HWS Information Technology Services Bulletin

Number: 2014-

Date: August 1, 2014

Title: Security Alert - Phishing email

Description:

IT Services has detected a phishing message that is being sent to many HWS email accounts. Already, a number of users have fallen victim to this phishing attempt. The phishing attempt is characterized by the attacker masquerading as a representative from IT Services and tricks users into providing their HWS credentials. Once the credentials have been compromised, the user’s email account is hijacked and used to generate thousands of spam email messages.

Below is a representative example of the text in the phishing email Please keep in mind that you may see several different variants based on this same theme.

From: HWS Alert <dwschwab@email.wm.edu>
Date: August 1, 2014 at 5:28:18 PM EDT
To: undisclosed-recipients;;
Subject: Login Error Detected

We have temporarily suspended your account
due to possible login errors detected on your account from an unrecognized
Device in Ukraine, Kiev (IP=93.73.119.62)
If you didn't do this kindly follow this link
http://hwsphishingscam to recover your account
Sincerely,
IT Service Alert Desk

While many of these types of messages are filtered out before they ever reach a user’s inbox, some of these messages do get through. Therefore, it is important to remember that IT Services will NEVER ask you for this information via an email, or ask you to visit a webpage to confirm your identity. If you ever feel your password may have been compromised contact the Help Desk or reset your password at

Contact: Current information about this bulletin may be found
at http://web.hws.edu/administration/itservices/alerts.asp. If you have any
questions or concerns, please contact IT Services at helpdesk@hws.edu or call 315-781-HELP.
Type:

Unscheduled
Category:
  Alert

Distribution:
  HWS Network Accounts