

# **The Investigator Newsletter**



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# The Dangers of Phishing

Phishing attacks are a common type of hacking committed by cybercriminals, and there are many ways in which these attacks can be played out. In this week's newsletter, BCSI is here to inform you about the different types of phishing and how they can be avoided.

#### **SMiShing**

These attacks are made using SMS, also known as text messages. Hackers will pose as a service you use or someone you know, requesting or offering updates or payments.

## Vishing

Short for voice phishing, these attacks are committed over the phone. Hackers will entice you into giving sensitive information by posing as legitimate means through spoofed caller IDs.

#### Quishing

Short for quick response phishing, hackers will send QR codes via email, allowing you to scan the code, re-directing you to a malicious website, and ultimately stealing sensitive information.

#### Catphishing

Hackers will pose as someone they are not, gaining your trust romantically so you are vulnerable enough to provide them with the sensitive information they can use against you.

#### Spear phishing

These attacks involve detailed personal information about yourself, which can be found online and used against you.

## Whale phishing

This attack targets people in high levels of authority, typically CEOs and executives, to gain extremely sensitive information.

To prevent phishing attacks, avoid sending sensitive information via email or SMS, verify all messages and links you receive before clicking on them, and reduce the amount of personal information you post online. If you have experienced a phishing attack, please get in touch with BCSI today for a free consultation.



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