

Case Study

Empowering End Users To Thwart Cyber Attacks

One of the largest oil refineries in the Middle East empowers its end users to combat cyber threats using PhishRod.

The Phishing Landscape

With the ever-changing threat landscape, protection of the digital assets has become one of the prime responsibilities of every organization. Despite all the technological controls in place, hackers are still able to drive cyber-attacks using techniques such as Phishing & Spear Phishing.

According to a survey conducted by PhishRod on “State of Phishing Readiness in the Middle East & North Africa” 86% of organizations believe that phishing has the highest potential to trigger a cyber-attack.

Rise of Phishing Attacks in Oil & Gas Sector

The oil & gas sector in the Middle East has seen a tremendous rise in phishing attacks over the last couple of years. Despite all the technology-based controls in place, the hackers can still send phishing emails to end-users with a link or an attachment. The end users can ultimately become a victim of a sophisticated cyber-attack, upon clicking the link. Since phishing attacks target the end-users hence it is the need of the hour to be aware and empower end-users.

The Key Challenges

The oil refinery had almost all the technology-based controls including Next-Generation Firewall, Next-Generation Intrusion Prevention System, and Email Gateway, etc. Despite all these controls their end-users continued to receive phishing emails.

“Phishing exploits human vulnerabilities hence we knew we had to be aware and empower end-users. Classroom-based training for security awareness was not working for us. No analytics were available to show post-training improvements. We had a lot of policies on information security, but had no visibility if the end users actually were aware of those policies.” said the CISO of the refinery.

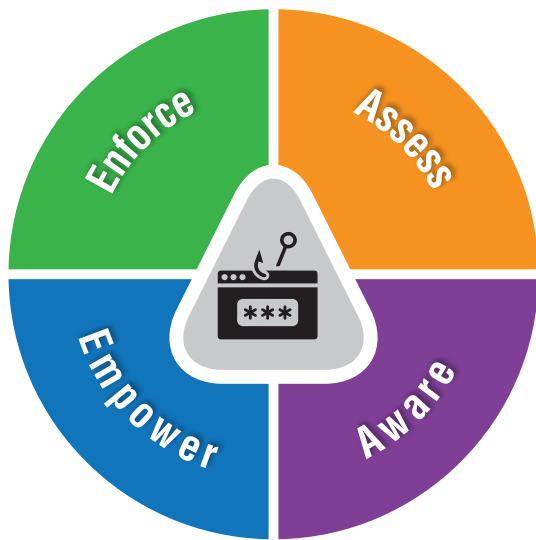
PhishRod: Fortify the First Line of Defense

After a competitive process of vendor selection, PhishRod was selected by the refinery to automate the security awareness & phishing readiness program.

PhishRod implemented its comprehensive functional methodology to initially “Assess” the end-users by sending various phishing campaigns to end-users using PhishRod Simulator. The real power was the analytics-driven approach to determine the “**Phishing Index**” at organizational, departmental & individual levels. This gave

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us the insight to assess the vulnerability index according to which the security awareness plan was rolled out.



PhishRod comes with a built-in Security Awareness Manager with 300+ based training modules, posters, banners, and awareness tips in multiple languages primarily focusing on English & Arabic.

The next step was to create and modify our existing content to be tailored as per the client's needs. Using the automated scheduler of PhishRod we assigned the awareness modules to end-users. Within 4 weeks we had the "**Awareness Index**" at the departmental & organizational levels."

Moreover, an intelligent Reporter Agent was provided to all users to report suspicious emails. Using our 120+ built-in threat intelligence feeds, all suspicious emails reported were analyzed, quarantined, and ultimately deleted from users' inboxes.

PhishRod with its services and products helped this Oil & Gas giant to build their internal threat intelligence database.

PhishRod: Fortify the first line of defense

PhishRod provided the ability to analyze the Phishing Readiness, Security Awareness & Policy Compliance on a single dashboard quantitatively.

CISO on the use of Policy Compliance Manager remarked, "We had over 120 policies for different security initiatives uploaded on a portal with no visibility. PhishRod Policy Compliance Manager proved to be the perfect platform to ensure that policies could be enforced on end-users by tracking the **Policy Compliance Index**".

He also mentioned that the powerful correlation between Phishing Index, Security Awareness Index & Policy Compliance Index helped us to identify the weakest links in the organization, create awareness and ultimately empower them to contribute towards creating a cyber-secure culture at our organization.

Products

1. Phishing Simulator
2. Security Awareness Manager
3. Policy Compliance Manager
4. PhishScout

Services

- Baseline Assessment
- Content Review
- Security Awareness Framework Development

To learn more about PhishRod and how we help organizations to fortify their first line of defense, please visit the following link:

www.phishrod.co