

SOCIAL ENGINEERING



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AGENDA

What is social engineering?

Current events

Social engineering risks

Mitigation Strategies

Q&A



WHAT IS SOCIAL ENGINEERING?

- The Art of Deception, Kevin Mitnick:

"Social engineering uses influence and persuasion to deceive people by convincing them that the social engineer is someone he is not, or by manipulation. As a result, the social engineer is able to take advantage of people to obtain information with or without the use of technology."

- Wikipedia:

"refers to psychological manipulation of people into performing actions or divulging confidential information. A type of confidence trick for the purpose of information gathering, fraud, or system access, it differs from a traditional "con" in that it is often one of many steps in a more complex fraud scheme."



EARLY EXAMPLES OF SOCIAL ENGINEERING

- Used everyday by everyday people in everyday situations.

Promotion, Free Pizza, Dating

- The Trojan Horse
- Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs - Blue Box

1960s and 1970s – generates same tones as operator's dialing console to make long distance calls

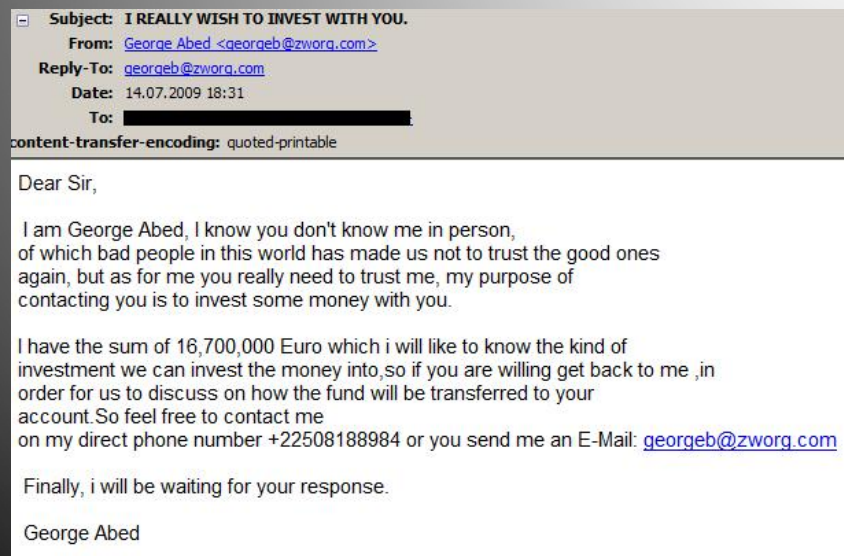
- Kevin Mitnick – Phone Phreaking

Using "lingo" or "talk the talk" to exploit the phone systems and phone company employees

GREATEST THREATS

- 1 out of every 500 emails contain confidential data.
- 66% say co-workers, not hackers, pose the greatest risk to consumer privacy.
- 46% say it would be "easy" to "extremely easy" for workers to remove sensitive data from the corporate database.
- 32% are unaware of internal company policies to protect customer data.

CURRENT EVENTS – EMAIL SCAMS



- The 419 Scam or Nigerian Scam

- Losses from totaled \$12.7 billion in 2013
 - \$82 Billion in Losses to Date
- 800,000 Organized Perpetrators
 - Growing 5% Annually
- 2013: people in the U.S., the U.K., and India fell for the most scams
- Scam range from \$200 to \$12 Million

CURRENT EVENTS (CONT'D)

Associated Press Twitter Hijack

- 2013, Twitter Account Hacked by Syrian Electronic Army
- Within 3 minutes, the fake tweet erased \$136 billion in equity market value
 - Tweet sent at 1:07 p.m.
 - 1:08 p.m. the Dow started the nosedive
 - Dropped 150 points before 1:10 p.m.



Associated Press Twitter Hijack

Here's the warning email and the phishing email that AP staffers got just before the AP Twitter account was hacked:

From: Associated Press Technology
Tue 4/23/2013 12:29 PM

All Staff –

Some users are receiving emails that appear to have a link to a Reuters or Washington Post news story. This email is a phishing attempt that takes users to a bogus site requesting you to log on. Users are advised not to click on the link and not to enter their logon credentials. If you have already clicked on the link, or entered your logon credentials, please contact the help desk immediately.

Mark House
Information Security
The Associated Press
mhouse@ap.org
Office: 609.860.7233

Sent: Tue 4/23/2013 12:12 PM
From: [An AP staffer]
Subject: News

Hello,

Please read the following article, it's very important :

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2013/04/23/>

[A different AP staffer]
Associated Press
San Diego
mobile [removed]

CURRENT EVENTS (CONT'D)

RSA SecurID Breach

- Phishing email contained an excel sheet with a zero-day exploit
- RSA's parent company, EMC, spent \$66 million recovering from the attack
- Information regarding their Two-factor authentication mechanism was compromised.



CURRENT EVENTS – USB DRIVES

- USB Drives

- Can emulate a keyboard and issue commands on behalf of the logged-in user
- Can spoof a network card and change the computer's DNS setting to redirect traffic
- Can boot a small virus, which infects the computer's operating system prior to boot.



CURRENT EVENTS – SOCIAL MEDIA



10/8/2015: SecureWorks Reports: Suspected Iran-Based Hacker Group Creates Network of Fake LinkedIn Profiles

- 204 Legitimate Accounts were associated with the fake accounts.
- The CTU believes that TG-2889's LinkedIn activity is the initial stage of the Op CLEAVER's fake resume submitter malware operation.

SOCIAL ENGINEERING RISKS

- Cost of Breaches

- 3.8 million victims attacked in 2014
- \$3.5 million is the average cost incurred by large companies in the wake of a cyber-attack in 2013
- Average data breach costs about \$145 per compromised record
- mean time to identify a breach was 206 days

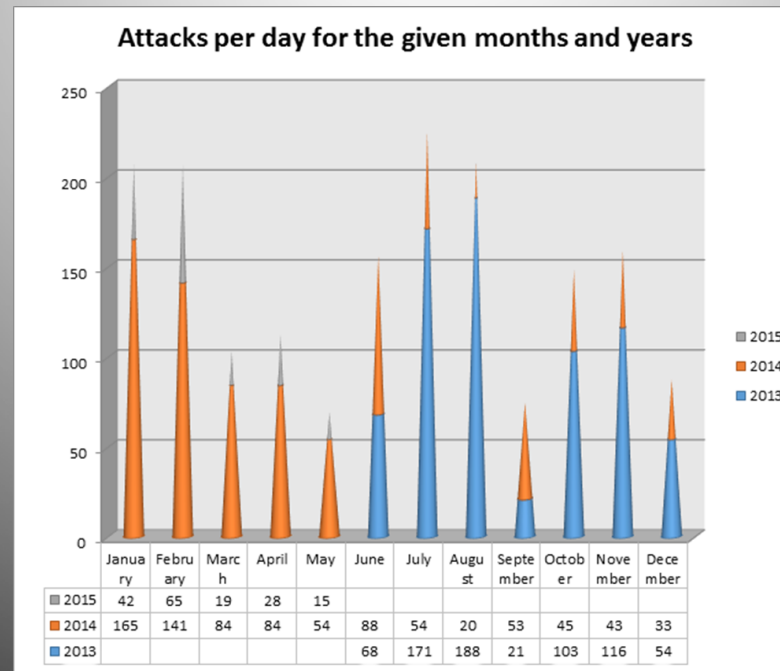
- Spear-phishing

- 91% of cyberattacks and the resulting data breach begin with a spear phishing email in 2012
- 94% of targeted emails use malicious file attachments

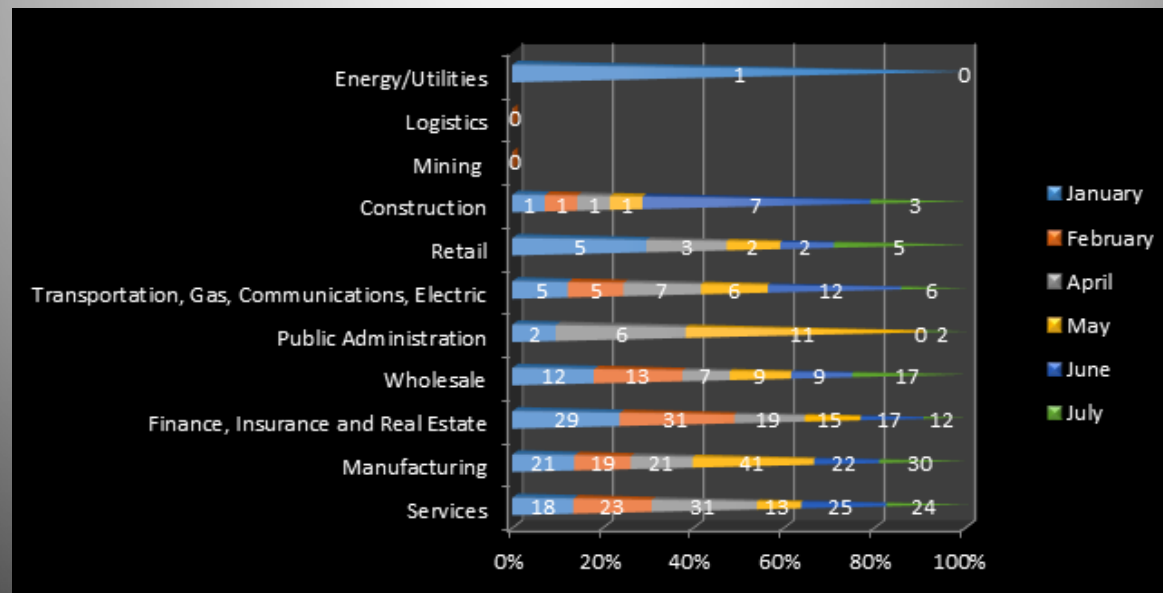
<http://usa.kaspersky.com/about-us/press-center/press-releases/kaspersky-lab-reports-finance-related-malware-attacks-rose-28-m>

[http://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/ponemon-cost-of-a-data-breach-rose-to-\\$35m-in-2013/d/d-id/1251019](http://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/ponemon-cost-of-a-data-breach-rose-to-$35m-in-2013/d/d-id/1251019)

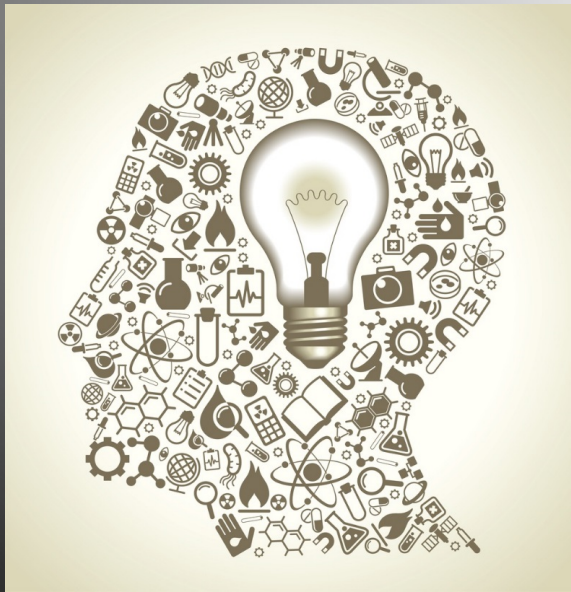
HOW WIDESPREAD IS SPEAR-PHISHING AND WHAT ARE THE ATTACK VOLUME TRENDS?



TOP TEN INDUSTRIES TARGETED BY SPEAR-PHISHING IN 2015



MITIGATION STRATEGIES



- Knowledge is Power
- Realize we are all targets at all times
- Change your point of view
- Commitments from IT
- Train, Train, Train

REDUCE RISK

Creating and Maintaining a Security-Aware Culture

- Password Management
- Two-Factor Authentication
- Anti-Virus/Anti-phishing Defenses
- Change Management
- Information Classification
- Document Handling and Destruction
- Physical Security

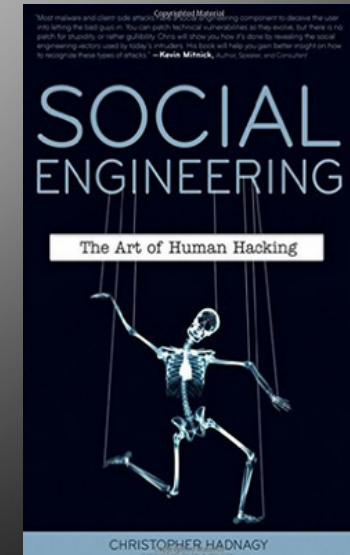
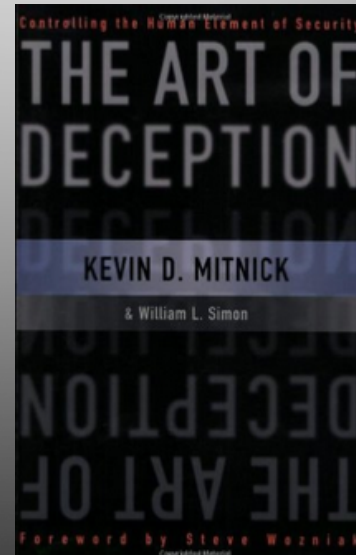
RESOURCES

Mitnick, Kevin. The Art of Deception

Hadnagy, Christopher & Wilson, Paul. Social Engineering: The Art of Human Hacking

www.social-engineer.org

www.offensive-security.com



QUESTIONS

