

“Build a Secure Cyberspace” seminar raises public awareness against cyber scams (with photos)

The annual event "Build a Secure Cyberspace", co-organised by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) and the Hong Kong Computer Emergency Response Team Co-ordination Centre, has set "Stay Smart, Keep Cyber Scams Away" as the theme this year. A series of promotional activities have been organised to raise public awareness against cyber scams such as phishing.

Addressing a seminar today (September 20), the Assistant Government Chief Information Officer (Cyber Security and Digital Identity), Mr Jason Pun, said, "Phishing attacks have extended from phishing emails and fraudulent websites commonly found in the past to deception through social media or instant messaging mobile apps, and the tactics are diversified and in various guises."

He called on the public to be mindful in handling suspicious emails or messages and not to open attachments or click on hyperlinks casually to safeguard their assets. He also reminded the public to stay vigilant against fraudulent websites in order to protect their computer devices from data theft or becoming part of a botnet.

At the seminar, experts and representatives from the HKPF and the information security industry enlightened participants with their practical experience and security tips on an array of hot topics, including the latest cybercrime trends, methods to guard against phishing, measures for protecting organisation and household network devices, and points to note when using mobile payment.

Another highlight today was the award presentation ceremony of the "Stay Smart, Keep Cyber Scams Away" Video Ad Contest. The Contest was divided into four categories, namely the primary school, secondary school, family and open groups, and received enthusiastic responses. Mr Pun commended the video ad submissions for their quality production and creativity. He said he expected that through the contest, the public could better understand the ways to identify legitimate websites and online messages so that they could guard against cyber security threats more effectively. The winning entries can be viewed at the Cyber Security Information Portal (www.cybersecurity.hk/en/contest-2018.php).

A variety of events including seminars, a creativity contest, radio programmes and school talks are being held under the "Build a Secure Cyberspace" campaign. Details are available at www.cybersecurity.hk/en/build-a-secure-cyberspace.php.

