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Subject: Security Warning: Be Careful Typing Those Website Addresses
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:54:20 PM

Good afternoon CNRE,

This is just a security FYI note.

Today someone in our CNRE family made a very simple typing mistake when trying to go to gmail.com, they simply transposed the "i" and the "a" (**please don't try it to see what it does**). When they hit enter it took them to a very convincing fake Microsoft site and a very calming voice came through the speaker telling them that their computer was infected and that they should call the number on the screen for assistance. Luckily in this case they knew enough not to call and just came and got me instead. Someone else in CNRE got hit with something similar, amazon.com this time, and unfortunately they fell for it and the person on the other end of the phone took over their computer and did who knows what!

There are a lot of bad people out there that sit on these domain names that are very close to legitimate names like gmail.com and amazon.com hoping you fat finger that address when typing it in to land on their site instead. There are a few simple things that you can do to help prevent this from happening to you.

1. Type in the address very slowly and accurately, don't rush it, before hitting that enter key.
2. Remember that most browsers cache addresses of places that you've gone before (unless you turn that feature off) and will autocomplete it as you type. Therefore if you're going to a site that you know you've been to before but it's not autocompleting then maybe you've mistyped something along the way.
3. Bookmark it and use that in the future.
4. Also you can just type the main part of the address of where you want to go without the .com, .org, .net, or .whatever and let the search engine show your options for you. Then you can just mouse over the results seeing where it will actually take you. I use this method if I've never been to a place before. Just a note with this method, be on the lookout for the AD links that are usually at the top of the results.

Thanks and safe browsing out there.

Lon

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