



## The Evergreen Threats Social Engineering

29th March 2023, Ivano Somaini @ Compass Security







Study





# 



Passion



### FOLIOW THE WHITE RABBIT

Society

Company Mistakes

Suggestions





#### **Facts and Statistics**



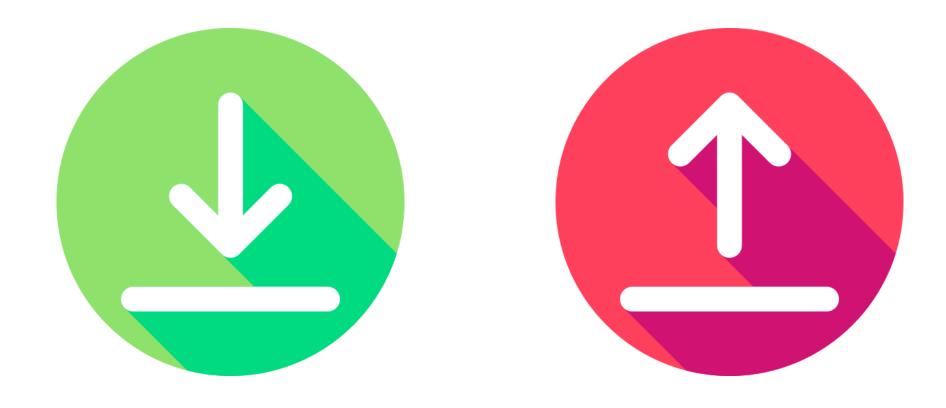
"Less than 1% of the attacks we observed made us of system vulnerabilities.

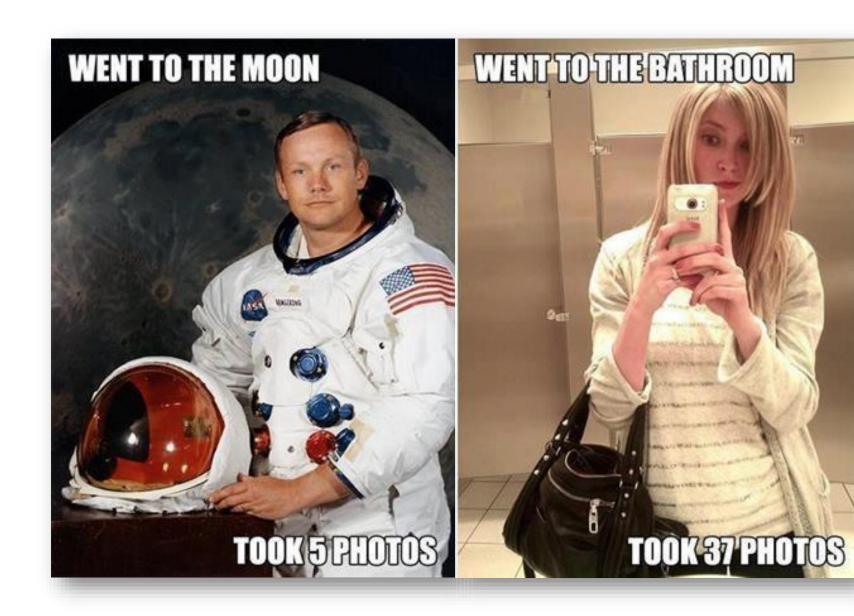
The rest exploited "the human factor": the instincts of curiosity and trust that lead well-intentioned people to click, download, install, open, and send money or data"

Proofpoint – Human Factor Report 2020



#### **Download / Upload Generation**

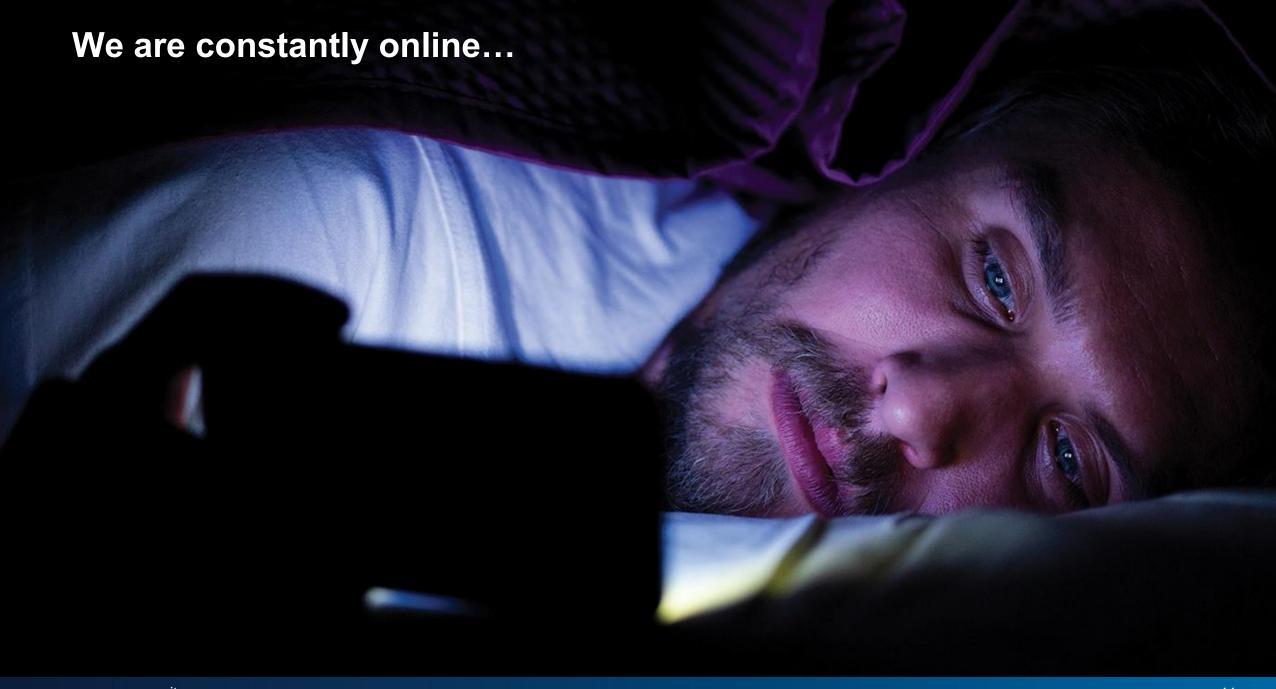




### WAS NICHT MAL HELLSEHER VORHERSEHEN KÖNNEN



Kürzlich ist etwas passiert

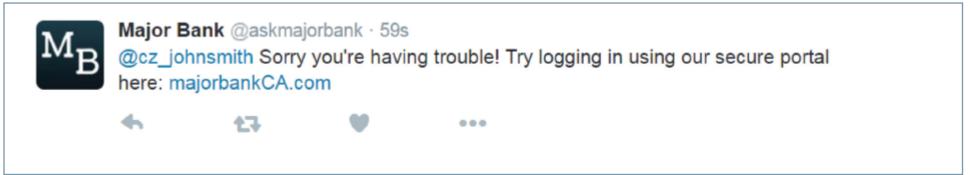




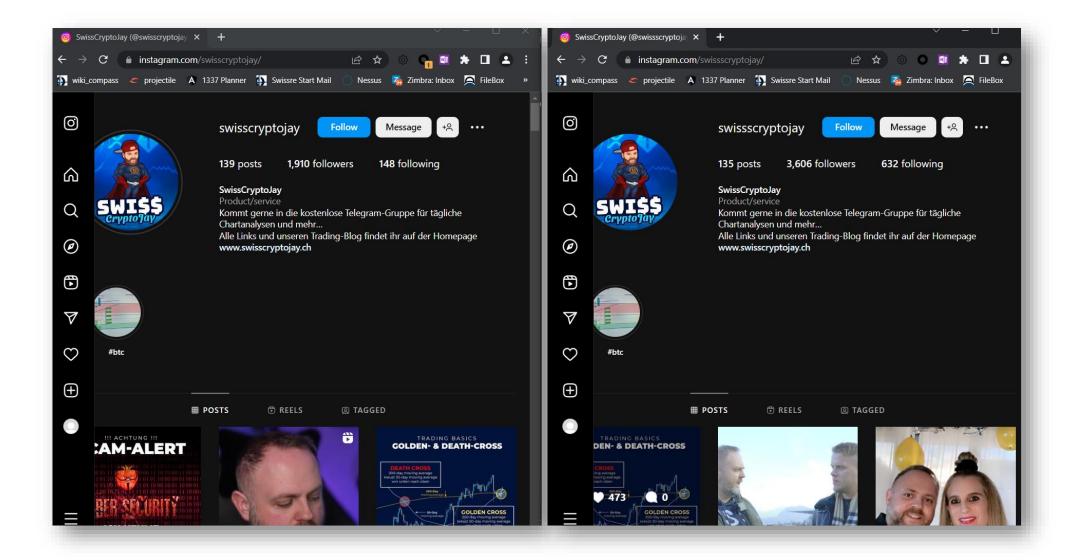


#### **Social Media Phishing - Twitter**

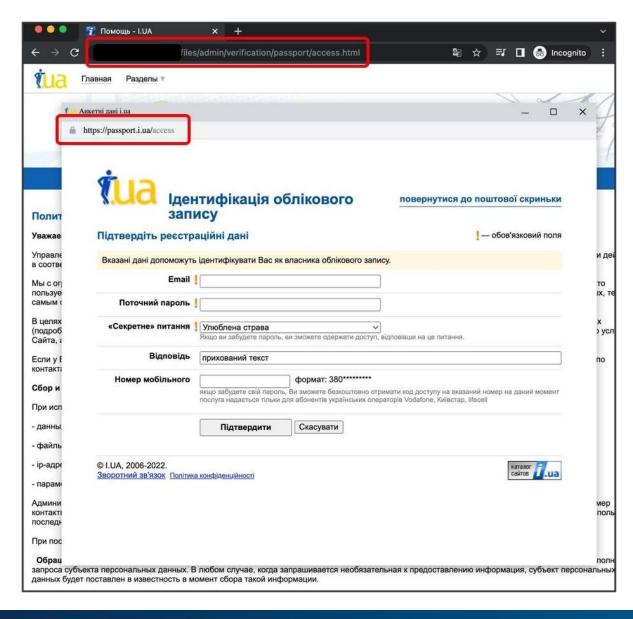




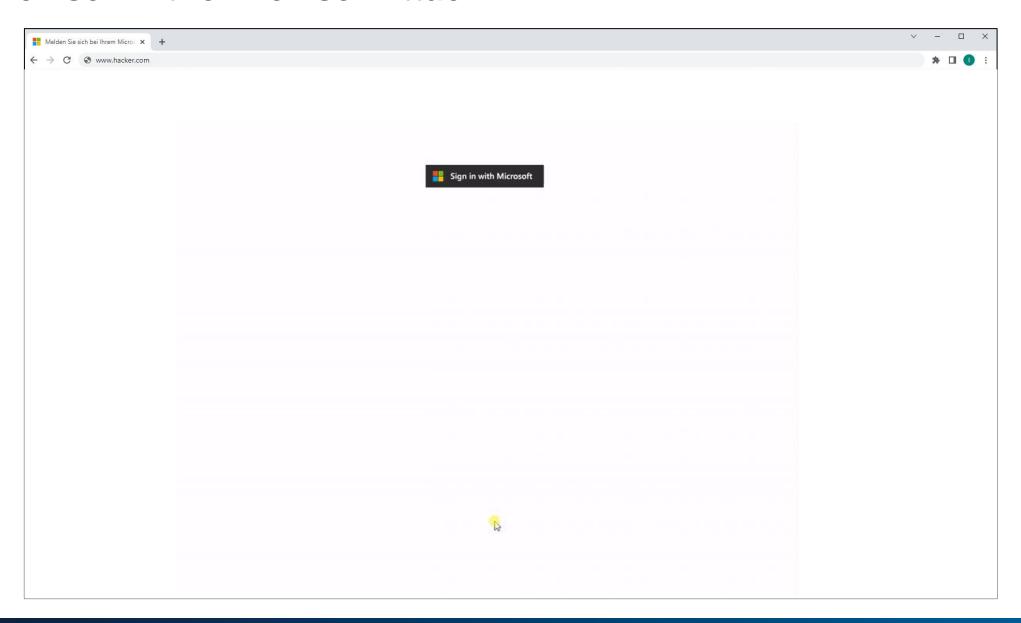
#### **Social Media Phishing - Instagram**



#### **Browser in the Browser Attack**



#### **Browser in the Browser Attack**



#### **Phishing Aggressivity**

```
From sajid@bpovision.com☆
Subject Partnership Affiliate Offer 8/12/21, 12:03 PM
To undisclosed-recipients:;☆

if you can install & launch our Demonware Ransomware in any computer/company main windows server physically or remotely

40 percent for you, a milli dollars for you in BTC

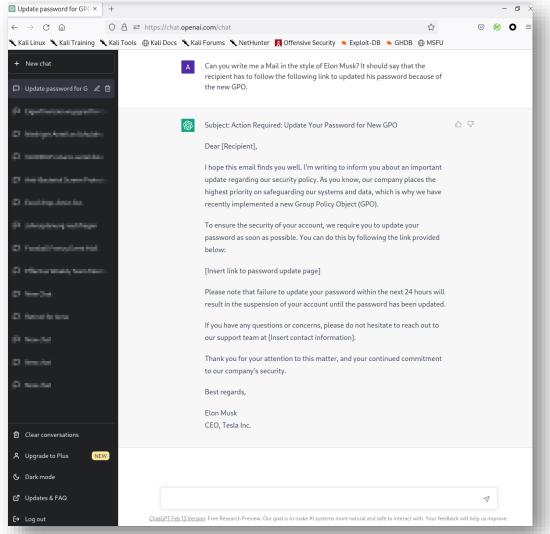
if you are interested, mail: cryptonation92@outlook.com

Telegram : madalin8888
```

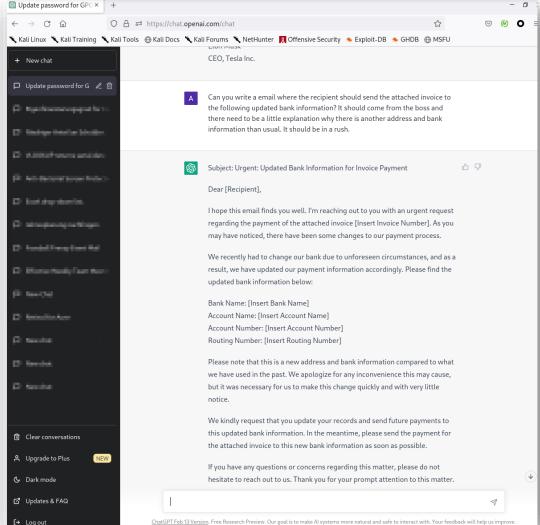
Initial email sent by the threat actor.

#### **Enhanced quality and scalability**

#### Link to update the password

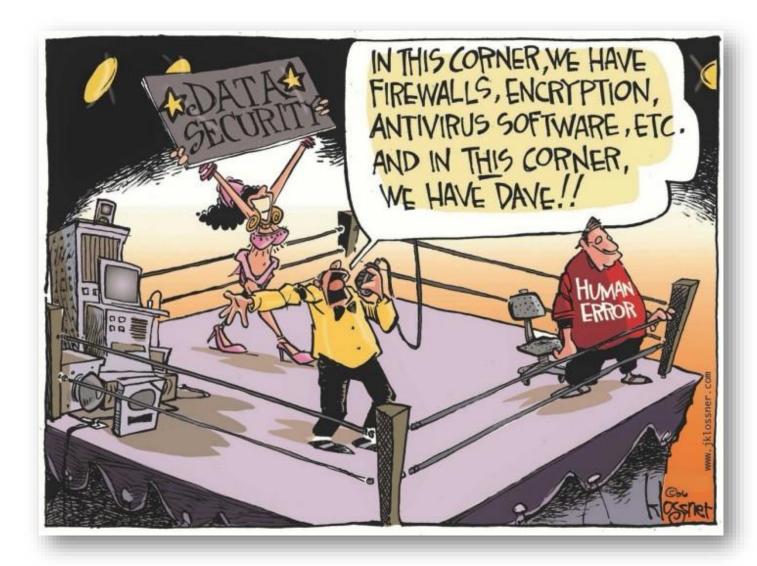


#### **Updated Bank Information**





#### Seeing humans only as a threat...



#### Compliance generates often a false sense of security...



Employee taking the IT Security webinar on Friday afternoon

#### Compliance generates often a false sense of security...

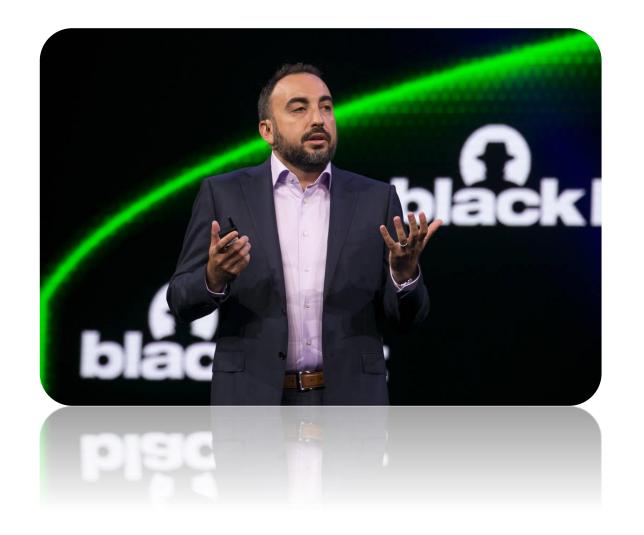


Same difficulty as crafting a fake badge



 "Our field punishes imperfect, solutions in an imperfect world."

Alex Stamos, Facebook CSO

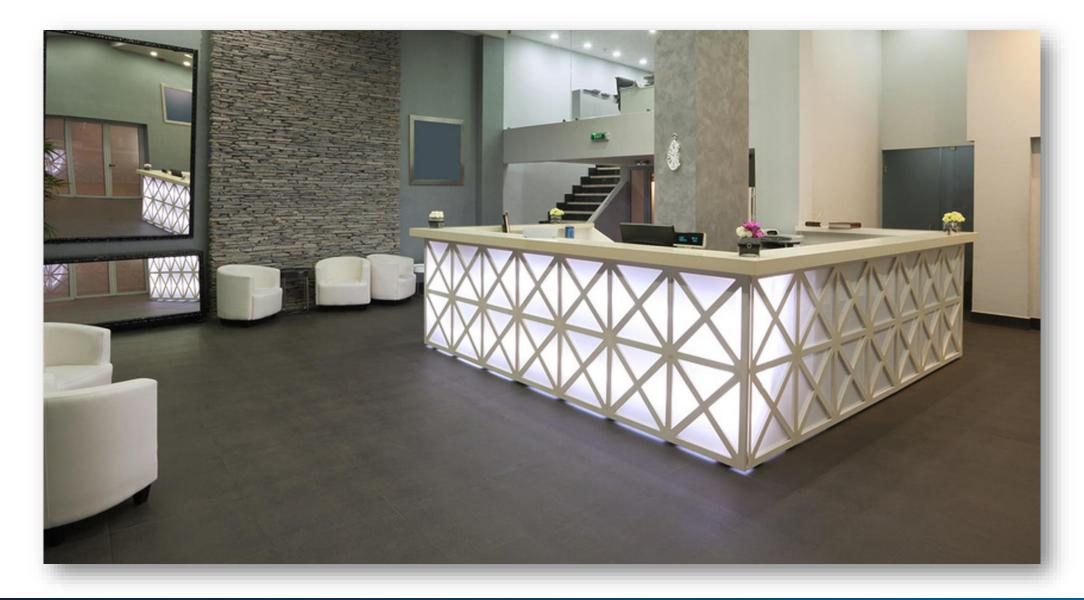


#### **Unclear Policies and Processes**



"Put the key under a carpet"

#### **Achilles Heel**





#### DO

■ Thou must stop telling people what not to do. Instead, just tell people what they should do.

 Educate them on how to do it. i.e. don't just teach importance of unique passwords, teach password managers. Make security simple.

• Motivate and engage people in their own terms. Don't focus on how awareness benefits your organization, focus on how it protects people at home and in their personal lives. Push the idea of security through education.

■ Lead by example. Involve the top management in the awareness program. Top management should be committed. Start the campaign with them.

#### DO

■ If you are an international company, involve marketing, lawyers, HR in order to share experience on how to communicate efficiently with other cultures/countries.

Define a clear single point of contact in case of questions, suggestions.

■ If you perform a social engineering attack, let the social engineer be discovered / caught. Give the employee a chance to demonstrate that it is possible to find the bad guys.

• Involve external experts in order to have the top management committed. Sadly but true, an external opinion, in most of the cases, has more impact.

#### DO

Actively test your employees without using fear and finger pointing strategy.

• Involve everyone! This means everyone, who has access to your building and your data.

• If you plan to use gamification for your awareness campaign, don't forget to tailor the campaign to the different types of participants. Focus on selling security training as a private benefit not as a funny game to play to avoid that your employee will not take it seriously.

■ Invest on a transparent company culture, where mistakes are allowed and not punished.

