TIPS TO AVOID BEING PHISHED

Phishing is a form of cybercrime where the fraudster attempts to trick a person into providing information such as login credentials, account information and passwords via email, web sites, and other communication channels.

Be suspicious of emails requesting account credentials or private information. A common phishing method is an email that appears to come from a real company alerting you that your account has or will be suspended unless you confirm or update information. Never enter account or private information into a pop-up or email form.

Beware of emails that contain “threatening” language, request immediate action or have a sense of urgency.

When conducting online transactions, only use websites with URLs that start with “https:” (the “s” in “https” stands for “secure”). There should be a closed-padlock image in the browser’s status bar.

Do not click on links, download files or open attachments in emails from unknown senders.

Check your online accounts and bank statements regularly to ensure no unauthorized transactions have been made.

Trust your gut! If something doesn’t seem right, call the company or sender directly at the number you know to be correct.

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