

Estimates Committee 2011
Questions Taken On Notice

(14/06/2011 to 23/06/2011)

Date: 22/06/2011 Output:
Sub Output:
Subject: Investigation of Phishing Attempts and Action Taken

From: Mr Adam Giles to Hon Robert Knight
Department of Business and Employment

Question: **9-7**
Of the two phishing attempts, please provide details of where they came from, location wise in terms of country; the number of employees who provided their details; and any investigations that had to take place because of the provision of those details and what those investigations were.

Answer:
Answered On: 22/06/2011

2011 Estimates Committee

Response to Question on Notice

Question 9.7

Of the two phishing attempts, please provide details of where they came from, location wise in terms of country; the number of employees who provided their details; and any investigations that had to take place because of the provision of those details and what those investigations were.

Response

December 2010 Incident

Number of employees affected: 2

Country of Origin: Unknown

Investigation/Action taken:

- Filters refined and changed to block the phishing emails and NTG links.
- Affected employees' email accounts were blocked, passwords scrambled and accounts set to change on next login. This effectively revoked access to all but the valid user.
- Published ICT awareness bulletin highlighting the security policy and raising awareness of phishing attacks.

May 2011 Incident

Number of employees affected: 4

Country of Origin: Nigeria

Investigation/Action taken:

- Filters refined and changed to block the phishing emails and NTG links.
- Affected employees' email accounts were blocked, passwords scrambled and accounts set to change on next login. This effectively revoked access to all but the valid user.
- Notified AusCERT* asking them to block the phishing link on Internet.
- Alert email sent to all agency ICT staff for circulation.

Department of Business and Employment
June 2011

***AusCERT** is the premier Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) in Australia. It is a not-for-profit organisation based at The University of Queensland. AusCERT operates within a worldwide network of information security experts to provide computer incident prevention, response and mitigation strategies for members and assistance to affected parties in Australia.