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PHISHING CASES WITH HIGH IMPACT

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PROTECT YOUR DIGITAL WAY TODAY AND TOMORROW

Facebook and Google

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Between 2013 and 2015, Facebook and Google were tricked out of $100 million due to an extended phishing campaign. The phisher took advantage of the fact that both companies used Quanta, a Taiwan-based company, as a vendor. The attacker sent a series of fake invoices to the company that impersonated Quanta, which both Facebook and Google paid.

https://www.cnbc.com/2019/03/27/phishing-email-scam-stole-100-million-from-facebook-and-google.html

Crelan Bank

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Crelan Bank, in Belgium, was the victim of a business email compromise (BEC) scam that cost the company approximately $75.8 million. This type of attack involves the phisher compromising the account of a high-level executive within a company and instructing their employees to transfer money to an account controlled by the attacker.

https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2016/01/26/belgian-bank-crelan-loses-e70-million-to-bec-scammers/

FACC

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FACC, an Austrian manufacturer of aerospace parts, also lost a significant amount of money to a BEC scam. In 2016, the organization announced the attack and revealed that a phisher posing as the company's CEO instructed an employee in the accounting department to send $61 million to an attacker-controlled bank account.

https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2016/01/26/belgian-bank-crelan-loses-e70-million-to-bec-scammers/

Upsher-Smith Laboratories

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In 2014, a BEC attack against a Minnesotan drug company resulted in the loss of over $39 million to the attackers. The phisher impersonated the CEO of Upsher-Smith Laboratories and sent emails to the organization's accounts payable coordinator with instructions to send certain wire transfers and to follow the instructions of a "lawyer" working with the attackers.

https://www.fox9.com/news/ceo-spoofing-costs-drug-company-50-million

Ubiquiti Networks

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In 2015, Ubiquiti Networks, a computer networking company based in the US, was the victim of a BEC attack that cost the company $46.7 million (of which they expected to recover at least $15 million). The attacker impersonated the company's CEO and lawyer and instructed the company's Chief Accounting Officer to make a series of transfers to close a secret acquisition. Over the course of 17 days, the company made 14 wire transfers to accounts in Russia, Hungary, China, and Poland.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/nathanvardi/2016/02/08/how-a-tech-billionaires-company-misplaced-46-7-million-and-didnt-know-it/?sh=33cdaf2450b3

Pathe Netherlands

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France’s leading independent film group, Pathe, lost €19.2 million ($22 million) in an internet scam that targeted the Dutch office. The fraud kicked off in March 2018 with several emails apparently sent from the personal account of Pathe CEO Marc Lacan asking to wire up to €19.2 million in four tranches to the bank account of Towering Stars General Trading LLC in Dubai. The funds were supposedly to be used to acquire a company in Dubai.

https://www.dutchnews.nl/news/2018/11/internet-con-men-ripped-off-pathe-nl-for-e19m-in-sophisticated-fraud/

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- https://www.dutchnews.nl/news/2018/11/internet-con-men-ripped-off-pathe-nl-for-e19m-in-sophisticated-fraud/

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RECENT ATTACK

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Hackers breach Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine data in cyberattack targeting EMA

https://www.fiercepharma.com/pharma/hackers-breach-pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine-data-cyberattack-targeting-ema

https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252493445/Data-on-Pfizer-BioNTech-Covid-19-vaccine-stolen-in-cyber-attack

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Trump Twitter ‘hack’: Police accept attacker's claim

https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-55337192