MODULE G SECURITY · G2

Social engineering, phishing and pharming

Original practice questions · 20 marks · ~25 minutes · Cambridge 0478 syllabus 5.3.1

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions. Answer all questions in the spaces provided. The marks for each part are shown in brackets [ ]. The total for this worksheet is **20 marks**.

1

Total: 1 mark

(a) Tick (✓) **one** box to show the aim of phishing. **[1]**

Aim	✓
A To make a website unavailable to genuine users	
B To obtain a user's personal data, such as passwords or bank details	
C To try every possible combination of characters until a password is found	
D To show unwanted adverts on a user's screen	

2

Total: 4 marks

(a) Tick (✓) **one** box in each row to show whether each statement describes **phishing** or **pharming**. **[4]**

Statement	Phishing	Pharming
The user receives an email that appears to come from their bank		
The user is sent to a fake website even though they typed the correct web address		
The user replies to a fake message with their password		
The attack can work without the attacker sending the user any message		

3 **Total: 5 marks**

A company sells garden tools online. Several customers typed the company's correct web address into their browser. A website that looked exactly like the company's website then asked them to enter their card details. The company finds out this was caused by **pharming**.

(a) Describe how pharming sent these customers to the fake website. **[3]**

(b) Explain the aim of the attacker in carrying out this pharming attack. **[2]**

4 **Total: 5 marks**

The receptionist at an engineering firm receives a phone call. The caller says they are from the firm's IT support team. They say the receptionist's account will be locked in ten minutes unless the receptionist tells them their password straight away.

(a) Identify **two** ways the caller tries to manipulate the receptionist. **[2]**

1

2

(b) State the aim of the caller. **[1]**

(c) Describe **one** other way, apart from a phone call or an email, that social engineering could be used to gain access to the firm's computer system. **[2]**

5 **Total: 5 marks**

A user receives a text message. It says it is from their bank, that an unusual payment has been made from their account, and that they should tap a link to stop the payment. The message is a phishing attack.

(a) Describe how this phishing attack could lead to the user's bank details being stolen. **[3]**

(b) Phishing and pharming can both use a fake website to collect personal data. Explain **one** difference between the processes of phishing and pharming. **[2]**

Total for this worksheet: 20 marks