

Jambi Computing



"Watch us make iT easy for you..."

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring - 2007

Phishing: Are you taking the bait?



"If you receive a link in your e-mail that requests that you click it and log in to update your account info, DON'T DO IT! "

Phishing is a form of fraud where a person tries to trick you into revealing some sort of personal information that will allow them access to something that belongs to you or your company. While some of these scams are obvious and easy to avoid, others may trick even more seasoned e-mailers.

Let's focus on some things that we can do to protect

ourselves from the embarrassing or even catastrophic effects of being duped.

First rule: Just like everywhere else in life, if it sounds too good to be true, it most likely is. You are probably not related to anyone in Nigeria, and if you send them your bank account info, they will probably withdraw all the money they can instead of sharing the 50 million dollars you were promised.

Second rule: Credit unions, banks, credit card companies, brokers or any other legitimate entity will NEVER ask you to provide personal information through e-mail. If they do, call customer ser-

vice and ask them to stop!

Third rule: Don't follow that link! If you receive a link in your e-mail that requests that you click it and log in to update your account info, DON'T DO IT! One of the most common scams I've seen is where you receive an e-mail from "Paypal" or your bank. These messages look just like the real thing, but when you click the link, you are transported to a look-alike page that is just waiting for you to enter your name and password. Once you do this, the hacker is notified and they are able to log in to your account. If you aren't sure about an e-mail call a known valid customer service line. Be Safe!

You Sunk My Battleship!

Firewall? Of course you have one. Why? Some people aren't sure.

Lets fill in some blanks!

A firewall is a hardware or software solution for blocking incoming or outgoing traffic from certain ports on your computer. All computer

network interfaces have many ports through which data must pass in order to communicate with the outside world. Some common ports include 21 for FTP or 80 for non-secure Web servers. Now, hold that thought while we talk about "pings." "Ping" is short for "Packet

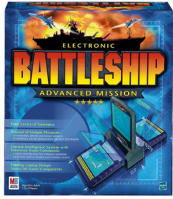
InterNet Groper." This command forwards data to a specific computer and port to check the quality of the link between two points. If I open a command prompt or terminal and enter the command "ping google.com," I will receive responses from

Highlights

- PHISHING VS. FISHING: DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?
- YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT FIREWALLS AND BEEN TOLD THAT YOU NEED ONE... FIND OUT WHY!
- ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE COSTING YOU AN ARM AND A LEG? FREE YOUR BUDGET WITH FREE ANTI-VIRUS SOLUTIONS!

Inside this issue:

- YOU SUNK MY BATTLESHIP (CONTINUED) **2**
- THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A FREE LUNCH, BUT ... **2**
- COMPANY INFO **3**
- JAMBI HEADLINES **3**



Think about getting an IT pro to check out your network so you never have to say, "You sunk my battleship!"

“THE BEST THING THAT A FIREWALL CAN DO IS TO BE QUIET, THEREBY TELLING THE WORLD THE PORT IS NOT EVEN THERE!”

You Sunk My Battleship! (Continued)

Google's Web server indicating that I have successfully sent and received packets of information.

This is where ports come into play. If I receive confirmation from a server or personal computer port, I have just obtained the first thing I need to break into it, proof of its existence. I now know that a certain port is responding to my ping.

Firewalls determine the status of your ports.

The second best thing a firewall can do is to tell the world that a port is closed. The BEST thing that a firewall can do is to be quiet, thereby telling the world the port is not even there!

Lets look at the game "Battleship" as an example. When you call out E-4, your

opponent will answer "Hit" or "Miss." Now imagine if you called out E-4 and your opponent simply ignored you instead. You have no idea whether or not you have come anywhere near your target. This is what you want your firewall to do!

Is your computer or network answering "Hit" or "Miss"?

Think about getting an IT pro to check out your network so you never have to say, "You sunk my battleship!"

There's No Such Thing as a Free Lunch, but...

There is free anti-virus software!

Unless your company has 50-100 computers, business owners generally receive only a small discount for buying more than one license for virus software. What about companies with 2, 3 or even 25 computers? Do you need rapid deployment? Server initiated upgrades? Probably not.

If this is your case, you might want to see what you can get for free! Anti-virus software is one of the biggest sellers in the software world. Almost every computer out there has some kind of virus protection. New PC vendors commonly install trial versions of major anti-virus software that requires activation after so many days. They count on the fact that most people will

see this as the only way to get protection. There are many free solutions out there, but pay close attention to the license agreement. Many "free" versions are labeled for "private" or "personal" use only. If you see this, it is OK to install and use the software at home, but the license isn't valid in a business setting.

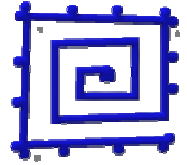
Watch out for this!

Some IT companies may "forget" or not be aware of this, but you or your company are ultimately responsible for the legitimacy of your software license. Also, watch out for volume license copies that are bought under another company's name. If your IT vendor sells you a volume license copy for the price of a retail copy, you are buying illegal software. In general,

software vendors are very helpful and understanding. If you have questions about whether or not your software is legal, call and ask! Just be prepared to let them know where you got it from.

But what about free anti-virus software for businesses?

For businesses, there is another place to turn. Check out the open source community. They have some of the best anti-virus software out there and some can be installed even in a large corporate environment. You can get more information by going to sourceforge.net and searching for "antivirus." Questions? Call Jambi Computing at 864-376-6525.



Watch us make iT easy for you...

JAMBI COMPUTING

Phone:

864-376-6525

E-mail:

webmaster@jambicomputing.com

Jambi Computing offers a wide array of computer related services to businesses and individuals in upstate South Carolina. We provide top quality networking, security, web design / hosting, computer repair services and consulting at competitive rates. From Belton to Anderson and Greenville, when you think computer repair in upstate SC, think Jambi!

jambicomputing.com



Get tips and help between newsletters from jambicomputing.com!

Headlines from our Web page

Fast just got faster!

With Jambi Computing's priority computer support plans, you can experience the luxury of having your own IT professional on staff at a fraction of the cost! These support plans are personalized to best help your business and fill your technology needs. Whether you need computer repair, networking, or security service, Jambi Computing can do it all!

Intrusion Detection Systems

Firewalls are great. They can stop all sorts of malicious attacks on your network. However, firewalls are not perfect. Sometimes you might want more detailed information about attempted security breaches and a more flexible alert system. This is where an intrusion detection system comes in. These systems are commonly used by financial institutions and government agencies. Now that this technology has become more available to the public,

Jambi Computing can provide you with the same level of network security and audit capacity demanded by the military.