New YouTube Phishing Scam

May 2, 2018 - There is a new phishing scam making the rounds on the internet and it's clever. Potential victims receive and email message with what appears to be a picture of a YouTube video. But the image in the email message doesn't link to YouTube. If you make the mistake of clicking on it, there's a pretty good chance that you'll find your computer infected with malware and quite possibly with ransomware.

Tweet

```
(function() {
var s = document.createElement('SCRIPT'), s1 = document.getElementsByTagName('SCRIPT')[0];
s.type = 'text/javascript';
s.src = 'http://widgets.digg.com/buttons.js';
s1.parentNode.insertBefore(s, s1);
})();
```

```
(function() {
  var po = document.createElement('script'); po.type = 'text/javascript'; po.async = true;
  po.src = 'https://apis.google.com/js/plusone.js';
  var s = document.getElementsByTagName('script')[0]; s.parentNode.insertBefore(po, s);
})();
```

The messages that we've seen so far come from addresses that we're not familiar with. That was the first indication that they were scams. But there is no reason to believe that scam artists behind these messages won't eventually start sending out versions using the email addresses of friends if they can get access to those addresses.

The best way to protect yourself is to avoid clicking on links in email messages. We realize however that this isn't always practical. Most email programs will allow you to hover over a link and provide you with the actual address that you will be taken to when you click on it. It may take a couple of seconds for the address to appear, but it will be well worth your time.

If you get a message like the one described here, simply hover over the link in the message. If that link doesn't start out with a youtube.com address, don't click on it. Just delete the message and move on.
byJim Malmberg
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