Protecting Your Home Computer

SIR A2CAT, November 19, 2015

http://alanbaker.net/presentations/protecting.pdf

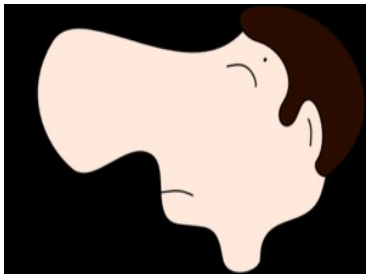
Alan Baker

Protecting your Home Computer

- **Attacks – why and how**

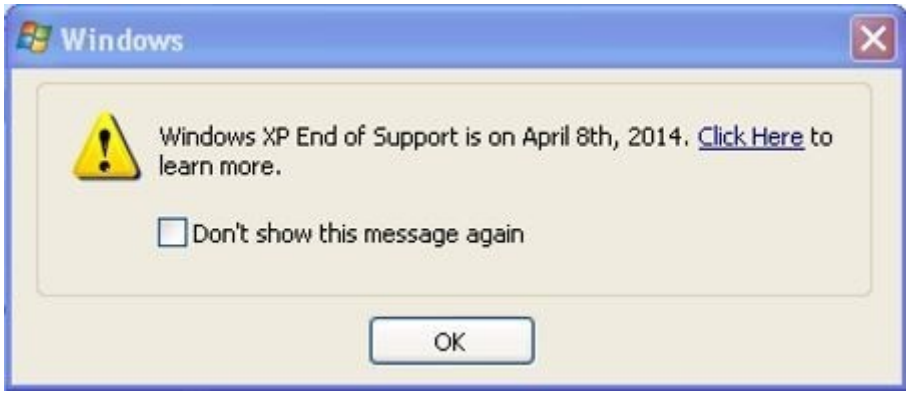
- Top Online Safety Practices

- Defenses



Attacks—why and how

- “Follow the money”
- Social engineering: ”Hello, this is Microsoft.”
- Malware in email, software, or web sites
- **Unpatched software vulnerabilities**



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- **Top Online Safety Practices**

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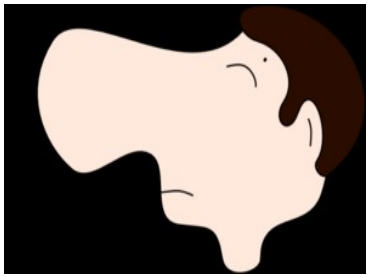

Which column is better?

Non-experts vs. Security Experts

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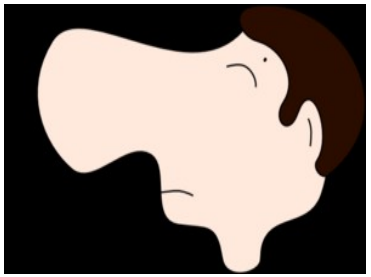


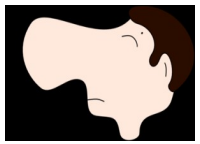
Simple Defenses

- Use a non-administrator account.
- Install Microsoft EMET
- Uninstall programs you don't use (Java?)
- **Automatic** software updates to
  - Operating System (Mac OS, Windows)
  - Adobe Flash, Reader, Acrobat
  - Web browser (IE, Chrome, Firefox)
  - Antivirus (**one** unexpired program)

Passwords

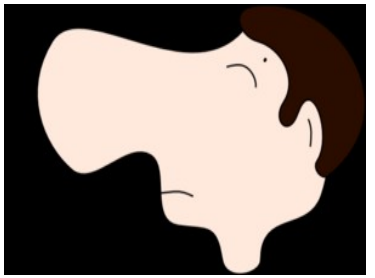
- Weak passwords
  - Words, patterns

- Strong passwords
  - MiXeD cAsE + numbers + special characters
  - Sentence acronym: EbiO11&KbiO23
  - DO NOT REUSE PASSWORDS.
  - How to remember them? Computer? Paper?
- Password managers
  - LastPass, Dashlane, KeePass

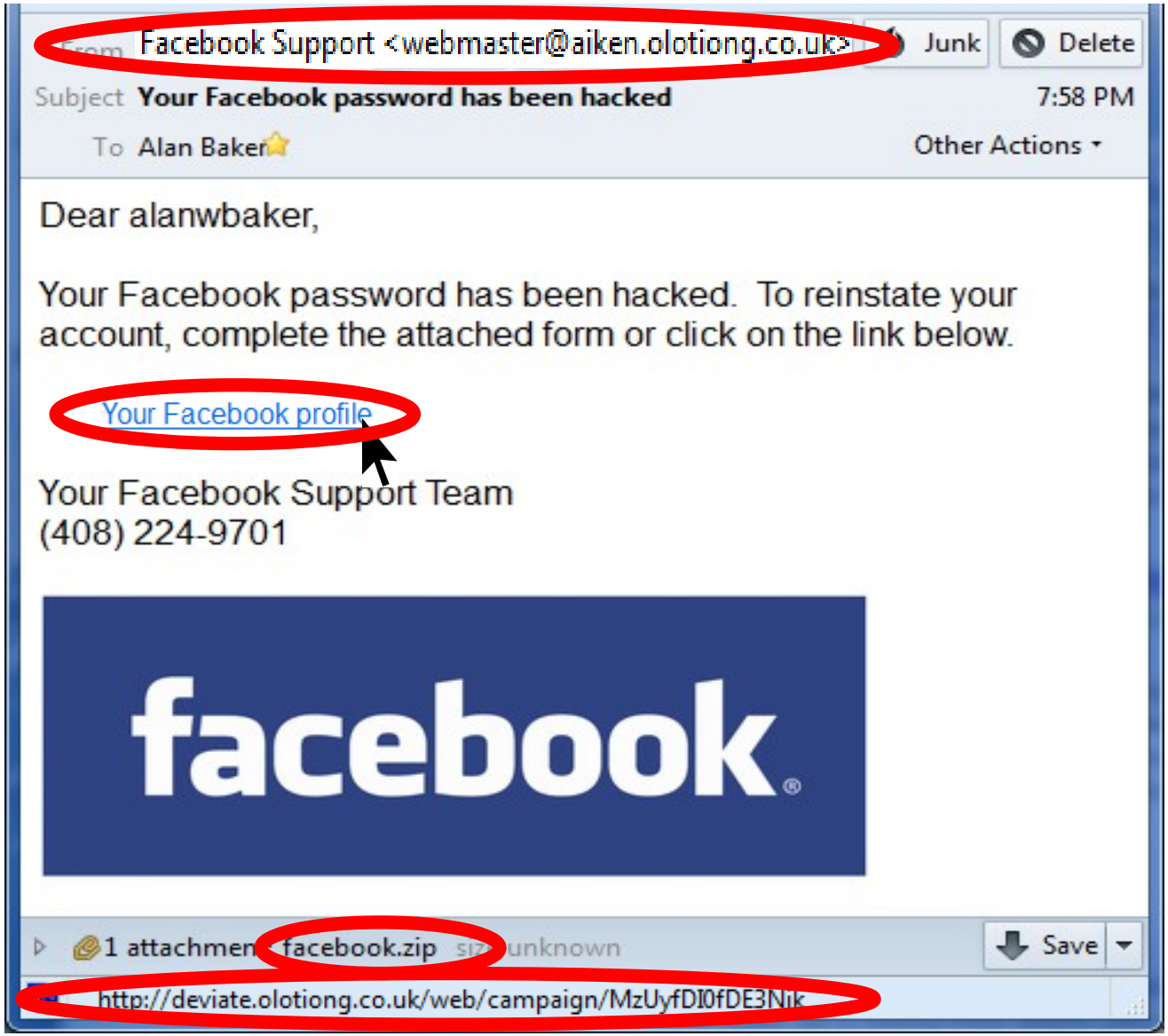


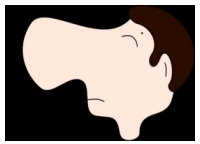
Phishing

- The sniff test
- Recognize phishing emails
  - Attachment extension is .zip, .exe, or .doc
  - Link to a web site you do not know
  - Sender name and email address



Phishing Email

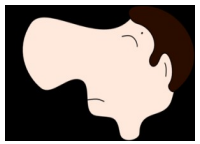




Another Phishing Email

- Turn on full headers

Subject: INCOMING FAX REPORT : Remote ID: 3153096150
From: Administrator <administrator@sjpc.org>
Date: 2/10/2014 7:06 AM
To: <beberly@sjpc.org>, <baker@sjpc.org>, <buoysandgulls@sjpc.org>, <bmurray@sjpc.org>
Return-path: <no-reply@occsb.com>
Envelope-to: baker@sjpc.org
Delivery-date: Mon, 10 Feb 2014 08:07:01 -0700
Received: from legrand-noisy.pck.nerim.net ([62.212.96.114]:51951) by slan-550-69.anhosting.com with esmtp (Exim 4.82) (envelope-from <no-reply@occsb.com>)



How do I find malware?

- Control Panel: Programs and Features
  - Sort by installation date
- Command prompt: msconfig
  - Startup tab
- Web browser add-ons
  - Extensions, plug-ins, toolbars

What will you do when you see this?

- Cryptowall: a cautionary tale

Backup and recovery

- Use real backup software
- Back up the whole computer (system & files)
- To an external disk drive
- Then disconnect it

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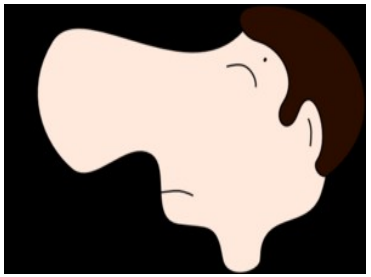

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