings to activ	s 20 Jun ate Windows.
	🔄 🏫 💭 Ioal ashraf	Ioal ashraf shared "Loal's Evaluation 1" with you loal ashra	r shared a file with you Loai's Evalua	20 Jun >

Examining The originating IP Address

- Quick State

- Open the email to trace and find its header.
- Collect IP Address of the sender from the header of the received mail.
- Search for IP in the WHOIS database.
- Look for the geographic address of the sender in the WHOIS database

IP Information for 162.241.216.11

Quick Stats	
IP Location	United States Provo Unified Layer
ASN	AS46606 UNIFIEDLAYER-AS-1 - Unified Layer, US (registered Oct 24, 2008)
Resolve Host	box5331.bluehost.com
Whois Server	whois.arin.net
IP Address	162.241.216.11
Reverse IP	928 websites use this address.
NetRange: CIDR:	162.240.0.0 - 162.241.255.255 162.240.0.0/15
NetName:	UNIFIEDLAYER-NETWORK-16
NetHandle:	NET-162-240-0-0-1
Parent:	NET162 (NET-162-0-0-0)
Netlype:	Direct Allocation
Originas:	AS40000
PegDate:	2013-08-22
Undated:	2013-08-22
Ref:	https://rdap.arin.net/registry/ip/162.240.0.0
OrgName:	Unified Layer
OrgId:	BLUEH-2
Address:	1958 South 950 East
City:	Provo
StateProv:	UT
PostalCode:	84606
Country:	US
RegDate:	2006-08-08
Updated:	2018-07-31
Ref:	https://rdap.arin.net/registry/entity/BLUEH-2

Example using WHOIS database



Eradication of Email Security Incidents

- Eradicating Email attacks
- Report Phishing and Spam Emails to Email Service Provider
- Guidelines Against Spam
- Guidelines Against Phishing

- Collect details of an email security incident such as URL, subject, links, sender, and IP address, from email header analysis and block them across servers, security tools and network devices we can seek help from ISPs to help us performing these actions.
- Immediately alert employees about the incident and train them to diagnose it, inform Network administrators to guide employees who to deal with the current situation.
- Update antiphishing and antispam tools with the newly found signature and details of the attack to prevent similar attacks in the future.
- Find common pattern and signatures from the email to block them on the SMTP server.

- Check the SMTP logs to find if the same email is sent to other employees and remove them from the inboxes.
- Check if other users have been impacted with the attack and perform incident handling process on their system as well.
- Use DNS blocking to block IP addresses used to send the malicious emails.
- Harden the security of the email server and clients.

- Train the employees to check email headers from the email asking for immediate action such as financial transactions.
- Blacklist the malicious websites and disable automatic download across all the systems and devices.
- Ensure removal of malware related data from affected systems such as text files, process executed by the malware.
- Block and remove the impacted accounts and re-issue new accounts to the employees.

- Request all employees to change password ,ensure it's complicated password and implement multiple authentication for their accounts.
- Install browser extensions and tools that help in detecting and preventing phishing and spam emails.
- Blacklist the email using signature, sender's address, or other details of malicious email.
- Inform the organizations, bank, or entities whose email being spoofed by the attackers.

Reporting Phishing and Spam Emails to Email Service Providers

Gmail



Guidelines Against Spam

- Avoid giving email ID to unnecessary or unsecured websites.
- Before giving email ID to a website check its privacy policy and website certificate.

 Block spamming email IDs and regularly update recipient's address book.



Guidelines Against Spam

- Block potential offensive images in email to prevent attack using luring technique.
- Never give your email ID in clickable form on the web to prevent spam bots from stealing your email ID.
- Maintain a personal email ID which is shared only with friends and family members and never use that email ID for any other purpose.
- Use long email ID with numbers and underscore to prevent spammers.

Guidelines Against Spam

- Never use unsubscribe links in email messages.
- Do not use or subscribe to sites that access email contact list.
- Do not choose numbers that reflect personal identification information such as social security number, street address, and telephone number
- Avoid buying products from web links in email to discourage them as well as to avoid bogus and fraud related issues.

Guidelines Against Phishing

- Do not transfer sensitive data such as credentials, personal and financial information through emails.
- Do not enter personal details in suspicious links sent in email form and popup screen.
- Protect the computer with a security software such antivirus, antispyware, antimalware, firewalls etc.
- Beware of the too good to be true or over attractive schemes and offers.

Guidelines Against Phishing

- Never open the email marked as spam even if the subject line seems to be interesting, and delete such email immediately.
- Avoid accessing the links from the instant messengers.
- Maintain different passwords for different accounts and change them frequently.
- Check the domain name/URL and security indicators before logging in to bank accounts.

Recovery After Email Security Incidents

Recovery Steps to Follow after Email Incidents

- Recover of Deleted Emails
- Email Security Checklist

Recovery Steps to Follow After Email Incidents

- Change password of the email accounts related to it.
- Inform banks and financial institutions about the attack and block the compromised accounts.
- Restore the compromised systems using backups.
- Contact law enforcements.
- Claim insurance if there huge financial loss

Recovery of Deleted Emails

Gmail :

- 1. Log in to Gmail
- 1. In the left pan, scroll down and find the trash folder
- 2. Click the trash folder and you can view the list of all deleted emails in the right pane of the window

Recovery of Deleted Emails

Outlook :

- 1. Login to MS outlook
- 2. The folder will contain recently deleted items
- 3. In the home tab click recover deleted items from server
- 4. Click on the email you want recover and select restore selected items button
- 5. Then click OK button
- 6. Now, navigate back to the deleted item folder ; you can find the recovered emails

- Enable HTTPS for secure connection/transactions.
- Be delightful while opening email attachments.
- Do not click the links provided in the email message.
- Follow email etiquette while forwarding messages.
- Do not forward or replay to spam and suspicious emails ; delete them.

- Avoid accessing emails via unsecured public wireless.
- Avoid accessing email accounts on shared computers and sending large attachments in emails.
- Never save your password on web browser.
- Sort message by priority, subject date, sender, and other options.

- Avoid sending confidential, sensitive, personal, and classified information in emails.
- Clean your inbox regularly.
- Create folders and move emails accordingly.
- Digital sign your outgoing emails.
- Send attachment in PDF format rather than word or excel.

- Scan email attachments for malware.
- Use security certified email service provider.
- Maintain separate email for personal and public communications.
- Disable keep me signed in/ stay signed in functions.
- Turn off the preview feature.

