PSNI CYBER CRIME CENTRE

NCSC – Small Business Guide

23/10/2020

This information sheet has been compiled by the Police Service of Northern Ireland Cyber Crime Centre and is intended to raise awareness of current threats and available guidance: **Contact us: cyberprotect@psni.pnn.police.uk**

5 steps towards improving your cyber security

Looking for affordable, practical advice to help improve your cyber security and protect your business from common cyber attacks?

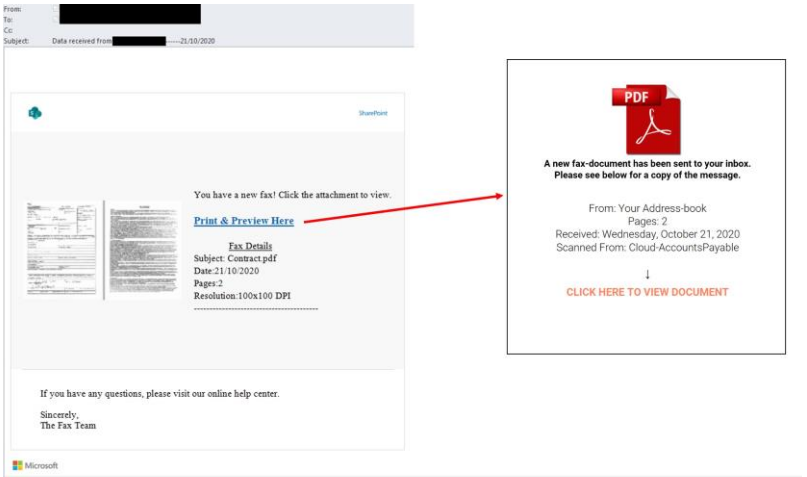
Cyber incidents such as account compromises, malware attacks and phishing, are experienced by businesses across Northern Ireland on a daily basis. As part of their support for the SME sector, the National Cyber Security Centre have relaunched their popular, easy to follow '**Small Business Guide**' highlighting 'accessible and actionable steps organisations can take which have little to no cost'.

Writing for the NCSC relaunch, Sarah Lyons, NCSC Deputy Director for Economy and Society Engagement, has said:

"Cyber security can seem overwhelming for some small business owners, but it's never been more important to ensure that measures are in place to protect against online threats….. By acting on the guide's **five key recommendations**, small businesses can significantly reduce their chances of falling victim to a cyber attack and help to keep their day-to-day operations running smoothly".

For more information on the Small Business Guide check out: **https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/news/revamped-small-business-guide**

Phishing example reported in NI on 21/10/2020



From: [redacted]
To:
Cc:
Subject: Data received from [redacted] -----21/10/2020

You have a new fax! Click the attachment to view.

Print & Preview Here

Fax Details
Subject: Contract.pdf
Date:21/10/2020
Pages:2
Resolution:100x100 DPI

If you have any questions, please visit our online help center.

Sincerely,
The Fax Team

A new fax-document has been sent to your inbox.
Please see below for a copy of the message.

From: Your Address-book
Pages: 2
Received: Wednesday, October 21, 2020
Scanned From: Cloud-AccountsPayable

↓
CLICK HERE TO VIEW DOCUMENT

The example above shows a phishing attempt observed in Northern Ireland this week. In this instance, the senders account was compromised and then used to target contacts. Our thanks go to the local organisation who both alerted us, the sender and forwarded the email to report@phishing.gov.uk

National Cyber Security Centre
a part of GCHQ

Cyber Security
Small Business Guide

Small Business Guide Collection

Backing up your data

- Identify what data you need to back up
- Keep your backup separate from your computer
- Consider the cloud
- Read the NCSC cloud security guidance
- Make backing up part of your everyday business

Protecting your organisation from malware

- Install (and turn on) antivirus software
- Prevent staff from downloading dodgy apps
- Keep all your IT equipment up to date
- Control how USB drives / memory cards can be used
- Switch on your firewall

Keeping your smartphones (and tablets) safe

- Switch on password protection
- Ensure lost/stolen devices can be tracked/locked/ wiped
- Keep your device up to date
- Keep your apps up to date
- Don't connect to unknown Wi-Fi Hotspots

Using passwords to protect your data

- Make sure you switch on password protection
- Use 2FA for 'important' accounts
- Avoid using predictable passwords
- Help your staff cope with 'password overload'
- Change all default passwords

Avoiding phishing attacks

- Configure accounts to reduce the impact of attacks
- Think about how you operate
- Check for the obvious signs of phishing
- Report all attacks
- Check your digital

Useful websites
www.actionfraud.police.uk
www.cyberaware.gov.uk
www.nicybersecuritycentre.gov.uk

Twitter
@PSNIBelfast
@cyberawaregov
@NICyberSC

we care · we listen · we act