



CIRSA LOSS ALERT

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SAFER TOGETHER

Loss Alert – Holiday Cyber Alert



We've noticed that phishing attacks have intensified the last couple of days, and the fact that we're going into a long weekend may explain the timing. With reduced holiday staffing, cyber criminals recognize that this is a time when you may be especially vulnerable. PLEASE alert your staff immediately to be especially vigilant around opening emails (and especially clicking on links), even those that appear to come from known sources. We've already had a couple of members hit with major system shutdowns in the last couple of days from phishing emails.

These cyber attacks have come in the form of emails from contacts of entity employees. Our current understanding is that these emails appear to come from a legitimate known person. In the body of the email there is a link that the sender is asking the recipient to click on. Once the recipient has clicked on the link, the virus is downloaded and the problems start.

We are at the very start of the investigations for the losses our members have encountered to this point, but one of the consequences that we are aware of is that the virus gathers information for the affected employees' contacts that are stored in their computer and spreads the virus.

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Holiday Cyber Alert (cont.)

Please remember:

- Never click on any links or attachments in suspicious emails.
- If the suspicious email appears to come from a person you know, contact that person via some other means such as a text message or phone call to confirm that the email is valid.
- Delete the message and make IT aware of it.

Lastly, if you are subject to a cyber event, CIRSA's Claim Department is available 24/7/365. If you have a cyber-related event that occurs within or outside normal business hours, please contact us immediately for assistance. Call (303) 757-5475 or (800) 228-7136; if it's after normal business hours, an answering service will immediately forward your call to a Claims representative. If warranted, the CIRSA rep will set up a consultation with CIRSA's cyber expert attorney at Constangy, Brooks, Smith and Prophete. This consultation will typically include a forensic IT expert.

Please stay safe as you celebrate this holiday weekend!