

# Phishing Detection and Alert Service

## What is Phishing?

Phishing is a type of Internet fraud that attempts to trick Internet users into providing sensitive personal information through various communications, purporting to be from a trusted entity.

These phishing scams are set-up to look as legitimate and genuine as possible by creating an email and web page that is almost identical to an official website of a trusted organisation, or by injecting untrusted data within an existing authentic website.

The webpage often requests the user to enter their login information as well as contact and banking details. Unknown to the user, all of these details entered into the fake website can subsequently be collected and used by Internet fraudsters for activities such as credit card fraud and possibly identity theft.

Phishers prefer to compromise websites with reputable domain names. These domains are more difficult to suspend because the domain holder is also a victim. One of the most common attack vectors for phishers is to inject untrusted data into web forms or database queries, exploiting insecure application (PHP/Java) code.



## Phishing Statistics

- RSA reported the highest number of attacks in a single month in August 2012, totally nearly 60,000
- 290 separate brands were targeted with phishing attacks during this month
- More than half of brands affected by phishing in August were targeted by more than five phishing attacks
- 40% of phishing pages are taken down within a day and nearly sixty per cent within 2-3 days



Fig. 1. Phishing attacks reported during a 13 month period

## Free Phishing Alert Service

Many website owners suffer great loss due to phishing as they not only support it unsuspectingly but also get blacklisted by Google for indulging in suspicious activities.

ZNetLive uses Phishing Alert Service in partnership with Netcraft, a leading Internet security service provider, to offer timely notification and professionally validated alerts if a phishing attack is detected and deployed on a ZNetLive SSL secured website.

On detection of a phishing site using a ZNetLive SSL Certificate, Netcraft enables instant notification to the site owner. Further, Netcraft will advise the compromised site customer on remediation steps, or if the site has been created specifically for malicious intent, ZNetLive will automatically revoke the associated SSL Certificate.

Phishing alert service, the first-of-its-kind, now included free of charge with all ZNetLive SSL Certificates, allows customers to maximise their investment by providing additional security against one of the most prevalent and persistent attacks in use by cybercriminals.

