David Heavrin-Brown

From:"David Heavrin-Brown" <info@heavrinbrown.com>To:<info@heavrinbrown.com>Sent:Tuesday, December 14, 2004 7:37 AMSubject:Wisdom from your Webmaster

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Wisdom from your Webmaster

14 December 2004

Dear David,

It is important for me to keep you apprised of information that is crucial to performing business online in a safe and productive manner. So, I have created this newsletter, that I will publish occasionally, to inform you of issues that I feel are important in our day to day dealings on the internet.

Phishing - The Internet as Rod & Reel... don't take the bait.

In the world of computing, but more so in the scheming underbelly of the internet, **Phishing** is the luring of sensitive information, such as passwords and other personal information, from a victim by masquerading as someone trustworthy with a real need for such information. As in the case of the e-mail I am going to use as an example.

The image to the right is a thumbnail of a screenshot that I took of just such a message. Clicking on the image will open a larger



screenshot containing important clues you can use for identifying a phishing email. You will see that the sender is trying to redirect me to his own server where he hopes I will freely enter my account information believing that I am at my bank's web site.

Another type of phishing e-mail is one where you are tricked into clicking on a link that will take you to a page where a <u>trojan virus</u> is waiting for you to install. It could be disguised as a security update for your browser, when in actuality, it is a little program that will scan your computer for personal information to send back to its creator. An example of just such a security alert scam can be found at this <u>PC Magazine link</u>.

Remember, it's good practice to always think before you click when the link in question is in an e-mail that might not actually be from the place it claims to be. Safe is always preferable to sorry. We at Heavrin-Brown Consultants are

here to answer any questions you might have... no matter how large or small. YOU are the reason we are here.

Sincerely,

David Heavrin-Brown Heavrin-Brown Consultants

email: <u>dave@heavrinbrown.com</u> phone: 734.327.4125 web: <u>http://www.heavrinbrown.com</u>

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