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How To Protect Yourself From Identity Theft



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How to Avoid Cyber Scams

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Overview

- Computer Intrusions
- Internet Fraud Tactics
- Common Schemes
- Tips for Protection





Cyber Crime: What are we dealing with?

- Hackers
- Terrorists and Hacktivist
- Online Child Predators
- Intellectual Property/ID Theft
- Social Engineering
- Denial of Service Attacks (DDoS)
- Password Cracking
- Web Exploits and Spoofs
- Malware
- Social Media
- Wireless



Intellectual Property Theft of Information

Commercially valuable information

- Trade secrets
- Business plans
- Credit card numbers
- Proprietary software

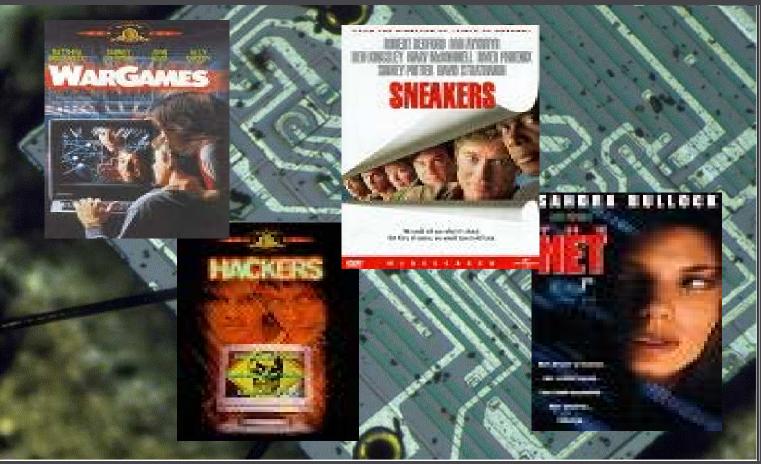
Personal data - (ID Theft)

Medical or credit records



Computer Intrusions

Intrusions, aka Computer Hacking: Unauthorized access to a computer



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Computer Intrusions

Computers and networks are used as tools <u>and</u> targets of computer crime. They are used to:

- Acquire information stored on the victim's computer
- Use the target system without payment
- Damage the system



Denial of Service

- Prevents users from using a computer service.
- A type of DoS attack involves constantly sending phony authentication messages to a targeted server, keeping it constantly busy and locking out legitimate users.
- Ping attack
- DDoS attacks



Password Cracking

- Involves repeatedly trying common passwords against an account in order to log into a computer system.
- Freely available "cracking" programs facilitate this process.
- Import text files of words into program, then run program against targeted account.



Web Defacements

- A website defacement is an attack on a website that changes the visual appearance of the site. These are typically the work of system crackers, who break into a web server and replace the hosted website with one of their own.
 - Example: A high-profile website defacement was carried out on the website of the company SCO Group following its assertion that Linux contained stolen code. The title of the page was changed from "Red Hat v. SCO" to "SCO vs. World," with various satirical content following.



Malware

- Spyware
 - Programs that send information about you and your computer to somebody else
- Adware
 - Programs that place advertisements on your screen



Worms and Viruses

- Self-replicating, subversive computer programs that can destroy a machine or network.
- Viruses must be "carried" from machine to machine. A worm can spread with no assistance.
- Internet Worm: A computer program that copies itself to other computers across the internet is called a worm. It may do so without any user intervention.



Trojan Horse

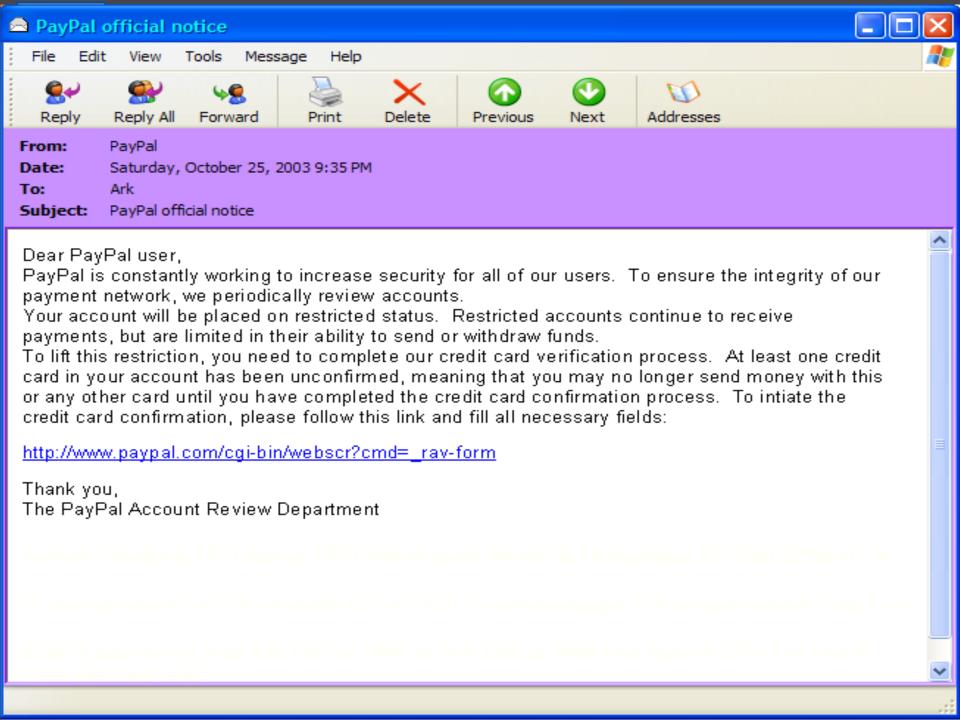


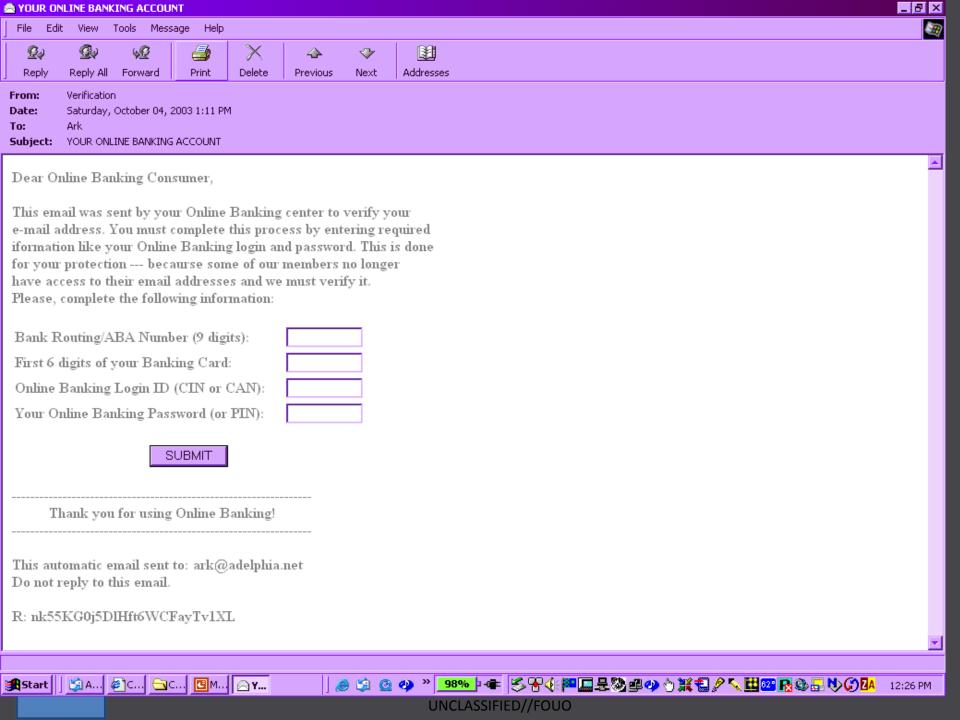
- Trojan horses are malicious files masquerading as harmless software upgrades, programs, help files, screen savers, pornography, etc.
- User opens file, the Trojan horse runs on the background and causes damage to the computer system (hard drive damage, total access, username and password).



Phishing/Spoofing:

- **Spoofing** generally refers to the dissemination of email which is forged to appear as though it was sent by someone other than the actual source.
- Phishing is the act of sending an email falsely claiming to be an established legitimate business in an attempt to dupe the unsuspecting recipient into divulging personal, sensitive information such as passwords, credit card numbers, and bank account information after directing the user to visit a specified website. The website was set up only as an attempt to steal the user's information.







Internet Extortion

- Internet extortion involves hacking into and controlling various industry databases, promising to release control back to the company if funds are received, or the subjects are given web administrator jobs.
- Similarly, the subject will threaten to compromise information about consumers in the industry database unless funds are received.



- Business E-mail Compromise
 - Businesses are contacted via legitimate supplier's E-mail accounts
 - Recipients asked to change the wire transfer payment of invoices or send payment to a different account
 - Average loss per victim is approximately \$55,000
 - Victims have reported losses as high as \$800,000
 - Commonalities found among the complaints include
 - Victims generally from US, England and Canada
 - Victim businesses often trade internationally, usually through China
 - Victim businesses are ones that conduct high dollar wire transfers



- CryptoLocker Ransomware
 - Scammers send E-mail which appears to be from the FTC to a business claiming that people have filed complaints about the company
 - The E-mail asks the receiver to click on a link or attachment for information about consumer complaints
 - Clicking on the link or opening the attachment installs CryptoLocker malware on the recipient's computer



CryptoLocker Ransomware

- Window appears that states important files have been encrypted.
 To decrypt the files, the attacker says you need to obtain the private key.
- The attacker says a copy of the private key is located on a remote server that will destroy the key after the specified time.
- The attackers demand a ransom of \$300 to be paid to decrypt the files.
- However, once the encryption is complete, decryption is not feasible.
- The recommended solution is to scrub your hard drive and restore encrypted files from a backup.



Online Job Postings

- In 2010, more than \$150,000 was stolen from a U.S. business via unauthorized wire transfer as a result of an E-mail the business received that contained malware.
- It was embedded in an E-mail response to a job posting the business placed on an employment website
- It allowed the attacker to obtain the online banking credentials of the person who was authorized to conduct financial transactions with the company.



Protect

Enhance security of your computer

- Minimize the number of, and restrict functions for, computers used for online banking.
- Install and maintain real-time anti-virus and anti-spyware desktop firewall and malware detection software.
- Install routers and firewalls to prevent unauthorized access to your computer/network.
- Install security updates to operating systems and applications.
- Block pop-ups
- Keep operating systems up-to-date
- Make regular backup copies of system files and work files.
- Encrypt sensitive folders
- Do not use public Internet access points (Internet cafes, public wi-fi spots) to access accounts or personal information.



Protect

- Educate everyone on the types of common fraud schemes
- Enhance the security of your corporate banking processes and protocols
 - Initiate ACH and wire transfer payments under dual control using two separate computers.
 - Talk to your financial institution about Positive Pay and other services such as SMS texting, call backs, and batch limits which help protect companies against altered checks, counterfeit check fraud and unauthorized ACH transactions.



Detect

- Monitor and reconcile accounts at least once a day
- Discuss options offered by your financial institution to help detect or prevent out-of-pattern activity
- Note any changes in the performance of your computer



Respond

- If you detect suspicious activity, immediately cease online activity and remove any computer systems that may be compromised from the network.
- Make sure employees know how and whom to report suspicious activity to.
- Immediately contact your financial institution.
- Maintain a written chronology of what happened, what was lost, and the steps taken.
- File a police report
- Have a contingency plan to recover systems compromised.
- Report exposures to Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard if you accept credit cards.



Stay Informed

 You can learn about the latest fraud alerts at <u>www.fbi.gov</u> and <u>www.ftc.gov</u> and <u>www.ic3.gov</u>





Questions?

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