

# Social Engineering

## Module 9

Engineered by **Hackers**. Presented by Professionals.



# SECURITY NEWS



**Fierce**  
**GOVERNMENTIT**  
THE GOVERNMENT IT NEWS BRIEFING

December 06, 2010 1:08 AM ET

## Chinese attacks 'Byzantine Candor' penetrated federal agencies, says leaked cable

Cyber espionage by Chinese military-linked hackers, part of a series of attacks code-named "Byzantine Candor," extracted at least 50 megabytes of email messages from a federal agency along with a complete list of that agency's user names and passwords, states a newly-available leaked State Department cable.

According to the cable, which is labeled SECRET//NOFORN and is dated Nov. 3, 2008, Byzantine Candor has existed since late 2002. Its hackers have compromised multiple systems, including one U.S. commercial Internet service provider, in part through social engineering attacks, the cable states.

According to Air Force Office of Special Investigations findings referenced in the cable, hackers in Shanghai with ties to the Chinese military intelligence penetrated "at least three separate systems" at the U.S. ISP from which they were able to download the email, attachments, usernames and passwords from the unnamed federal agency during a period from April 2008 through Oct. 13, 2008.

<http://www.fiercegovernmentit.com>

**CEH**  
Certified Ethical Hacker

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# Module Objectives

- What is Social Engineering?
- Why is Social Engineering Effective?
- Phases in a Social Engineering Attack
- Common Targets of Social Engineering
- Types of Social Engineering
- Common Intrusion Tactics and Strategies for Prevention



- Social Engineering Through Impersonation on Social Networking Sites
- Risks of Social Networking to Corporate Networks
- Identify Theft
- How to Steal Identity?
- Social Engineering Countermeasures
- Social Engineering Pen Testing



# Module Flow



Social Engineering  
Concepts



Social Engineering  
Techniques



Impersonation on  
Social Networking  
Sites



Identity Theft



Social Engineering  
Countermeasures



Penetration  
Testing

There is **No Patch** to  
Human Stupidity

**CEH**  
Certified Ethical Hacker

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# What is **Social Engineering**?

- Social engineering is the art of **convincing people** to reveal confidential information
- Social engineers depend on the fact that people are **unaware of their valuable information** and are careless about protecting it



# Behaviors Vulnerable to Attacks

Human nature of **trust** is the basis of any social engineering attack

Ignorance about **social engineering** and its effects among the workforce makes the organization an easy target

Social engineers might threaten severe losses in case of **non-compliance with their request**

Targets are asked for help and they comply out of a sense of **moral obligation**



Social engineers lure the targets to divulge information by **promising something for nothing**

# Factors that Make Companies Vulnerable to Attacks



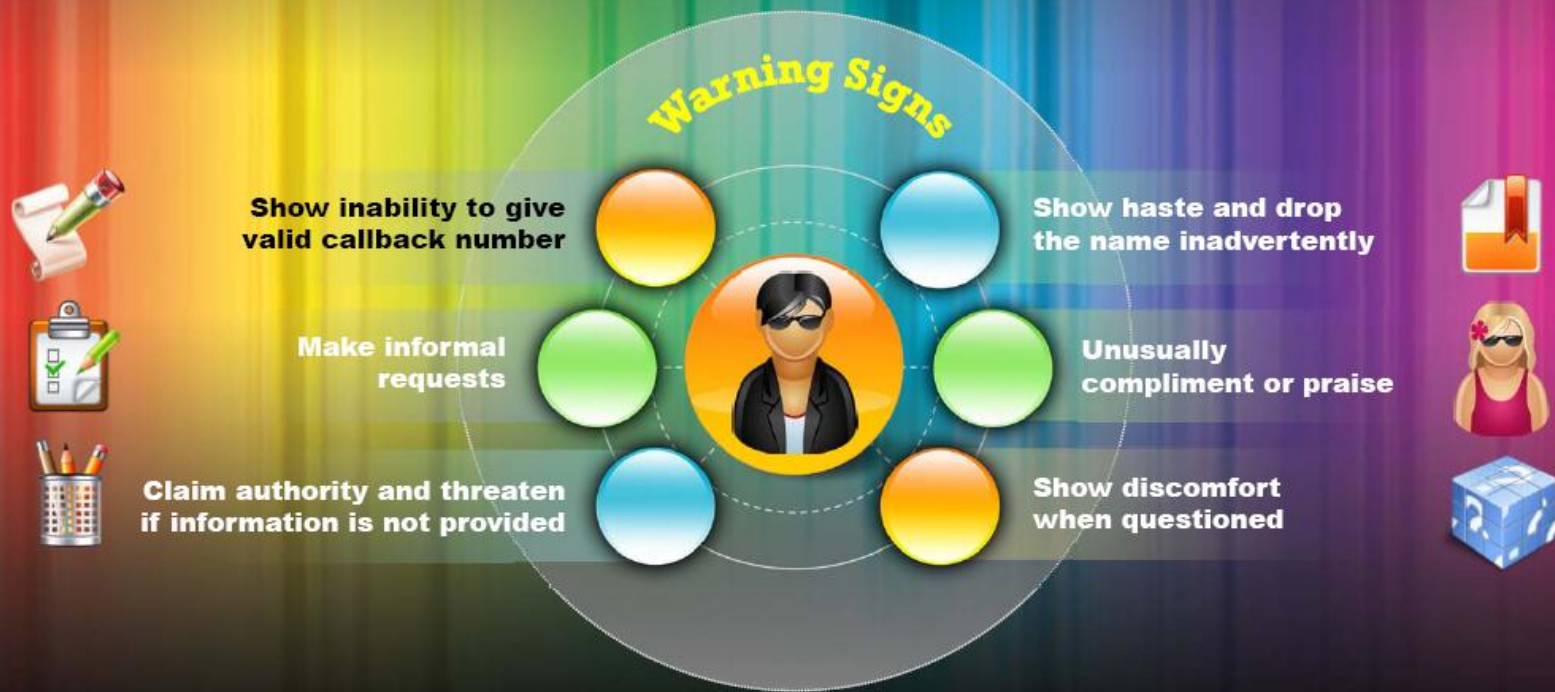


# Why is Social Engineering **Effective**?



# Warning Signs of an Attack

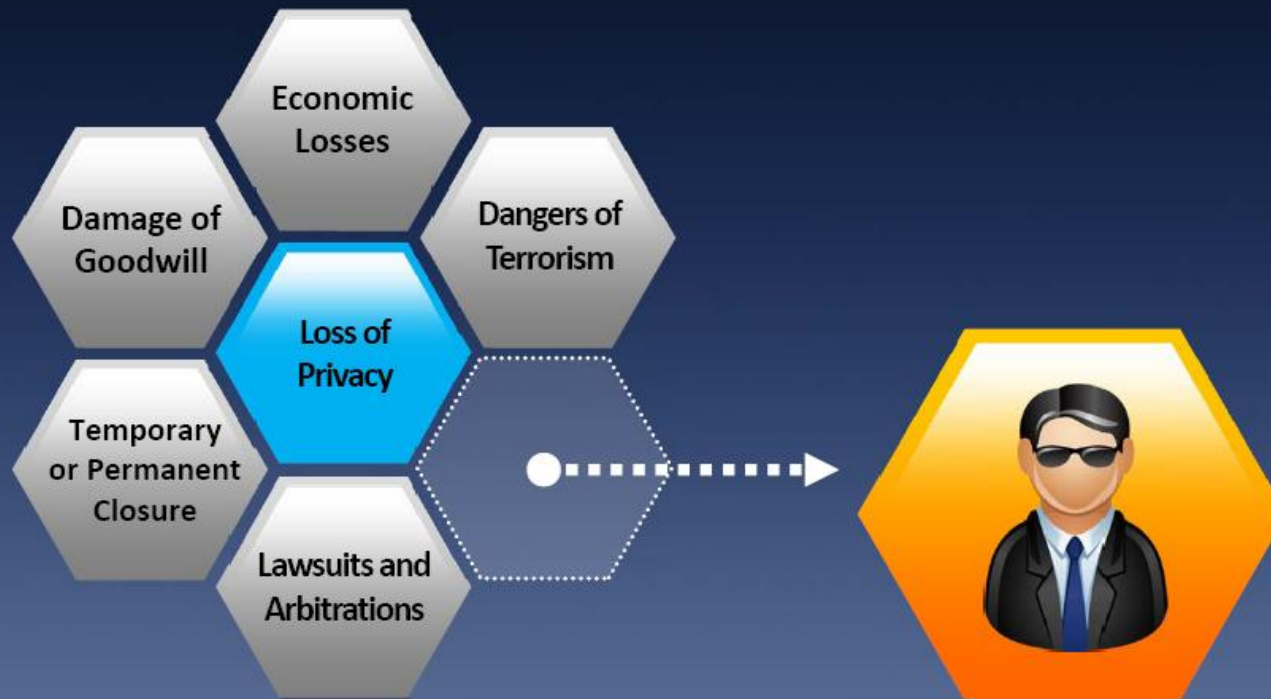
Internet attacks have become a business and attackers are constantly attempting to **invade networks**



# Phases in a Social Engineering Attack



# Impact on the Organization



# Command Injection **Attacks**

## Online



Internet connectivity enables attackers to **approach employees** from an anonymous Internet source and **persuade** them to provide information through a believable user



## Telephone



Request information, usually through the **imitation of a legitimate user**, either to access the telephone system itself or to gain remote access to computer systems



## Personal Approaches



In Personal Approaches, attackers get information by **directly asking for it**



# “Rebecca” and “Jessica”



Attackers use the term “Rebecca” and “Jessica” to denote social engineering victims



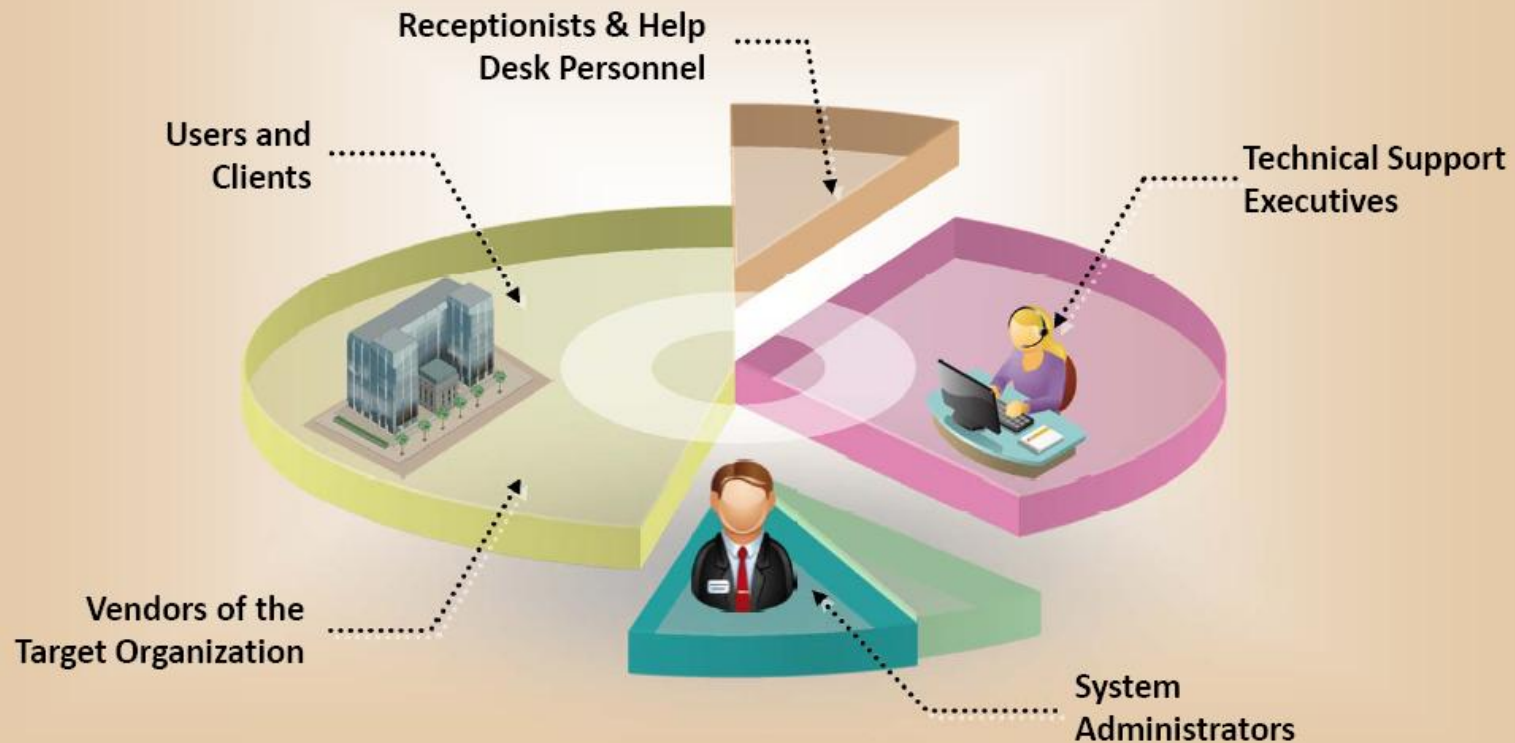
Rebecca and Jessica means a person who is an easy target for social engineering, such as the receptionist of a company



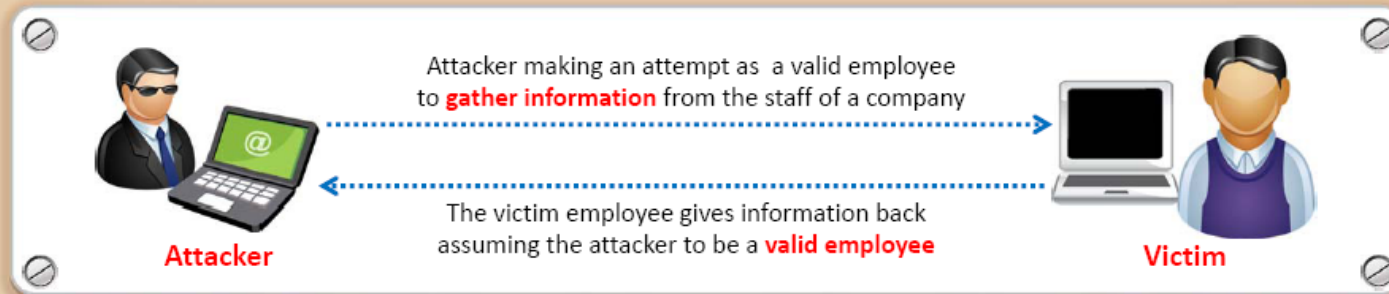
## Example:

- “There was a **Rebecca** at the bank and I am going to call her to extract the privileged information.”
- “I met **Ms. Jessica**, she was an easy target for social engineering.”
- “Do you have a **Rebecca** in your company?”

# Common Targets of Social Engineering



# Common Targets of Social Engineering: Office Workers



Despite having the best firewall, intrusion-detection, and antivirus systems, you are still hit with security breaches

Attackers can attempt social engineering attacks on office workers to extract the sensitive data, such as:

- Security policies
- Sensitive documents
- Office network infrastructure
- Passwords

The diagram features a central icon of an attacker in a black jacket and sunglasses. To the left is a blue rounded rectangle containing the text: 'Despite having the best firewall, intrusion-detection, and antivirus systems, you are still hit with security breaches'. To the right is a yellow rounded rectangle containing the text: 'Attackers can attempt social engineering attacks on office workers to extract the sensitive data, such as:' followed by a bulleted list: 'Security policies', 'Sensitive documents', 'Office network infrastructure', and 'Passwords'.



# Module Flow



Social Engineering Concepts



Social Engineering Techniques



Impersonation on Social Networking Sites



Identity Theft



Social Engineering Countermeasures



Penetration Testing

# Types of Social Engineering

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## Human-based

Gathers sensitive information by interaction  
Attacks of this category exploit trust, fear, and helping nature of humans



## Computer-based

Social engineering is carried out  
with the help of computers

2



# Human-Based Social Engineering

## Posing as a legitimate end user

Give identity and ask for the **sensitive information**

*"Hi! This is John, from Department X. I have forgotten my password. Can I get it?"*



## Posing as an important user

Posing as a VIP of a **target company, valuable customer**, etc.

*"Hi! This is Kevin, CFO Secretary. I'm working on an urgent project and lost my system password. Can you help me out?"*



## Posing as technical support

Call as **technical support staff** and request IDs and passwords to retrieve data

*"Sir, this is Mathew, Technical support, X company. Last night we had a system crash here, and we are checking for the lost data. Can u give me your ID and password?"*



# Technical Support Example



“ A man calls a company’s help desk and says he has forgotten his password. He adds that if he misses the deadline on a big advertising project, his boss might fire him. The help desk worker feels sorry for him and quickly resets the password, unwittingly giving the attacker clear entrance into the corporate network ”



# Authority Support Example



“ Hi, I am John Brown. I'm with the external auditors Arthur Sanderson. We've been told by corporate to do a surprise inspection of your disaster recovery procedures.

Your department has 10 minutes to show me how you would recover from a website crash. ”

# Authority Support Example



“Hi I'm Sharon, a sales rep out of the New York office. I know this is short notice, but I have a group of prospective clients out in the car that I've been trying for months to get to outsource their security training needs to us.

They're located just a few miles away and I think that if I can give them a quick tour of our facilities, it should be enough to push them over the edge and get them to sign up.

Oh yeah, they are particularly interested in what security precautions we've adopted. Seems someone hacked into their website a while back, which is one of the reasons they're considering our company.”

# Authority Support Example



“ Hi, I'm with Aircon Express Services. We received a call that the computer room was getting too warm and need to check your HVAC system.”

Using professional-sounding terms like HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) may add just enough credibility to an intruder's masquerade to allow him or her to gain access to the targeted secured resource.

# Human-based Social Engineering

## Eavesdropping

- Eavesdropping or **unauthorized listening of conversations** or reading of messages
- Interception of any form such as audio, video, or written
- It can also be done using communication channels such as telephone lines, email, instant messaging, etc.



## Shoulder Surfing

- Shoulder surfing is the name given to the procedure that thieves use to **find out passwords, personal identification number, account numbers**, etc.
- Thieves look over your shoulder-- or even watch from a distance using binoculars, in order to get those pieces of information





# Human-based Social Engineering: Dumpster Diving

- Dumpster diving is looking for treasure in someone else's **trash**



# Human-based Social Engineering

## Tailgating

An unauthorized person, wearing a fake ID badge, enters a secured area by closely following an authorized person through a door requiring key access



## In Person

Survey a target company to collect information on:

- Current technologies
- Contact information

## Third-Party Authorization

Refer to an important person in the organization and try to collect data

*"Mr. George, our Finance Manager, asked that I pick up the audit reports. Will you please provide them to me?"*

# Human-based Social Engineering

## Reverse Social Engineering

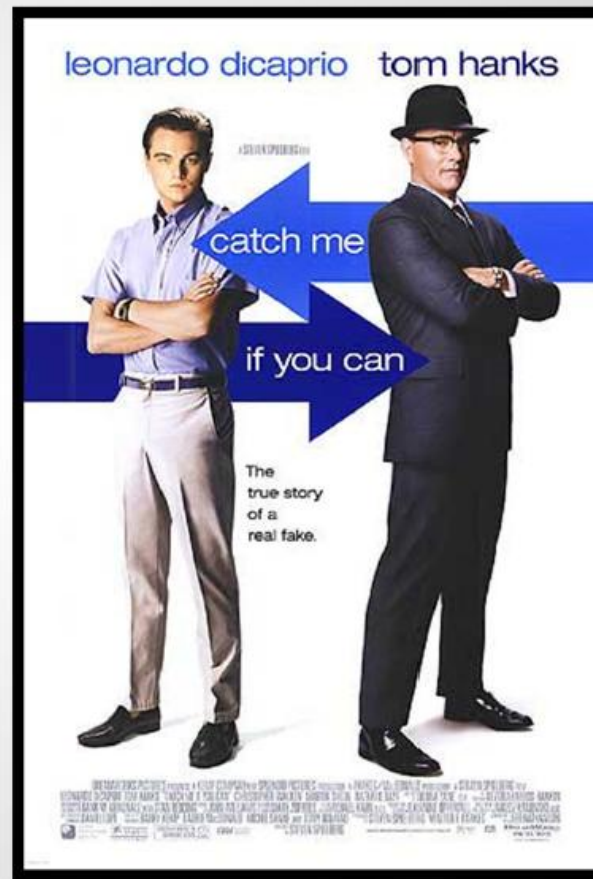
- This is when the attacker **creates a persona** who appears to be in a position of authority so that employees will ask him for information, rather than the other way around
- Reverse social engineering attack involves **sabotage, marketing, and tech support**

## Piggybacking

- "I forgot my ID badge at home. Please help me."
- An authorized person provides **access to an unauthorized person** by keeping the secured door open



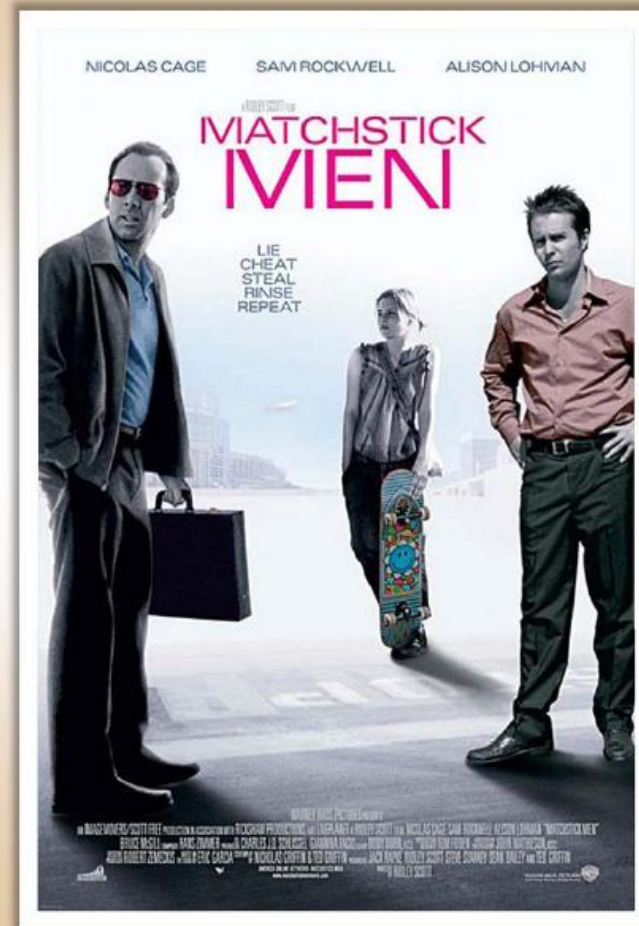
# Watch these **Movies**



## Watch this **Movie**

In the 2003 movie "Matchstick Men", Nicolas Cage plays a con artist residing in Los Angeles and operates a fake lottery, selling overpriced water filtration systems to unsuspecting customers, in the process collecting over a million dollars

This movie is an excellent study in the art of social engineering, the act of manipulating people into performing actions or divulging confidential information



# Computer-Based Social Engineering



Hoax letters are emails that issue **warnings** to the user on new viruses, Trojans, or worms that may harm the user's system

Gathering **personal information** by chatting with a selected online user to get information such as birth dates and maiden names



Pop-up  
Windows

Hoax  
Letters

Chain  
Letters

Instant  
Chat  
Messenger

Spam  
Email

Windows that suddenly pop up while surfing the Internet and ask for **users' information** to login or sign-in

Chain letters are emails that offer **free gifts** such as money and software on the condition that the user has to **forward** the mail to the said number of persons

**Irrelevant, unwanted,** and **unsolicited email** to collect the financial information, social security numbers, and network information



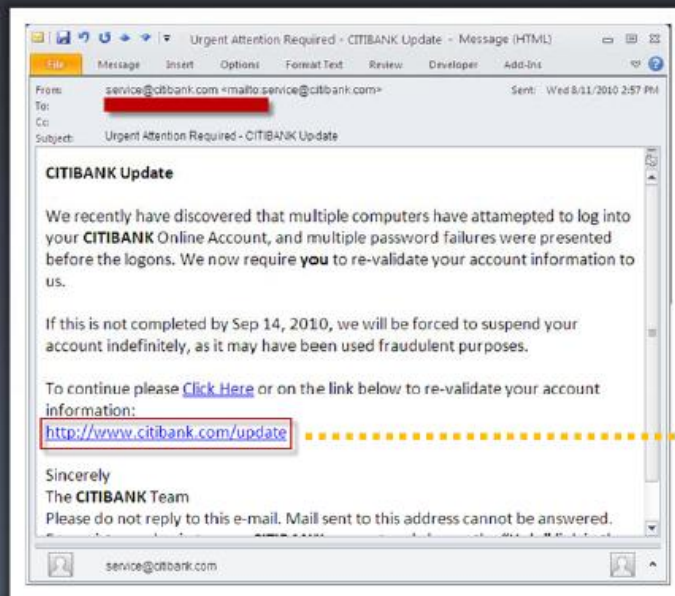
# Computer-Based Social Engineering: Pop-Ups

- Pop-ups trick users into **clicking a hyperlink** that redirects them to **fake web pages** asking for personal information, or downloads malicious programs such as keyloggers, Trojans, or spyware



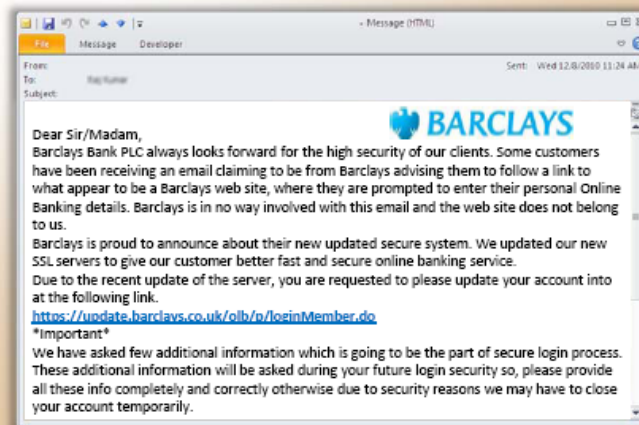
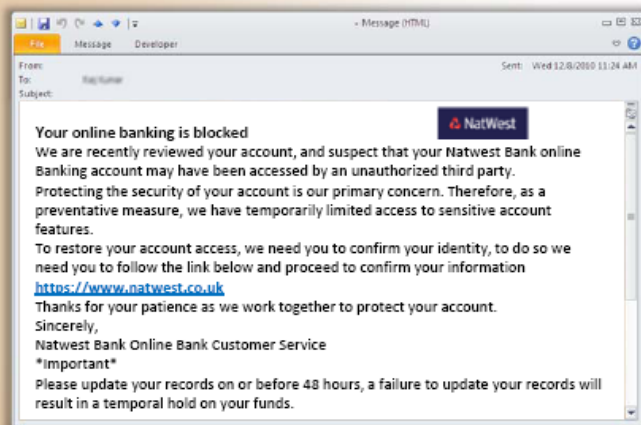
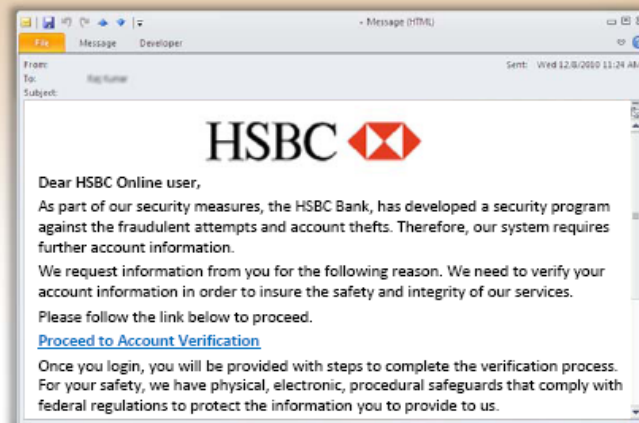
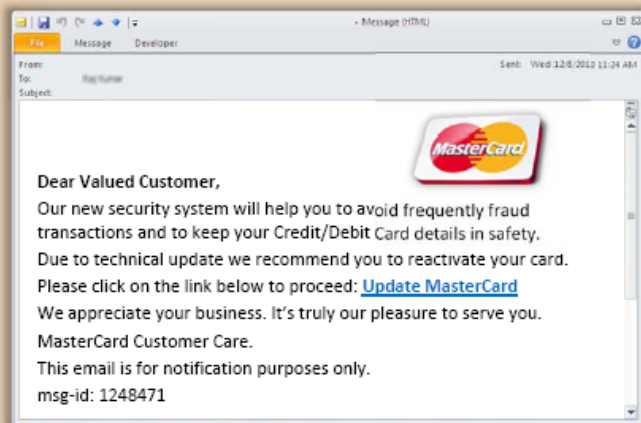
# Computer-Based Social Engineering: Phishing

- An **illegitimate email** falsely **claiming** to be from a legitimate site attempts to acquire the user's personal or account information
- Phishing emails or pop-ups redirect users to **fake webpages** of mimicking trustworthy sites that ask them to submit their personal information



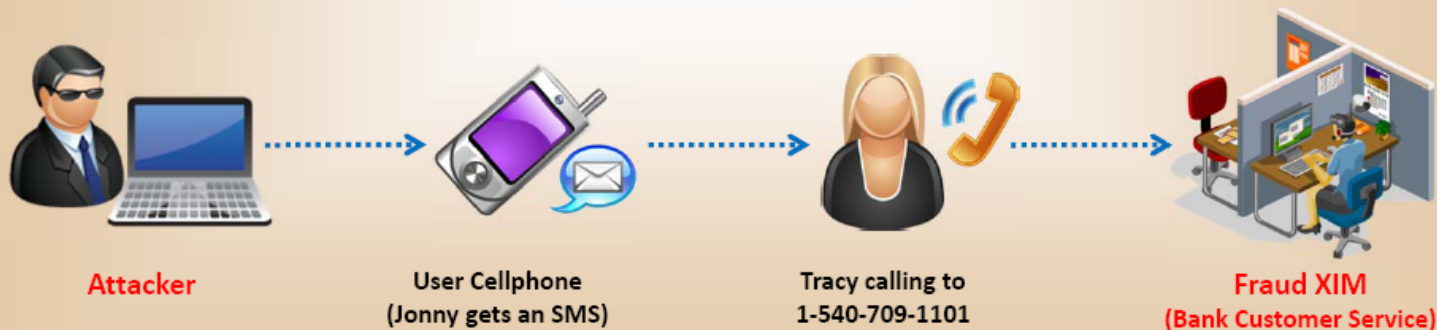


# Computer-Based Social Engineering: **Phishing**



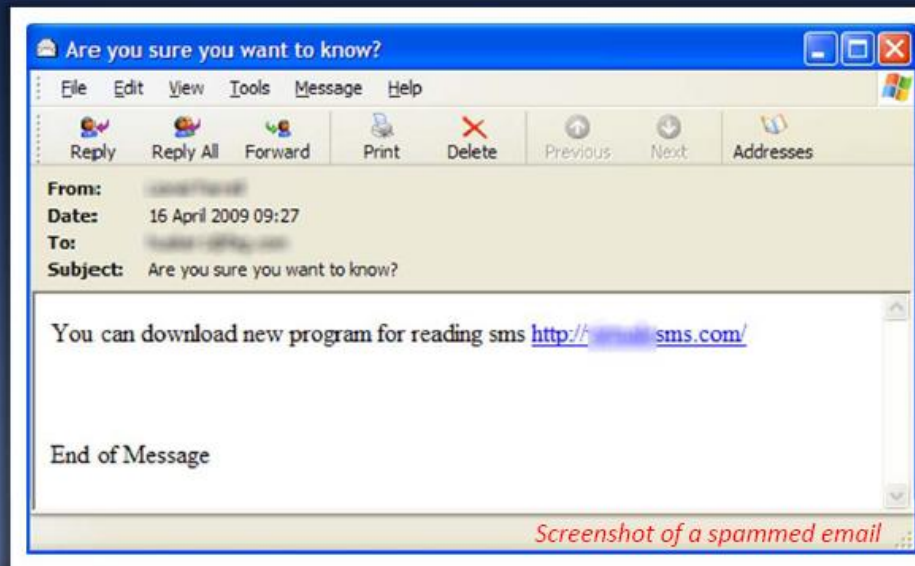
# Social Engineering Using SMS

- Tracy received an **SMS** text message, ostensibly from the security department at XIM Bank. It claimed to be urgent and that Tracy should call the included phone number immediately. Worried, she called to check on her account.
- She called thinking it was a XIM Bank customer service number, and it was a **recording** asking to provide her credit card or debit card number.
- Unsurprisingly, Jonny **revealed the sensitive information** due to the fraudulent texts.



# Social Engineering by a “Fake SMS Spying Tool”

- The users are enticed to download an application that will permit them to view other people's SMS messages online
- The download file uses alternating filenames, including **sms.exe**, **freetrial.exe**, and **smstrap.exe**



# Insider Attack



## Spying

- If a competitor wants to cause damage to your organization, steal critical secrets, or put you out of business, they just have to find a job opening, prepare someone to pass the interview, have that person hired, and they will be in the organization



## Revenge

- It takes only one disgruntled person to take revenge and your company is compromised

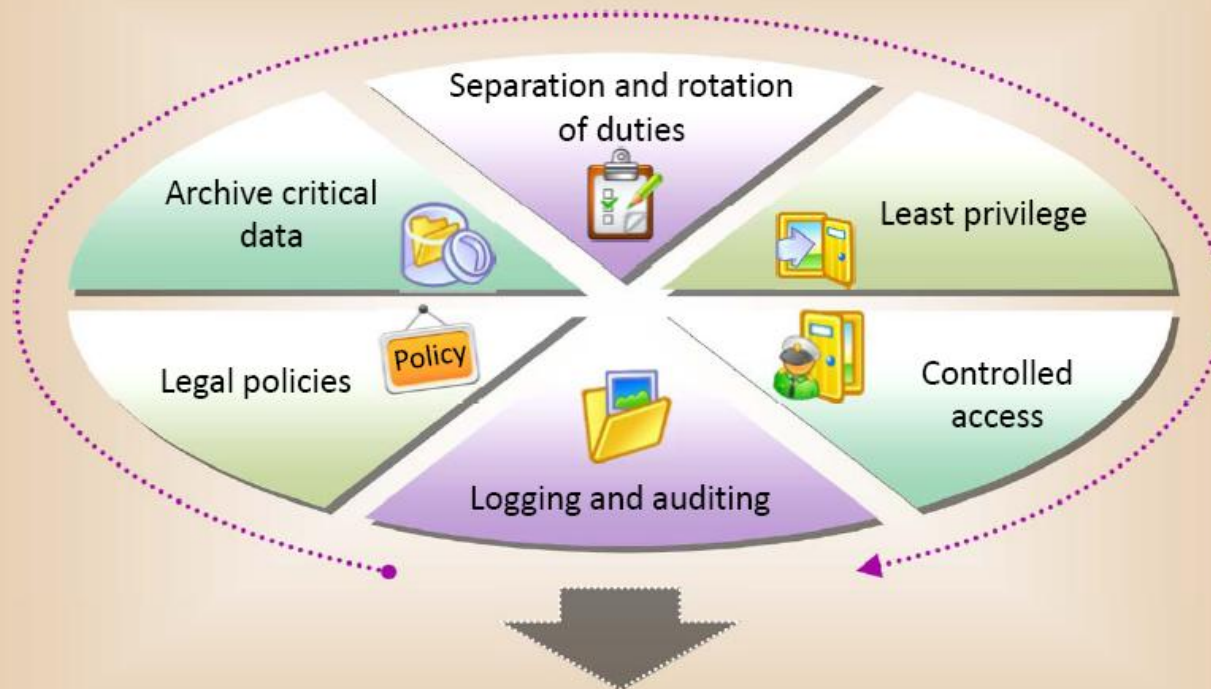
- 60% of attacks occur behind the firewall
- An inside attack is easy to launch
- Prevention is difficult
- The inside attacker can easily succeed

# Disgruntled Employee

- Most cases of insider abuse can be traced to individuals who are introverted, incapable of dealing with stress or conflict, and **frustrated with their job**, office politics, and lack of respect or promotion etc.
- Disgruntled employees may **pass company secrets** and **intellectual property** to competitors for monetary benefits











# Preventing **Insider Threats**



There is no single solution to **prevent** an insider threat

# Common **Intrusion Tactics** and **Strategies** for Prevention

Area of Risk	Attacker's Tactics	Combat Strategy
Phone (help desk) 	Impersonation and persuasion	Train employees/help desk to never reveal passwords or other information by phone
Building entrance 	Unauthorized physical access	Tight badge security, employee training, and security officers
Office 	Shoulder surfing	Do not type in passwords with anyone else present (or if you must, do it quickly!)
Phone (help desk) 	Impersonation on help desk calls	Assign a PIN to all employees to help desk support
Office 	Wandering through halls looking for open offices	Escort all guests
Mail room 	Insertion of forged memos	Lock and monitor mail room
Machine room/ Phone closet 	Attempting to gain access, remove equipment, and/or attach a protocol analyzer to grab the confidential data	Keep phone closets, server rooms, etc. locked at all times and keep updated inventory on equipment
Phone and PBX 	Stealing phone toll access	Control overseas and long-distance calls, trace calls, and refuse transfers

# Module Flow



Social Engineering Concepts



Social Engineering Techniques



Impersonation on Social Networking Sites



Identity Theft



Social Engineering Countermeasures



Penetration Testing



# Social Engineering Through Impersonation on Social Networking Sites

Impersonation means **imitating** or copying the behavior or actions of others

Malicious users **gather confidential information** from social networking sites and create accounts in others' names

Attackers can also use collected information to carry out other forms of **social engineering attacks**

Attackers use others' profiles to create large networks of friends and **extract information** using social engineering techniques



# Social Engineering Example: LinkedIn Profile

The screenshot shows a LinkedIn profile for Chris Stone, a UX Designer at Nitobi. The profile is highlighted with a red box around the 'Current' job entry. The profile includes a profile picture, a profile completeness score of 100%, and a list of current and past jobs. The current job is 'UX Designer at Nitobi [ Edit ]'. The past jobs include 'Principal/Designer at SeaStone Designs (Sole Proprietorship)', 'Information Architect, UI Designer at Clarus Systems', and 'Manager, Product Marketing at Clarus Systems'. The profile also shows education at the University of California, Davis, 4 recommendations, 64 connections, and a public profile link.

# Social Engineering on Facebook

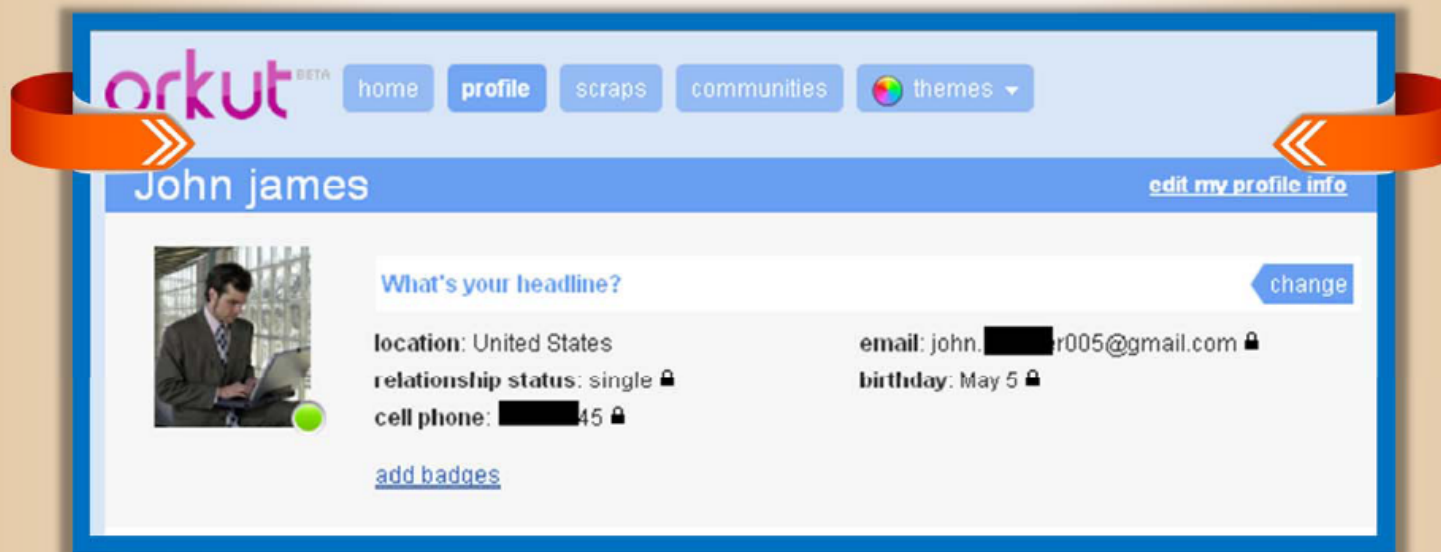
- Attackers create a **fake user group** on Facebook identified as "Employees of" the company
- Using a **false identity**, attacker then proceeds to "friend," or invite, employees to the fake group, " Employees of the company"
- Users join the group and **provide their credentials** such as date of birth, educational and employment backgrounds, spouses names, etc.
- Using the details of any one of the employee, an attacker can **compromise** a secured facility to **gain access** to the building

The screenshot displays a Facebook profile for 'John James'. The profile is divided into two main sections: 'Basic Information' and 'Education and Work'.  
**Basic Information:**  
- Sex: Male  
- Interested In: Men  
- Relationship Status: Single  
**Contact Information:**  
- Phone: +64 50800000 (Mobile), +64 50800111 (Other)  
- Address: xxxxxxxx, Auckland, CA 700017  
- Screen Name: John (Sloype)  
- Website: http://www.juggyboy.com/  
**Education and Work:**  
- College: The University of Auckland, Class of 2002  
- High School: Mt Roskill Grammar, Class of 1999 (listed twice)

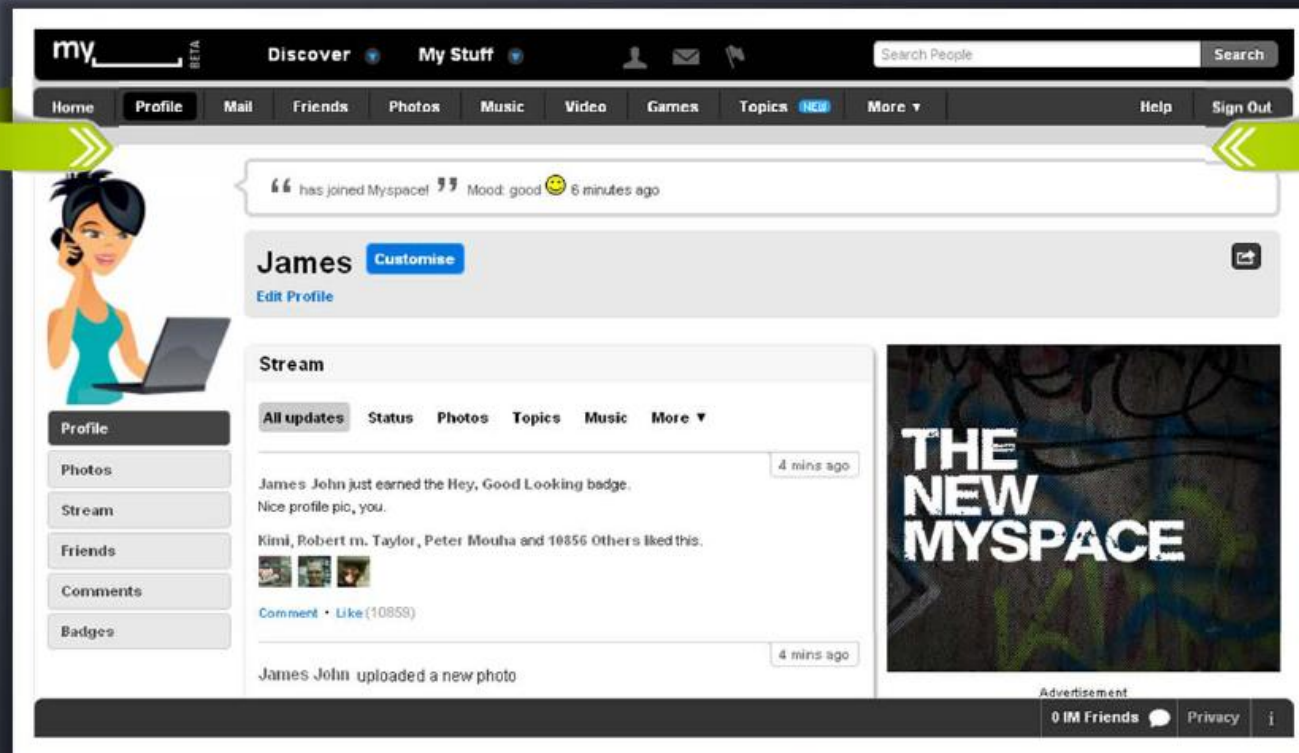
# Social Engineering on **Twitter**

The screenshot shows the Twitter interface for 'john\_attacker's settings'. The navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Profile', 'Find People', 'Settings', 'Help', and 'Sign out'. The 'Mobile' tab is selected in the sub-navigation bar. The main content area is titled 'Use Twitter with Text Messaging!' and includes instructions on how to set up text messaging on a mobile phone. It lists three steps: 1. Choose your country/region (set to United States), 2. Enter your mobile phone number (with a masked number and a checkmark for 'Let others find me by my phone number'), and 3. Verify your phone (with a 'Start' button). To the right, there is a section for 'Text Messaging on Twitter' with instructions on sending and receiving tweets, and a section for 'Twitter commands' listing 'FOLLOW' and 'UNFOLLOW' with their respective actions.

# Social Engineering on Orkut



# Social Engineering on MySpace



# Risks of Social Networking to Corporate Networks



# Module Flow



Social Engineering Concepts



Social Engineering Techniques



Impersonation on Social Networking Sites



Identity Theft



Social Engineering Countermeasures

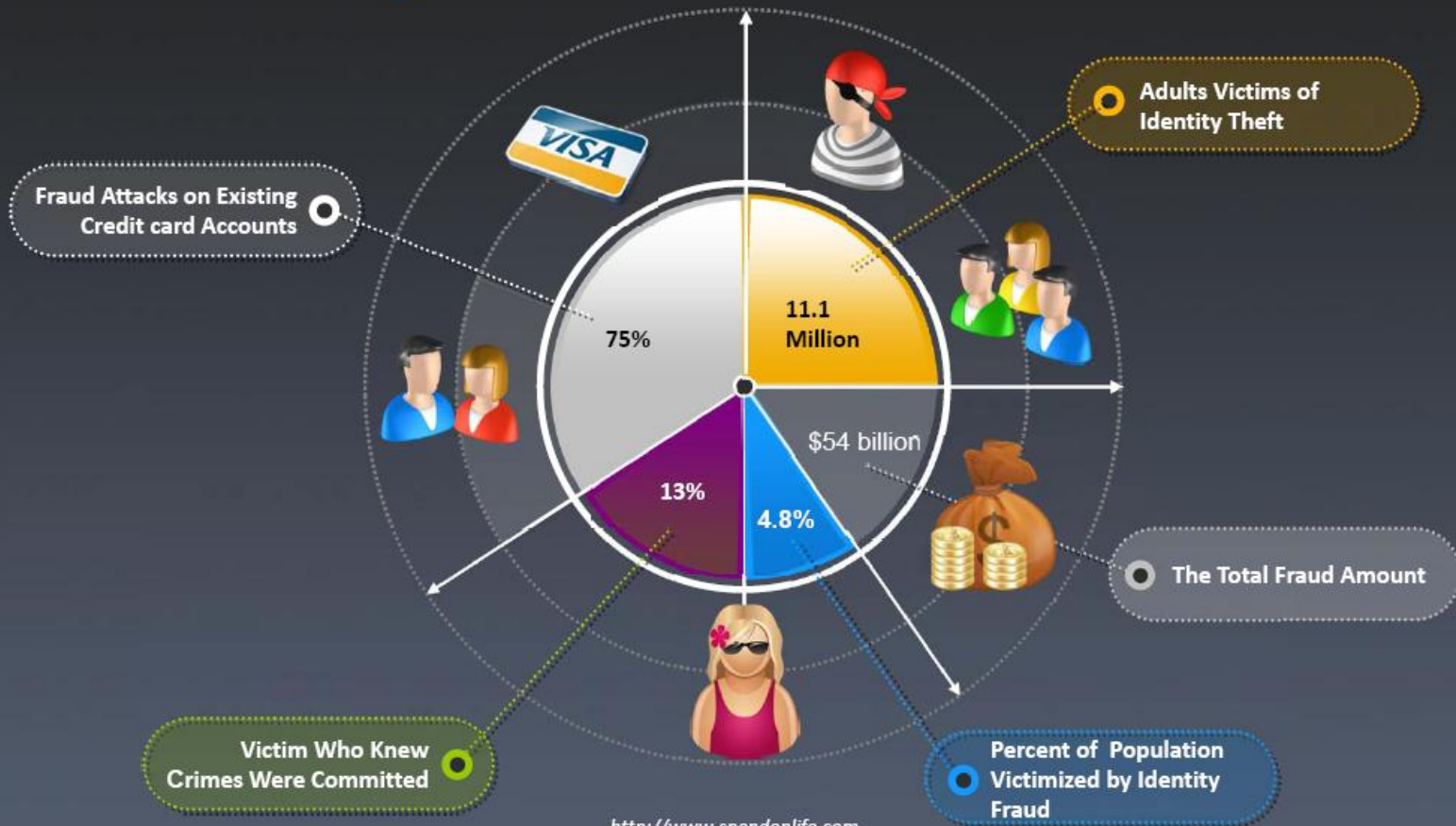


Penetration Testing



# Identity Theft

# Identity Theft Statistics 2010



# Identify Theft

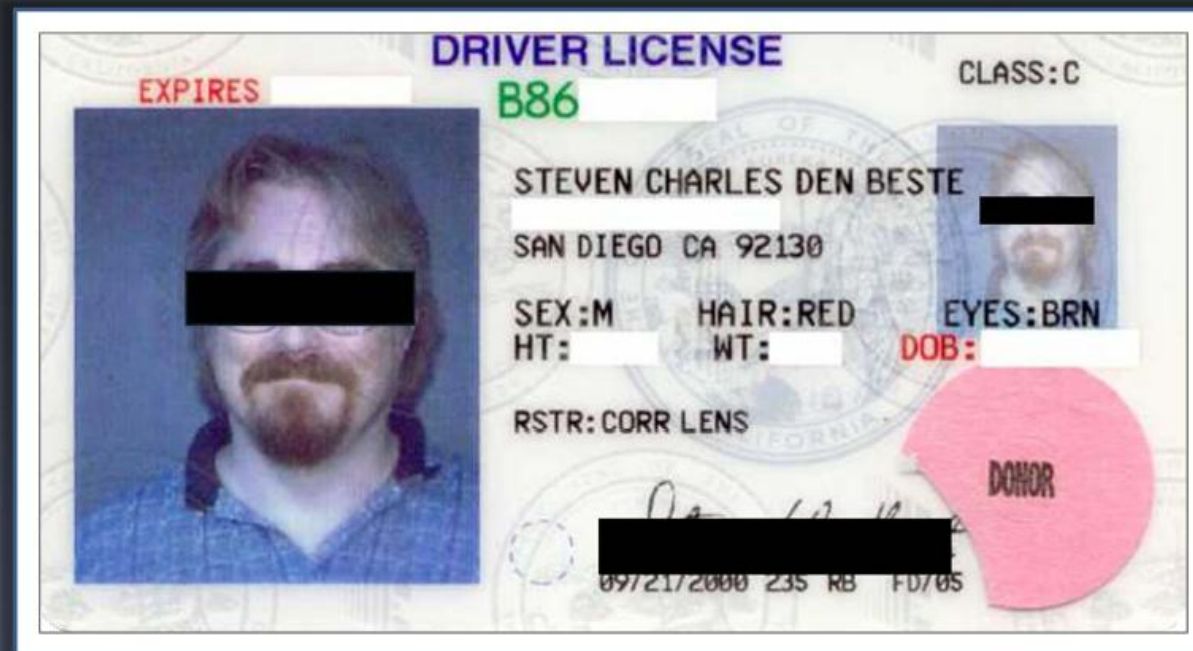


“One bit of personal information is all someone needs to **steal your identity**”

# How to **Steal an Identity?**

Original identity – **Steven Charles**

Address: **San Diego CA 92130**



# STEP 1

Get hold of Steven's telephone bill, water bill, or electricity bill using **dumpster diving**, **stolen email**, or **onsite stealing**

**Southern Bell**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS BILL - CALL 832-3412

NISSAN FOREIGN CAR  
P O BOX 84  
RALEIGH NC 27602

PAID 1-28-81  
# 353

AMOUNT LAST BILL	PAYMENTS	ADJUSTMENTS	BALANCE
19768	19768		

SERVICE FROM JAN 02 TO FEB 02

TAX ON SERVICE	LOC	ST	FED	49	29 45	49
DIRECTORY ADVERTISING FROM			TO			
CHARGES FROM LIST OF CALLS INCL TAX					33 84	
OTHER CHARGES & CREDITS INCL TAX - SEE ENCLOSURE						
127202			TOTAL		63 78	

**Verizon**

Page 3 of 5  
732 XXX-XXXX

Verizon charges April 13, 2002

This month's charges Monthly charges Apr 13 to May 12 \$25.62  
FCC Subscriber Line Charge +12.42  
Local Number Portability Surcharge  
Federal Universal Service Fund Surcharge  
Additional charges... See Page

Taxes  
Federal \$1.19 NJ Sales

Total Verizon charges  
Billing inquiries call 1 800-564-9911. From outside  
1 800-755-1049.  
To order service call 1 800-564-9911. From outside  
1 800-755-1049.  
For repair call 1-800-275-2355

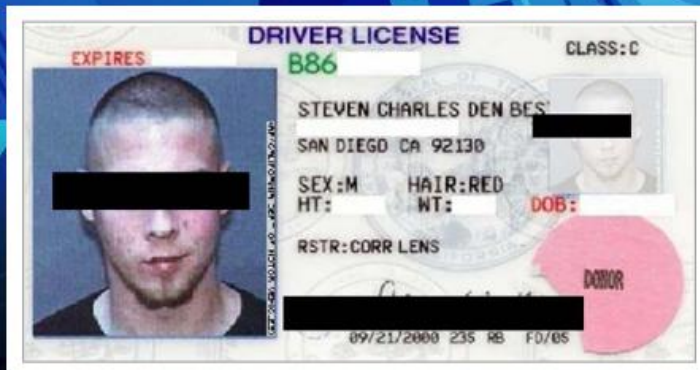
**nti:**

NTI - OXFORD  
CALL LOG REPORT  
CUSTOMER NO. 8888-1

CALL TO	NUMBER CALLED	DATE	TIME	RELIABLE DURATION MIN:SECS	COST
ORANGE DIRECT DEAL	HIGHBURY	0805/05	20:59	14:55	1.003
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	0805/05	18:30	0:50	0.148
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	0708/05	18:28	7:53	1.062
01603	123456	0605/08	19:27	8:24	0.151
HITCHCOCK ORANGE DD	PARKER	1004/03	19:17	0:48	0.103
01509	567891	0904/03	20:13	29:13	0.540
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	0804/05	21:36	0:33	0.111
02509	567891	0804/05	19:36	14:13	0.285
01603	123456	0704/05	22:29	10:17	0.217
ONS-2-ONE	12345678912	0704/05	19:22	1:06	0.198
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	0604/03	19:42	4:14	0.328
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	PARKER	0404/03	21:23	4:18	0.334
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	01488977723	1203/03	18:57	3:09	0.443
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	1203/03	18:04	4:27	0.452
SPECIAL RATE	8899566771	1203/03	16:29	8:17	0.320
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	1103/03	19:29	3:05	0.436
HITCHCOCK ORANGE PCN	99812345678	1003/03	20:00	2:07	0.345
HITCHCOCK ORANGE PCN	99812345678	1003/03	16:10	2:09	0.188
01509	567891	0803/03	19:53	18:11	0.351
VODAFONE DIRECT DEAL	WESTON	0503/03	20:49	2:01	0.298
ORANGE DIRECT DEAL	HIGHBURY	0303/03	21:05	49:53	7.483

Totals of omitted calls (including VAT) 15.278  
52 calls costing less than 0.100 2.865  
TOTAL (including VAT) 18.143

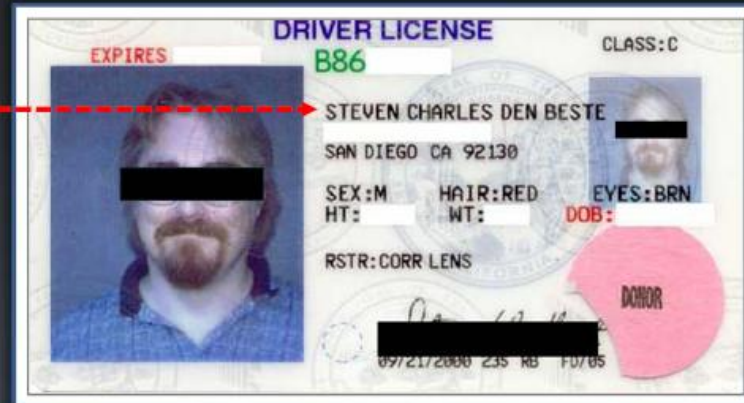
## STEP 2



- Go to the Department of Motor Vehicles and tell them you lost your driver's license
- They will ask you for proof of identity such as a water bill and electricity bill
- Show them the stolen bills
- Tell them you have moved from the original address
- The department employee will ask you to complete two forms—one for the replacement of the driver's license and the second for a change in address
- You will need a photo for the driver's license
- Your replacement driver's license will be issued to your new home address
- Now you are ready to have some serious fun

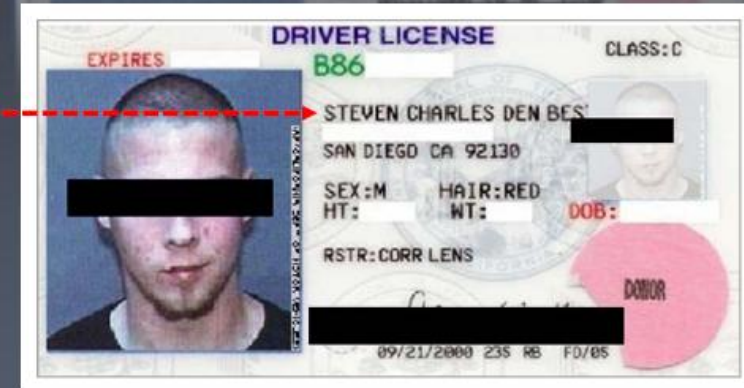
# Comparison

Original



Same name: Steven Charles

Identity Theft



# STEP 3

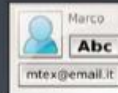
Go to a bank in which the **original** Steven Charles has an account and tell them you would like to apply for a **new credit card**



Tell them you **do not remember** the account number and ask them to look it up using Steven's name and address



The bank will ask for your ID: Show them your **driver's license as ID**, and if the ID is accepted, your credit card will be issued and ready for use



Now you are ready for shopping



## Fake Steven is Ready to:

- Make purchases worth thousands of USD
- Apply for a car loan
- Apply for a new passport
- Apply for a new bank account
- Shut down your utility services





# Real Steven Gets Huge Credit Card Statement



Somebody stole my identity!

**Your First Bank** SEND PAYMENT TO  
Box 1234  
Anytown, USA

**CREDIT CARD STATEMENT**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	NAME	STATEMENT DATE	PAYMENT DUE DATE
4125-239-412	Stevens Charles	2/13/01	3/09/01
CREDIT LINE	CREDIT AVAILABLE	<b>NEW BALANCE</b>	MINIMUM PAYMENT DUE
\$1200.00	\$1074.76	<b>\$40,000</b>	\$20.00

REFERENCE	SOLD	POSTED	ACTIVITY SINCE LAST STATEMENT	AMOUNT
483GE7382		1/25	PAYMENT THANK YOU	-168.80
32F349ERJ	1/12	1/15	RECORD RECYCLER ANYTOWN USA	1214.83
89102DI62	1/13	1/15	BEEFORAMA REST ANYTOWN USA	1230.55
NL34FJD32	1/18	1/18	GREAT EXPECTORATIONS BIG CITY USA	9927.50
84RT3293A	1/20	1/21	DINO-GEL PETROLEUM ANYTOWN USA	9912.26
873DS121	2/09	2/09	SHIRTS 'N SUCK TINYVILLEUSA	9940.10

Previous Balance	(*)	168.80	Current Amount Due	\$40,000
Purchases	(*)	125.24	Amount Past Due	
Cash Advances	(*)		Amount Over Credit Line	
Payments	(-)	168.80	Minimum Payment Due	20.00
Credits	(-)			
FINANCE CHARGES	(*)			
Late Charges	(*)			
NEW BALANCE	(*)	125.24		

FINANCE CHARGE SUMMARY	PURCHASES	ADVANCES	For Customer Service Call:
Periodic Rate	1.45%	0.54%	1-800-XXX-XXXX
Annual Percentage Rate	19.80%	6.48%	For Lost or Stolen Card, Call:
			1-800-XXX-XXXX
			24-Hour Telephone Numbers

Please make check or money order payable to Your First Bank. Include account number on front.



# Identity Theft - **Serious Problem**

- Identity theft is a serious problem
- The number of violations has increased
- Securing personal information in the workplace and at home and looking over credit card reports are just a few of the ways to minimize the risk of identity theft



Federal Trade Commission [Report ID Theft](#) | [Order Publications](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [FTC Search](#)

**FIGHTING BACK AGAINST IDENTITY THEFT**  
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

**DETER** **DETECT** **DEFEND**

[CONSUMERS](#) | [BUSINESSES](#) | [LAW ENFORCEMENT](#) | [MILITARY](#) | [MEDIA](#) | [REFERENCE DESK](#) | [EN ESPAÑOL](#)

## WELCOME TO THE FTC'S IDENTITY THEFT SITE

**DETER DETECT DEFEND**  
**AVOID IDENTITY THEFT**

This website is a one-stop national resource to learn about the crime of identity theft. It provides detailed information to help you deter, detect, and defend against identity theft.

On this site, consumers can learn how to avoid identity theft – and learn what to do if their identity is stolen. Businesses can learn how to help their customers deal with identity theft, as well as how to prevent problems in the first place. Law enforcement can get resources and learn how to help victims of identity theft.

Read on to find out more about identity theft and what you can do about it.

If your information has been stolen and used by an identity thief [more](#)

If your information may have been stolen, but may or may not have been used by an identity thief [more](#)

Learn more about identity theft [more](#)

**Hot Links**

[What is phishing?](#)

[Use Our Materials in Your Community](#)

**Watch the video**

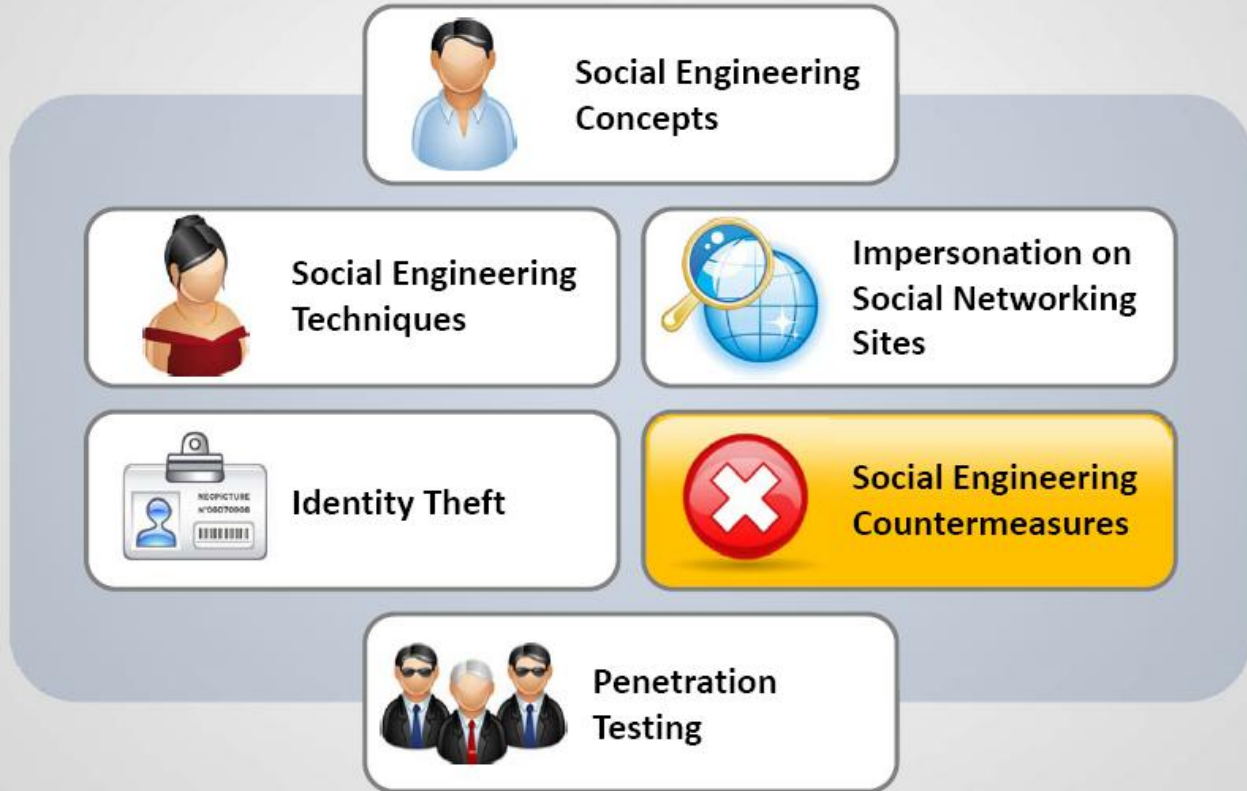
[The President's Identity Theft Task Force](#)

[File a Complaint with the FTC](#)

<http://www.consumer.gov>

**CEH**  
Certified Ethical Hacker

# Module Flow



# Social Engineering Countermeasures: Policies

- Good policies and procedures are **ineffective** if they are not **taught** and **reinforced** by the employees
- After receiving training, employees should **sign a statement** acknowledging that they understand the policies



# Social Engineering Countermeasures



# Social Engineering Countermeasures



- Categorize the information as top secret, proprietary, for internal use only, for public use, etc.
- Insiders with a criminal background and terminated employees are easy targets for procuring information

- There should be administrator, user, and guest accounts with proper authorization
- There should be proper guidelines for reacting in case of a social engineering attempt

# Social Engineering Countermeasures

## Two-Factor Authentication

- Instead of fixed passwords, use two-factor authentication for **high-risk network services** such as VPNs and modem pools

## Anti-Virus/Anti-Phishing Defenses

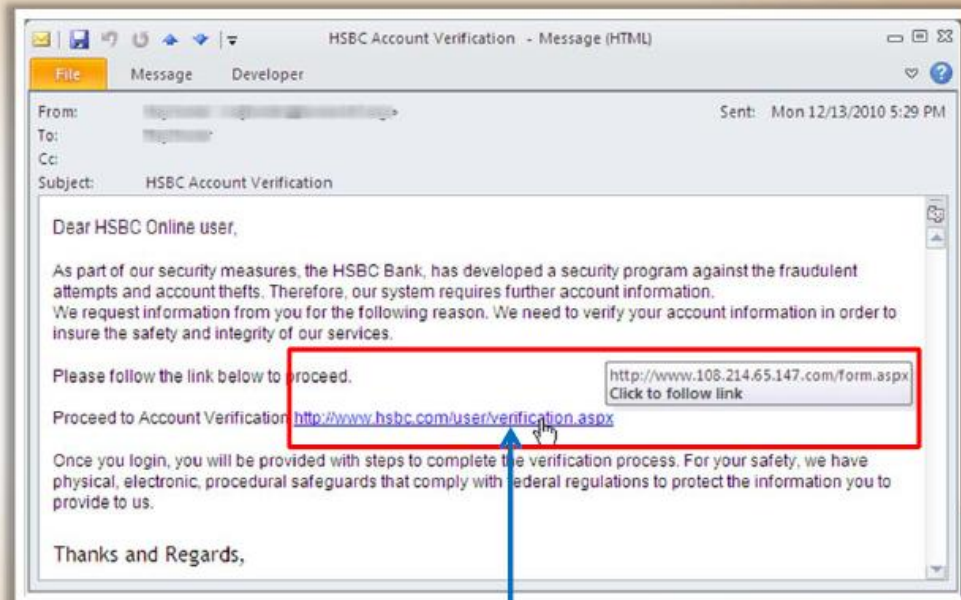
- Use **multiple layers** of anti-virus defenses such as at end-user desktops and at mail gateways to minimize social engineering attacks

## Change Management

- A **documented change-management** process is more secure than the ad-hoc process

# How to Detect Phishing Emails?

- It includes links that **lead to spoofed websites** asking to enter personal information when clicked
- The phishing email seems to be **from a bank, financial institution, company, or social networking site**
- Seems to be from a person who is **listed in your email address book**
- Directs to **call a phone number** in order to give up account number, personal identification number, password, or confidential information
- Includes **official-looking logos and other information** taken directly from legitimate websites convincing you to disclose your personal details



Link that seems to be legitimate but leads to **spoofed** website



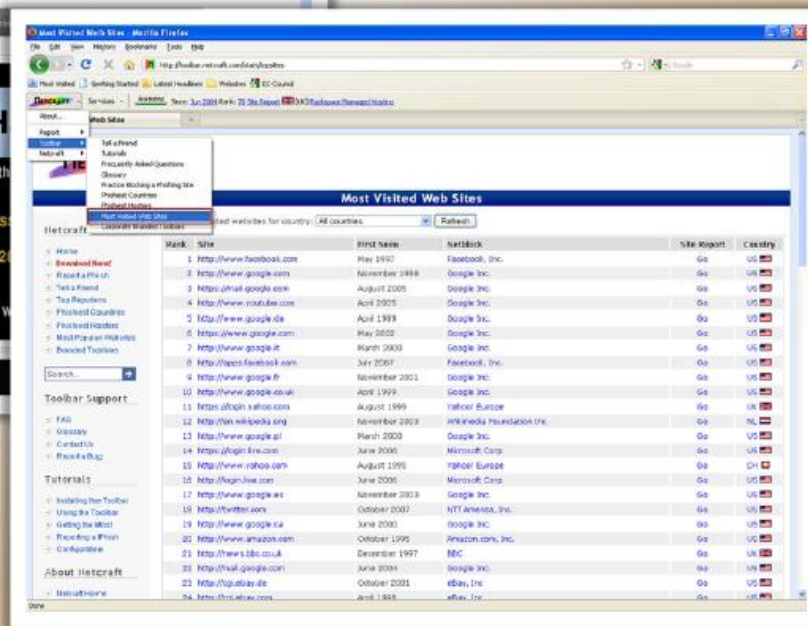
# Anti-Phishing Toolbar: Netcraft



**EC-Council**  
Hackers are here. Where are you?



<http://www.netcraft.com>



# Anti-Phishing Toolbar: PhishTank

The screenshot shows the PhishTank website with a blue header and a navigation menu. The main content area features a call to action to join the fight against phishing, a form to report phishing sites, and a table of recent submissions.

**PhishTank** Out of the Net, into the Tank. username Register |

Home Add A Phish Verify A Phish Phish Search Stats FAQ Developers Mailing Lists My Account

### Join the fight against phishing

**Submit** suspected phishes. **Track** the status of your submissions.  
**Verify** other users' submissions. **Develop** software with our free API.

Found a phishing site? Get started now — see if it's in the Tank:

#### Recent Submissions

You can help! [Sign in](#) or [register](#) (free! fast!) to verify these suspected phishes.

ID	URL	Submitted by
<a href="#">983960</a>	<a href="http://www.msnfotovriend.nl/">http://www.msnfotovriend.nl/</a>	<a href="#">Harm222</a>
<a href="#">983959</a>	<a href="http://natureorganisme.limewebs.com/paypal%20full%...">http://natureorganisme.limewebs.com/paypal%20full%...</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983958</a>	<a href="http://server1.p7hosting.de/sitekey.bankofamerica....">http://server1.p7hosting.de/sitekey.bankofamerica....</a>	<a href="#">mperkel</a>
<a href="#">983957</a>	<a href="http://grebfamilys.com/latest/consm/management/fn...">http://grebfamilys.com/latest/consm/management/fn...</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983956</a>	<a href="http://alwan.net23.net/cgi-bin/webscr/">http://alwan.net23.net/cgi-bin/webscr/</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983955</a>	<a href="http://user25974.vs.easily.co.uk/connexion/PayPal....">http://user25974.vs.easily.co.uk/connexion/PayPal....</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983954</a>	<a href="http://user25945.vs.easily.co.uk/img/www.PayPal.co...">http://user25945.vs.easily.co.uk/img/www.PayPal.co...</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983953</a>	<a href="http://www.bonsaitreesite.com/articles/PayPal.fr/...">http://www.bonsaitreesite.com/articles/PayPal.fr/...</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983952</a>	<a href="http://delparche.com/paypal.com/webscr.php">http://delparche.com/paypal.com/webscr.php</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>
<a href="#">983951</a>	<a href="http://www.metzgerrei-pauleser.de/administrator/mod...">http://www.metzgerrei-pauleser.de/administrator/mod...</a>	<a href="#">PhishReporter</a>

<http://www.phishtank.com>



# Identity Theft Countermeasures

Secure or shred all documents containing private information

To keep your mail secure, empty the mailbox quickly

Ensure your name is not present in the marketers' hit lists

Suspect and verify all the requests for personal data

Review your credit card reports regularly

Never let your credit card out of your sight

Protect your personal information from being publicized

Never give any personal information on the phone

Do not display account/contact numbers unless mandatory



# Module Flow



Social Engineering Concepts



Social Engineering Techniques



Impersonation on Social Networking Sites



Identity Theft



Social Engineering Countermeasures



Penetration Testing

# Social Engineering Pen Testing

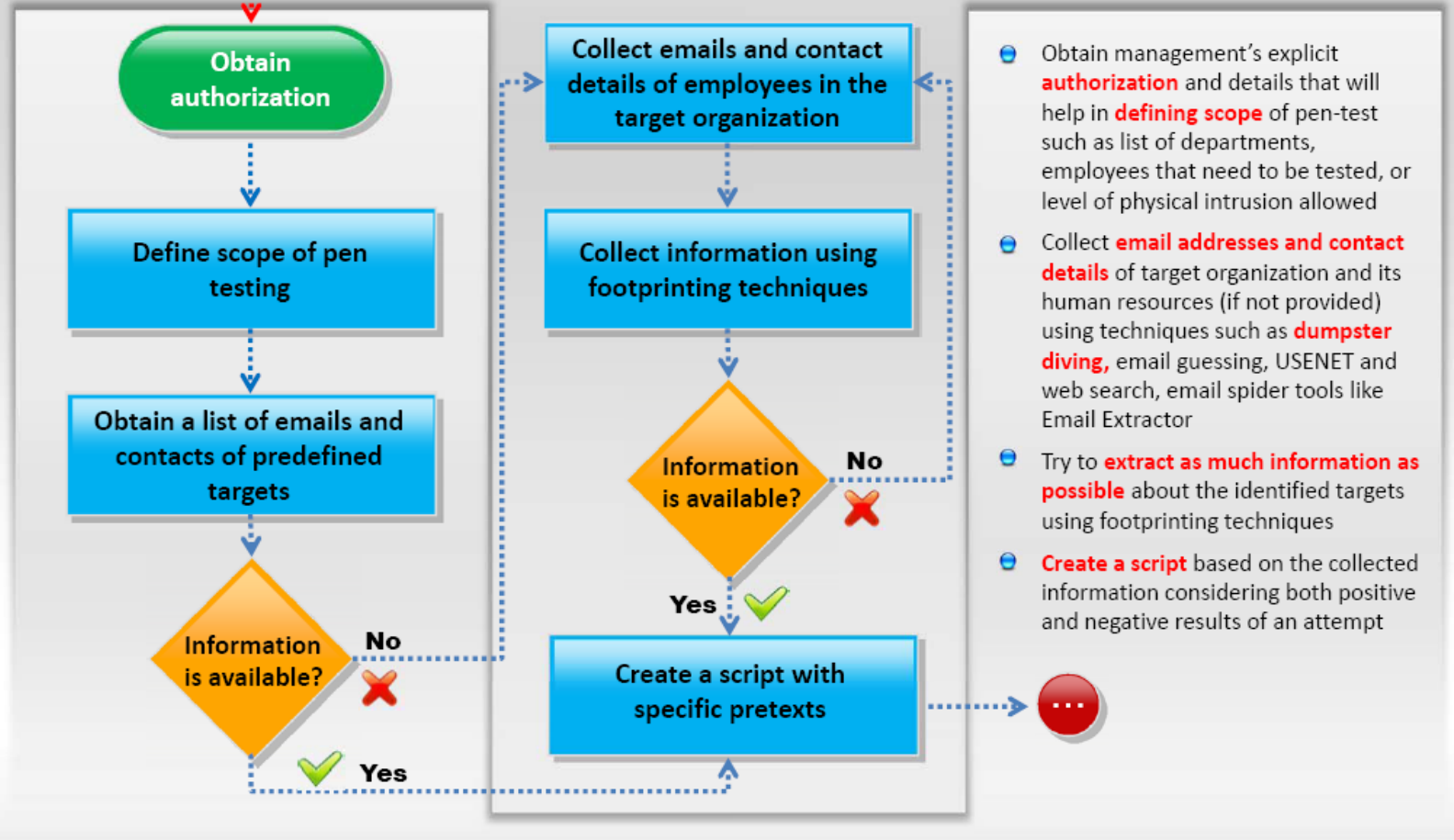
- The objective of social engineering pen testing is to **test the strength of human factors** in a security chain within the organization
- Social engineering pen testing is often used to **raise level of security awareness** among employees
- Tester should **demonstrate extreme care and professionalism** for social engineering pen test as it might involve legal issues such as violation of privacy and may result in an embarrassing situation for the organization





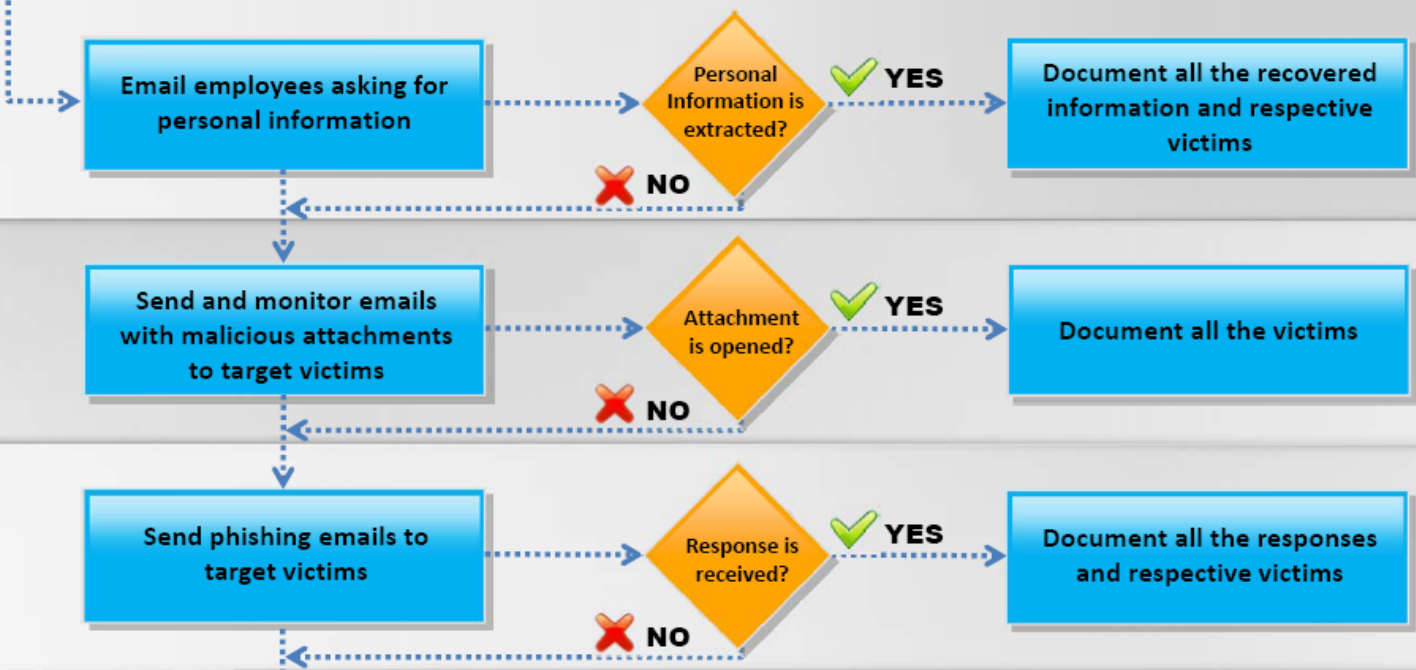
START

# Social Engineering Pen Testing



- Obtain management's explicit **authorization** and details that will help in **defining scope** of pen-test such as list of departments, employees that need to be tested, or level of physical intrusion allowed
- Collect **email addresses and contact details** of target organization and its human resources (if not provided) using techniques such as **dumpster diving**, email guessing, USENET and web search, email spider tools like Email Extractor
- Try to **extract as much information as possible** about the identified targets using footprinting techniques
- Create a script** based on the collected information considering both positive and negative results of an attempt

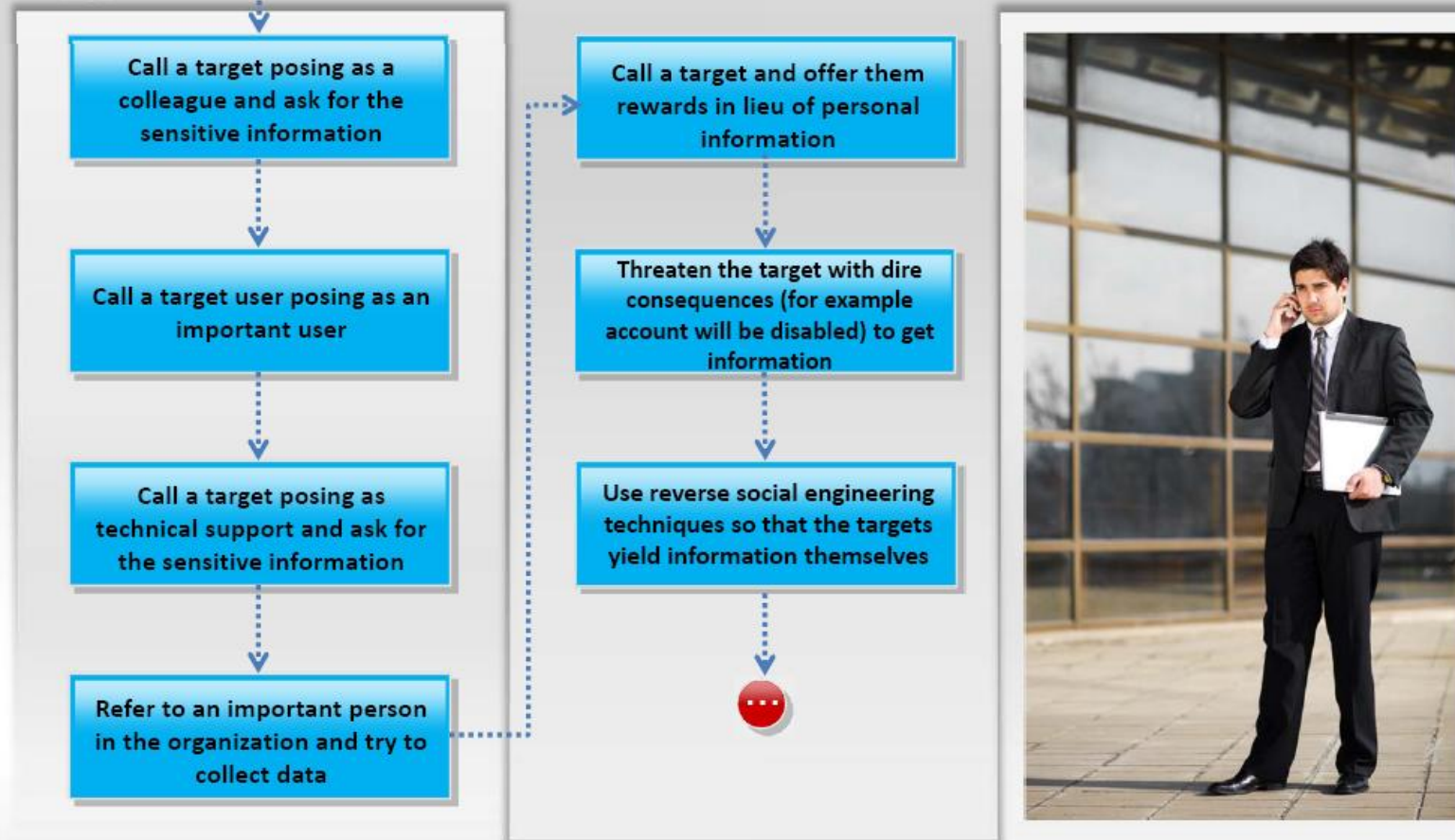
# Social Engineering Pen Testing: **Using Emails**



- Email employees asking for **personal information** such as their user names and passwords by disguising as network administrator, senior manager, tech support, or anyone from a different department on pretext of an emergency
- Send emails to targets with **malicious attachments** and monitor their treatment with attachments using tools such as ReadNotify
- Send **phishing emails** to targets as if from a bank asking about their sensitive information (you should have requisite permission for this)



# Social Engineering Pen Testing: **Using Phone**







# Social Engineering Pen Testing: **In Person**

Befriend employees in cafeteria and try to extract information

Try to tailgate wearing a fake ID badge or piggyback

- Success of any social engineering technique depends on how well a tester can **enact the testing script** and his **interpersonal skills**

Try to enter facility posing as an external auditor

Try eavesdropping and shoulder surfing on systems and users

- There could be countless other social engineering techniques based on available information and scope of test. **Always scrutinize your testing steps for legal issues**

Try to enter facility posing as a technician

Document all the findings in a formal report



# Module Summary

- Social engineering is the art of convincing people to reveal confidential information
- Social engineering involves acquiring sensitive information or inappropriate access privileges by an outsider
- Human-based social engineering refers to person-to-person interaction to retrieve the desired information
- Computer-based social engineering refers to having computer software that attempts to retrieve the desired information
- A successful defense depends on having good policies and their diligent implementation

# Quotes

“If you think technology can solve your security problems, then you don't understand the problems and you don't understand the technology.”

- **Bruce Schneier**,  
Security Technologist  
and Author