TOP 10 SECURITY THREATS FOR USERS:

Make your security a priority
during the holidays!

1 PHISHING SCAMS ARE SKYROCKETING

...especially driven by deals and rebate offers. Don't open any attachments or click on links appearing to be from trusted vendors you shop with. Go directly to the website of the vendor looking for the sales and deals.

2 DO NOT USE ATM/DEBIT CARDS ONLINE

Only use credit cards and think about a voluntary limit, or at least a text when a purchase gets made.

3 DELIVERY- AND NON-DELIVERY SCAMS

Watch out for emails that confirm shipments or that try to scam you with shipment problems.

4 DEALS THAT ARE TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

Don't fall for deals that are too good to be true during the Holiday season. Increase your security awareness levels, and maintain a healthy skepticism when you see special offers in email or social media.

5 FAKE DISCOUNT COUPONS

Watch out for fake discount coupons, and fake "game codes", that are nothing but a nonsense string of letters and numbers.

6 CREDIT CARD COLLECTION IMPOSTERS

You might stress out because of your high credit card bills, and bad guys are sending emails that claim to be from the credit card company claiming your account is overdue and is subject to being shut down unless you make a payment immediately. You may be tricked in giving away your credit card information.

7 HOLIDAY RANSOMWARE

You should understand that information—e.g. order confirmation emails— on your computers increase in value over the holiday season, and that means that you are more likely to panic and pay ransom if ransomware strikes.

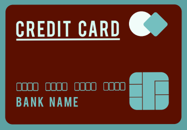
8 PHONE CALL SCAMS

Be very wary when you get an inbound phone call, never give out any personal information if you did not initiate the call yourself.

9 UNKNOWN DOWNLOADS FROM THE INTERNET

Avoid downloading anything from questionable websites. Disable popups on your devices by using trusted, reliable popup blockers.

10 PROTECT YOUR CARD INFORMATION



If you suspect that you may have entered your credit card data into a fake website after all, immediately call your credit card company and cancel your card. Then change your passwords and pin-codes for your online banking sites. Use strong passwords and never use the same password for several websites or services, because if one is stolen, all of your accounts will be put at risk. To create strong passwords without having to remember them, use a password manager.

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