

Thu Aug 16 16:43:35 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time) 2007.



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News | Article | Dated 7th August 2007

Phishing mail targets ICICI users

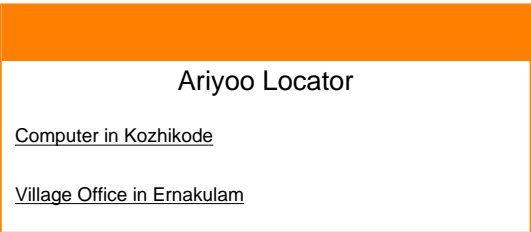
The mail is a new phishing bait from scamsters attempting to loot money from customer accounts.

By **Techvani Bureau**

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Indian anti-virus solution provider MicroWorld Technologies warned that a phishing mail is spreading on the internet targeting ICICI bank customers.

"If you get an email purportedly coming from the leading Indian bank ICICI, telling you to update your Account Information online, do not click on the link in it. The mail is a new phishing bait from scamsters attempting to loot money from customer accounts", confirmed MicroWorld Technologies.



The fraudulent mail carries the logo of ICICI bank in its top bar, to trick recipients. The content of the mail is as follows:

Currently, you are on the ICICI Bank Company Mailer

Now we are updating our 128-SSL Secured Server to 256-Encrypted SSL Secured Server which is highly sophisticated server to maintain your personal information as our prior service to you.

During our regularly scheduled account maintenance and verification procedures, we were unable to verify your account information. It has come to our attention that

your account information needs to be updated as part of our continuing commitment to protect your account and to reduce the instance of fraud on our website .We demand that you take 5 minutes out of your online experience and renew your records to avoid running into any future problems with the online service.

*If you are maintaining ICICI Bank Individual Account than, Click on link
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx. If you are maintaining ICICI Bank Corporate Account than,
Click on link xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*

If an unsuspecting victim clicks on the first link in the mail, a webpage that looks much like the authentic login page of ICICI bank for regular users, pops up. The URL appearing in the address bar shows iikii.com, remarkably similar to ICICI!

The fake webpage asks for vital account information from the user. Apart from the username and password fields present in the actual website, the page demands victim's ATM card number and Transaction Password. In the webpage opening up from the second link, the scamster attempts to steal the user's ATM Card number and Transaction Password, besides the regular login information.



"We had warned about a similar mail scam in the name of ICICI bank last year. This one too seemingly comes from the same group of people as it's strikingly similar in content and approach. Another point to be noted is that the conmen behind this mail is trying to make as much hay as possible while the sun is out, since they are asking for ATM card numbers and transaction password as well," points out Manoj Mansukhani, Head - Global Marketing, MicroWorld Technologies.

"Compared to the current Phishing techniques in US and Europe, in which advanced Trojans and DNS poisoning methods are employed in online attacks, this mail is quite an old sample in format and technology. But in India , where more than half of the online banking population has never heard of the word 'Phishing', mails like this can easily hook many victims. While it's important to enhance user awareness about this issue, one should also know that these mails can be blocked using advanced security solutions," he adds.

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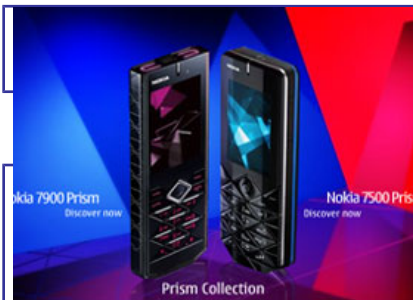
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TechVANI Feature



PDF Spam mails flood the web

According to MicroWorld Technologies, the solution providers of AntiVirus, AntiSpam and Content Security, the new in-thing is a deluge of PDF spam targeting your wallet. MicroWorld experts have been intercepting large numbers of PDF spam doing rounds in the last two months, but their volumes surged dramatically since the beginning of July. Leading the pack

are two 'Pump and Dump' Scams touting about some stocks in their bid to make you buy them.

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