Phishing
RED FLAGS

How to recognize common phishing attacks

Phishing is the act of sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

FROM:

- Sender's email address is someone I ordinarily don't communicate with.
- This email is from someone outside my organization and is not related to my job.
- The sender's email address is from a suspicious domain like micorsoft-support.com (spelled wrong)
- I don't have a business relationship nor any past communication with the sender.

TO:

- I received an email that included other people, but I don't know the other people it was sent to.
- I received an email that was sent to an unspecified or blind list.

DATE:

- Did I receive an email that I normally would get during regular business hours, but it was sent at an unusual

SUBJECT:

- Did I get an email with a subject line that does not match the message content?
- Is the email message a reply to something I never sent or requested?

CONTENT:

- Is the sender asking me to click on a link or open an attachment to avoid a bad consequence or gain something?
- Is the email out of the ordinary, or does it have bad grammar or spelling errors?
- Is the sender asking me to click on a link or open up an attachment that seems odd?
- Do I have an uncomfortable feeling about the sender's request to open an attachment or click on a link?
- Is the email referring to a compromising or embarrassing picture of myself or someone else?

From: Your Manager <your.manager@organization.com>
To: You
Date: Thursday June 25, 2020 10:19 AM
Subject: **My money got stolen**

Hi,
I'm on vacation and my passport and money was stolen. Could you wire me $300 via Bank of America? They gave me a special link so this goes right to my account and I can buy a ticket home:

http://www.bankofarnerica.com

Thanks so much. This really helps me out!

Your Manager

Deposit form.pdf

ATTACHMENTS:

- The sender included an email attachment that I was not expecting or that makes no sense in relation to the email message.
- I see an attachment with a possibly dangerous file type. The only file type that is always safe to click on is a .txt file.

HYPERLINKS

- I hover my mouse over the hyperlink that's displayed on the email message, but the link-to address is for a different site.
- I received an email that only has hyperlinks, but no further information.
- I received an email with a hyperlink that is a misspelling, For instance, www.bankofarnerica.com the "m" is two characters – "r" and "n", which can appear correct if not looked at closely.

A hyperlink is a link from a hypertext file or document to another location or file, typically activated by clicking on a highlighted word or image on the screen.

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