

Let's Schmooze

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Pay-Pal phishing scam

It's targeted at job seekers, and it works like this.

First, after electronically applying for a job, you are told that you are one of the lucky few who made it to the short list, and you are set up for an online interview.

You're so excited!

Second, during the online interview, you are led to believe that you have beaten out the competition, and that the lucrative job is yours for the taking. You are advised that you will be soon receiving a confidential zip file containing detailed job information, and how to set up the new employee pay plan through your Pay-Pal account.

Now ~ you're really excited ~ and already counting your money!

You can't wait to get that zip file!

Unbeknownst to you, when you unzip that innocuously-looking zip file, it will do two things ~

It will request that you send your new "employer" a Pay-Pal invoice to initialize the salary pay plan, and ~ wait for it . . .

It will quietly download malware software onto your computer that will log your keyboard keystrokes, and then invisibly send them to the "employer."

When you log into your Pay-Pal account to create the "salary invoice," your keystrokes will be surreptitiously sent to the "employer." Now, the "employer" has your Pay-Pal username and password!

Down the road, that "employer" will quietly rob you blind via your Pay-Pal account whenever those scam artists want to.

Be alert for this scam, and stay safe.

For tips on staying "internet safe," go to the article entitled *Primer on Internet Safety*. It will download as a safe PDF file.

~ 'til we meet again ~