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Security and Internet Services

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WHAT IS YOUR PHISHING IQ?

What would you do if you received one of these e-mails from Capital One, Amazon, Paypal and others in your inbox? Is it legitimate or a "phishing" e-mail? To test your Phishing IQ, see <http://survey.mailfrontier.com/survey/quiztest.html>.

TROUBLE GETTING TO MICROSOFT FOR WINDOWS UPDATE?

An easier and quicker way might be to use the University Software Update Server (SUS) to automatically install critical security patches for Windows: <http://www.umn.edu/adcs/help/oitsus/index.html>.

SPAM AND VIRUS STATS

In January, 2005 Central e-mail spam controls blocked 9,942,939 messages. Anti-virus controls blocked an additional 76,374 messages.

Network and Telecommunication Services

[NTS home](#)

UPDATE: WEST AND EAST BANK, NETWORK UPGRADE

Network Upgrade building cutover is nearly completed on the West Bank campus. Approximately 10,000 Etherjack and network connections will be cutover to the Gopher GigaNet by the end of February. The cutover on the East Bank campus, north of Washington Avenue, will begin on February 28. See project details at: <http://www.umn.edu/nts/networkupgrade>.

UPDATE: NETWORK UPGRADE AND EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION

Equipment installation and cutover to the new network in the East Bank area buildings will now be done at the same time. Previous areas had an advance team prepare the equipment, cabling, and racking for the cutover crew. This 2-step phase may take longer for each building and might cause longer outages. See Track Progress by Building at: <https://www.nts.umn.edu/cgi-bin/nu/buildingstat.cgi>.

FEEDBACK STILL WANTED AND NEEDED

Have you been cut to the new network? Tell us how we've done and how we can do better! Fill out the evaluation form here: https://www.nts.umn.edu/cgi-bin/nu/giganet_survey.cgi. Every building completion is posted on the building list; only completed buildings will be available for the survey. Send questions to networkupgrade@umn.edu. Call 1-GIGA for online updates. Call 1-HELP with any problems.

Academic and Distributed Computing Services

[ADCS home](#)

INTERNET PASSWORDS ARE STRENGTH TESTED

Many who've changed their Internet password recently learned that new passwords are being strength tested when their first attempt to select a password resulted in an error (because they used a dictionary word followed by a number or another unacceptable choice). Pick a safe password. See <http://www.umn.edu/oit/security/passwordguide.html>.

INTERNET PASSWORDS CAN BE LONGER

Internet passwords can now be from 6 to 125 characters long; they still must include numbers and letters and are case sensitive. Sometimes longer passwords will not work when you use them. We are testing and documenting acceptable password lengths for some servers and client software. See our results so far at <http://www.umn.edu/adcs/accounts/passwordlength.html>.

TEMPORARY INTERNET PASSWORDS

Secure, secret passwords are vital to computing safety. To help keep passwords secret, 1-HELP can no longer set Internet passwords secret for customers. Instead, when someone calls 1-HELP they get an automatically generated password that is good only for 24 hours. They must use that temporary password to set up a different password. See <http://umn.edu/validate>.

VIRTUAL PC 7 FOR MACINTOSH

Did you know departments can download Virtual PC 7 for the Macintosh from <http://download.software.umn.edu/>, and that it completes Office 2004 Professional for the Macintosh platform? Reminder: departments can license many software titles through ADCS. For a listing of the discounted licenses, see <http://www.umn.edu/adcs/site/list.html>. Questions? Contact software@umn.edu.

JULY 5 DEADLINE: GOODBYE CLEAR TEXT PASSWORDS

At the University, beginning July 5, 2005, e-mail, Telnet, and FTP clients must support secure access. To send or download e-mail, your software must be configured for SSL. Similarly, you must use secure Telnet and FTP clients to connect to the University central servers. See the secure FTP and e-mail links at <http://www.umn.edu/securecom>. A secure Telnet link is coming soon.

RESIDENCE HALLS: VIRUS, WORM, BOT REMOVAL

At the start of spring semester ADCS and Housing and Residential Life expanded our strategies for cleaning up the computer infections plaguing students in the residence halls. We are staffing Inoculation Tables in the halls. So far, over 100 computers have been cleaned and configured so they will not get reinfected.

SAFE COMPUTING REMINDER

ADCS maintains a safe computing website. Visit it to learn the steps to take to keep computers safe. Visit it if you think your computer is infected and follow the "Got a virus?" link to our "Infection Clean up Guide." See <http://safecomputing.umn.edu>.

MICROSOFT STUDENT SELECT PROGRAM: NEW URL

If any of your department's web pages include a direct link to the Microsoft Academic Student Select program, the link may be broken. The URL changed to <http://www.mass.umn.edu>. About the program: University Computer Services teamed up with Microsoft to offer currently enrolled UM students reduced software prices on common Microsoft software. Visit UCS at <http://www.umn.edu/ucs/>.

REMINDER: WATCH TECH TALK

University and local experts discuss the digital technology we encounter in our daily lives on Tech Talk, which airs Sunday nights at 9 p.m on TC Public TV channel 17. The shows in the February schedule are: Viruses; Global Positioning Systems; Communication Convergence; and Digital Music. Details at: <http://techtalk.umn.edu>.

Digital Media Center

[DMC home](#)

COURSE REMINDER: TA WEB CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

This spring, this popular program is offered both as a noncredit program and a 2-credit non-nursing-specific course, Nurs 5800. Participating TAs learn about web-based teaching and learning strategies and web design and development techniques. See <http://dmc.umn.edu/ta-web/>.

REMINDER, DUE FEB 15: TEL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Through this program, faculty members are awarded grants for developing, implementing, and evaluating technology-enhanced learning (TEL) experiences. A Call for Proposals for 2004-05 is at <http://dmc.umn.edu/grants/>.

REMINDER, DUE FEB 21: FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Each year the DMC accepts new applications for the program from Twin Cities faculty members; 3-5 are chosen to receive fellowships. A Call for Proposals for 2004-05 is at: <http://dmc.umn.edu/fellowship/>.

SEMINAR MARCH 2: USING THE MYU PORTAL

Panelists will discuss how they have used the MyU portal as an intranet for extension educators, to build community for the class of 2008, to deliver programming in greater Minnesota, and to support faculty teaching and research: March 2, 2005, 12:00-1:30 p.m., 402 Walter Library. See <http://dmc.umn.edu/series/spring05.shtml>.

The URL of this document is <http://umtechbrief.umn.edu/05/tb0205/tb0205.html>
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