

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, the 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

Oil & Gas sector in the Middle East has seen a tremendous rise in the 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 the phishing attacks target the end users hence it is the need of the hour to 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 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.

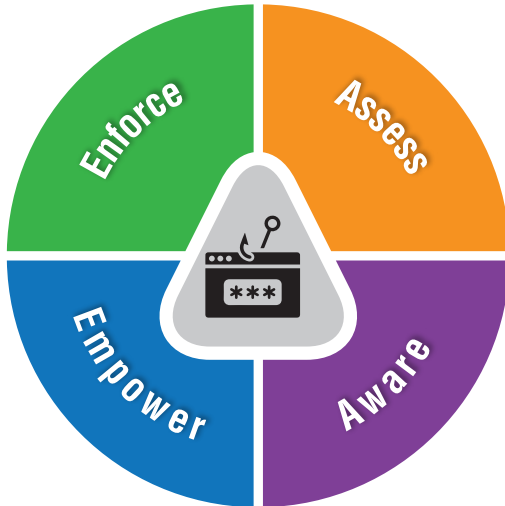
PhishRod: Fortify the First Line of Defence

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

PhishRod has a comprehensive functional methodology to initially “Assess” the end users.

He further added “We send click only & attachment based phishing campaigns to end users using PhishRod Simulator. The real power was the analytics driven approach

to determine “**Phishing Index**” at organizational, departmental & individual level. This gave us the insight of where to focus when dealing with security awareness”.



PhishRod comes with a built-in Security Awareness Manager with 30+ modules in English & Arabic.

He further added “The next step was to review the pre-loaded content in the Awareness Manager. Some of the content was required to be customized, as one shoe does not fit all. Using the automated scheduler of PhishRod we assigned the awareness modules to end-users. Within 4 weeks we had the “**Awareness Index**” at departmental & organizational level”

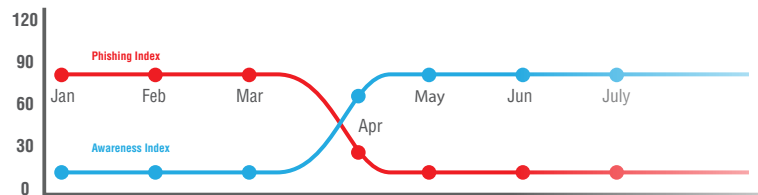
PhishRod Reporter was provided to all users to report suspicious emails. Upon confirmation of a suspicious email, PhishRod Threat Advisory Manager can send a threat advisory to all end users with compliance mapped on a dashboard.

CISO said “ The ability to send threat advisory to end users helped us a lot in cascading threat intelligence and minimize the damage”.

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** ”.

The Value of Analytics

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



“The powerful correlation between Phishing Index, Security Awareness Index & Policy Compliance Index helped us to identify the weakest links in the organization, aware them 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. Threat Advisory Manager
5. PhishRod Reporter

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 defence, please visit the following link:

www.phishrod.co