Dublin, 07.07.2020

Phishing threat, limitation strategies for corporations

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ABSTRACT

Phishing is a type of scam perpetrated on the Internet through which an attacker tries to deceive the victim by convincing him to provide personal information, financial data or access codes, pretending to be a reliable entity. The phisher typically sends at the same time thousands of messages (usually by e-mail) which imitate, in content and appearance, legitimate messages from service providers. These fraudulent messages usually ask to provide confidential information such as, for example, the credit card number or the password to access a specific service. This phenomenon is even more dangerous in the business environment, when these malicious messages arrive on the mailboxes of employees who could provide the credentials to access a potentially unlimited amount of sensitive company data, with consequent violation of privacy and, sometimes, leading to serious economic damage for the company itself. The best form of protection from phishing is prevention, implemented through recurrent trainings to be carried out in the workplace.
A smarter solution for identifying office workers who are less aware and more prone to fall into the phishing trap lies in personnel screening techniques, carried out by means of an automation process integrated into the corporate mailer system. This approach is based on the random sending, by the company itself, of emails having similar features to those found in a typical phishing email, with the aim of tracking and analysing the behaviour of its employees and identifying the weakest teams/employees, in order to schedule targeted anti-phishing training sessions to increase worker awareness.

KEYWORDS
Phishing, privacy, cyberattack, corporate frauds.

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