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Foolish Challenge

First published: 01st April 2015

[<web-link for this article>](#)

Today is April Fool's Day, so can you recognise which of the following claims, based on information security news in the last year, is fake?

1. Bank sends email with dodgy phishing attachment
2. Politician uses personal email account for Government business
3. Dodgy email used to steal US\$65,000 from Politician
4. Critical Vulnerability discovered after 22 years
5. Police website hosts phishing redirects
6. Police consider updating to 1990's technology
7. Celebrity photos replaced by tax returns
8. Millions rely on four overworked volunteers for security

The answer is revealed at the end of this newsletter.

Fake Hang Seng Bank Email Warning from HKMA

[<web-link for this article>](#)

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) has warned about a fake Hang Seng Bank, Limited (HSB) email that directs customers to phishing URLs. The e-mail asks customers to follow a link and enter their internet banking username and password. The links used included <http://www.sugra.com/hang/ssl-banking/en/index2.html>, <http://www.apptics.com/wp-content/hk/> and <http://www.svc.cat/dd/> - all of which were unobtainable at the time of writing.

Victims should contact HSB at 2822 0203 and any local police station or the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

An HKMA spokesperson advised, "Members of the public are reminded not to access their Internet banking accounts through hyperlinks embedded in e-mails, Internet search engines or suspicious pop-up windows. Instead, they should access their Internet banking accounts by typing the website addresses at the address bar of the browser, or by bookmarking the genuine website and using that for access. In addition, banks are not expected to send e-mails

asking their customers to provide their account information (e.g. Internet banking logon passwords) or verify their account information online. If in doubt, they should contact their banks.”

More Information

- [Fraudulent email purporting to be related to Hang Seng Bank, Limited](#)

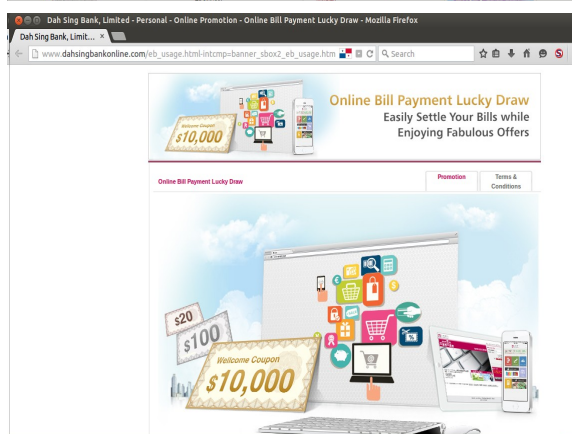
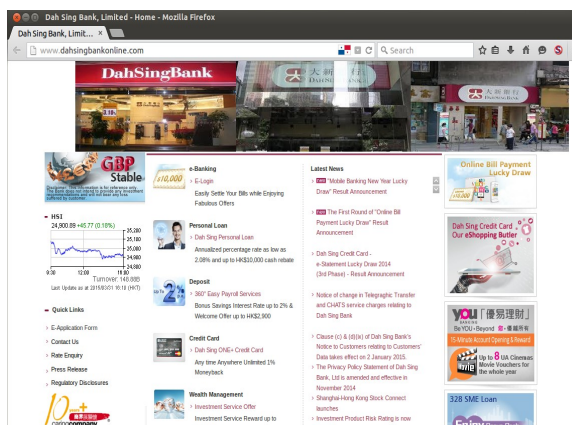
HKMA Warns of Fraudulent Dah Sing Bank Website

First published: 27th April 2015

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) has issued a warning about a fraudulent website that mimics the website of Dah Sing Bank, Limited (DSB). The fraudulent site was hosted in Panama and still accessible at the time of writing. The domain was created on 5th April 2015.

The construction of the fake site is interesting. Most of the text 'links' are inactive, with the exception of the login link, and the links in the left sidebar. The image links lead to a variety of pages that harvest personal data, for example, the 'Online Bill Payment Lucky Draw' page wants your email address. Presumably, criminals are realising that not every hit on a bank homepage is followed by an online banking login, but people can be tempted to disclose additional information for later phishing attempts.

Victims should contact DSB at 2507 8000 and any local Police Station or the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.



More Information

- [Fraudulent website: http://www.dahsingbankonline.com](http://www.dahsingbankonline.com)

And the Answer Is...

If you answered "none", well done, none of the claims were false. These are the related news stories:

1. Bank sends email with dodgy phishing attachment: [HSBC in Hong Kong notifies customers of payments](#) using an email that directs users to an attached unverifiable webpage which asks for a password - classic phishing techniques.
2. Politician uses personal email account for Government business: [Hilary Clinton used her personal email account](#) when working as the USA's top diplomat.

3. Dodgy email used to steal US\$65,000 from Politician: [Hong Kong Legislative Council Member and former Secretary for Security Regina Ip](#) believed a fake email and criminals used information obtained to trick her bank into a US\$65,000 transfer.
4. Critical Vulnerability discovered after 22 years: [The Shellshock vulnerability](#) lay unrecognised in many unix variants.
5. Police website hosts phishing redirects: [The website of a small Thai Police Station](#) hosted a phishing page trying to steal online banking credentials.
6. Police consider updating to 1990's technology: [Hong Kong Police evaluate PDAs](#) for issuing parking tickets.
7. Celebrity photos replaced by tax returns: [Malicious software spread in fake tax emails](#). It used to be that the easy way to get a victim to click on a dodgy attachment was to offer celebrity photos.
8. Millions rely on four overworked volunteers for security: [The Heartbleed vulnerability](#) revealed that the widely-used OpenSSL software was maintained by just four volunteers.

Aprils Fools Day is a bit of fun, but remember, it is possible to be a fool any day of the year. And to those who answered "42", do you have any more pan-galactic gargleblasters?

More Information

- [User Education: Are Banks Helping Customers Stay Secure?](#)
- [Hillary Clinton draws flak for using personal email at State Dept](#)
- [Regina Ip Launches Online Security Awareness Campaign](#)
- [Patch Bash NOW: 'Shellshock' bug blasts OS X, Linux systems wide open](#)
- [Thai Police Website Hosts Phishing Redirects](#)
- [Hong Kong Police Evaluates 1990's Technology for Front-Line Officers](#)
- [Hong Kong Tax Department Warns of Fake Tax Emails](#)
- [Lazy Guide to Heartbleed](#)



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