

# Anti-Phishing Working Group

## *Public-Private Partnership*

### *Focused on Financial eCrime*

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## APWG Institutional Profile

- More than 2700 members from 1700-plus companies and agencies world wide
- Membership restricted to
  - Financial institutions
  - ISPs
  - E-commerce sites
  - Law enforcement agencies
  - Technology companies
  - Research partners (CERTs, Universities, Labs, Volunteer Organizations)
  - Consumer groups



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# APWG Institutional Profile

- **Founded October 2003**
  - Independently incorporated, 501c6 tax exempted association, directed by its directors, executives, steering committee, members and correspondent research partners
- **Mission:** Maintaining a federating nexus to organize counter-ecrime stakeholding community and neutral, third-party clearinghouses of data for forensic applications
  - Initially focused on phishing, broadening focal length to include phraud and ecrime
  - Clearinghouse of ecrime data being developed on modified biomedical research model – open access; governed usage through user agreements

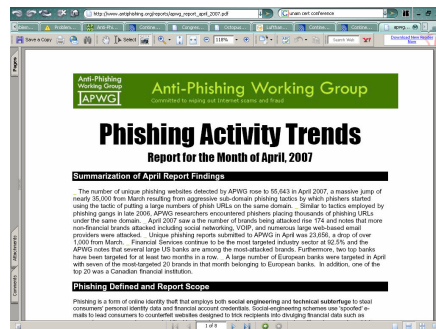


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## Institutional Roles: Statistician

- APWG Phishing Activity Trends reports delineate the phishing experience, enumerating phishing's growth and characterizing phishing's evolution to inform stakeholder dialog
  - Monthly reports cover social engineering phishing attacks and crimeware threats
    - Developing: report segment on electronic crime infrastructure



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## Institutional Roles: Advisor

- APWG has contributed data to the OCC, FDIC, European Commission, ITU, Congressional committees, ICANN, law enforcement agencies, government agencies and law courts worldwide



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## Institutional Roles: Mustering Point

- Association where stakeholders meet and pull together projects of stakeholder benefit
  - Data and technology projects draw contributions from industry, academe, law enforcement and standards-making communities
  - ICANN Policy Project
  - Abuse Manager Contact Federation Project Under Way
- Three Established Conferences



Annual General Members Meeting



eCRS for academic and industrial research into eCrime



CeCOS for responders to eCrime events & managers of end-users' security



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## APWG Strategic Contributions to Counter-eCrime Efforts



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## Toward an Electronic Crime Reporting Lingua Franca



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## Toward an eCrime Report Lingua Franca

- Industry research concluded there is no good way to electronically report fraud activities
  - No common format
  - Good reports need complete data sets
  - Reports need to support automatic processing
- Define a common report format
  - Started with phishing; added spam-mediated phraud and crimeware
- Goals
  - Make it easy to spot and report novel events & trends
  - Let vendors & researchers test their ideas/products against known attacks
  - Be vendor and application agnostic
- Approach: Try not to reinvent another format
  - Pick something acceptable to CERTs, ISPs, law enforcement and bank teams
- IETF **Incident Object Description and Exchange Format** (IODEF) XML schema (with eCrime-relevant extensions)
  - Flexible (simple through detailed)
  - Easy to read
  - Standard-brand XML, immediately useable
  - Even pre-RFC, IODED had significant traction, especially among CERTs, a core respondent constituency

## IODEF Extensions XML Schema

- APWG proffers: **Extensions to the IODEF-Document Class for Phishing, Fraud, and Other Crimeware**
  - Structured data model allows forensic searches and investigations to be automated/scripted with greater ease using standard schema
    - Multiple language capability
    - Reports readable in any XML-capable browser
    - Multiple parties – brandholders; security professionals, CERT personnel and LE - can add to a report
    - Extensions specifically designed for electronic crime incidents and crimeware
      - Purpose built nature gives it unique relevance

## From Raw Phish Mail to Reports

From: support@coopercain.com  
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 3:52 PM  
To: pcain@coopercain.com  
Subject: You have successfully updated your password  
Attachments: [updated-password.zip](#)

Dear user pcain,  
You have successfully updated the password of your Coopercain account.  
If you did not authorize this change or if you need assistance with your account,  
please contact Coopercain customer service at: support@coopercain.com

Thank you for using Coopercain!  
The Coopercain Support Team

+++ Attachment: No Virus (Clean)  
+++ Coopercain Antivirus - [www.coopercain.com](http://www.coopercain.com)



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## Example Report in XML Schema

```
<IODEF-Document.>
<Incident purpose="other">
  <IncidentID Issuer="Pat">PAT2005-06</IncidentID>
  <Description>This is a test report from actual data.</Description>
  <Contact contacttype="person" contactrole="creator">
    <NameIdentifier format="emailAddress">pcain@coopercain.com</NameIdentifier>
  </Contact>
  <ReportTime>2005-06-22T08:30:00-05:00</ReportTime>
  <Assessment> <Confidence rating="high" /> </Assessment>
  <EventData>
    <DetectTime>2005-06-21T18:22:02-05:00</DetectTime>
    <AdditionalData dtype="xml">
      <PhraudReport FraudType="" Version="" xmlns="phish">
        <FraudParameter>Subject: You have successfully updated your password</FraudParameter>
        <FraudedBrandName>Cooper-Cain</FraudedBrandName>
        <LureSource> <Address iodef:addrcat="ipv4-addr" iodef:spoofed="unknown">
          <Addr>216.231.63.162</Addr>
        </Address> </LureSource>
        <OriginatingSensor OriginatingSensorType="human">
          <Address iodef:addrcat="ipv4-addr"> <Addr>10.0.0.4</Addr> </Address>
        </OriginatingSensor>
      </PhraudReport>
    </AdditionalData>
  </EventData>
</IODEF-Document.>
```

XML makes reports machine readable and assists in making processing automated – and programmable



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Go Back

General Information	Phish Type archive cve fraudsite email	Brand name phished: _____
		How was the Lure Specified? (pick one) URL   Email   IP Address
Information about the Credential/Data Collector	Type of Data Collector: web email keylogger automation	Data Collector String: _____
	Data Collector Site Type: web email address unknown	Data Collector Site: _____
How was the Event Detected? (Upto 3 sets allowed)		
Type of Sensor: web webgateway mailgateway browser	Sensor Name: _____	Sensor IPAddress: _____ Date First Seen: _____
Add Another Sensor		
TakeDown Info (Upto 3 sets allowed)	Date: _____ Agency: _____	Comments: _____
Add Another TakeDown Info		
Archive Site and Info (Up to 3 sets allowed)	Type of Archive: collectionsite basecamp sendscamp	URL: _____ Comments: _____
Add More Archive Data		
Links to Other Data Related to this Incident (Upto 3 sets allowed)	URL: _____	
Add Another Related Info		
Correlation Information (Upto 3 sets allowed)	Data: _____	
Add Correlatable Data		
Enter any Additional Comments: _____		
XML makes reports human readable and assists in editing reports, adding data and organizing human-driven workflows		
Click Here to Save to file named: phish.xml		

## IODEF Extensions RFC at the Moment

- APWG working within the IETF to make this XML schema an IETF standard for ecrime reporting
  - Base specification for IODEF passed last month
  - APWG refiling its RFC for the IODEF-extensions
    - Committee been reviewing proposal since June 2005
      - » Well received to date
    - Expected to leave committee and be adopted by this Summer
- Asian, European and Australian companies, trade associations and CERTs (some already using IODEF) are already looking into adopting it for ecrime event reportage

## If You've an Interest

- Pat Cain, IETF committeeman and APWG Senior Research Fellow
  - [pcain@antiphishing.org](mailto:pcain@antiphishing.org)
- <http://www.coopercain.com/incidents/index.htm>



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## APWG eCrime Repository



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## APWG eCrime Data Repository & Block List

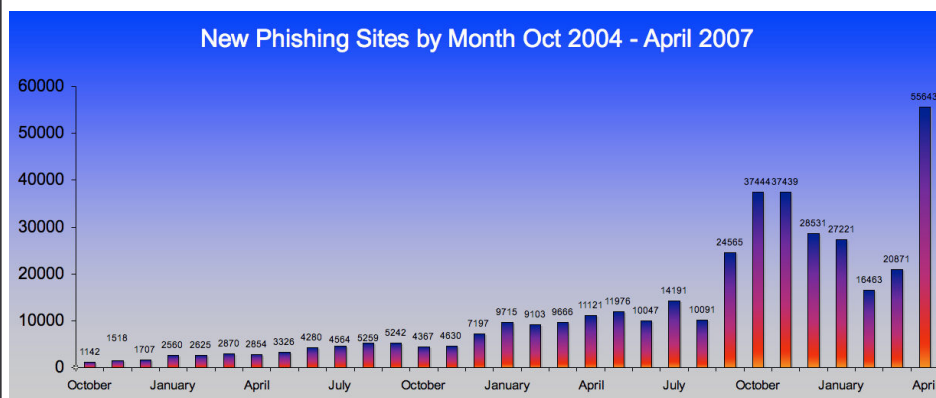
- **Collecting phishing data since October 2003**
  - 2,500,000-plus records archived thus far
    - 13,500-plus unique URLs added every month
- **Currently two principal Repository resources**
  - Historical archive
  - Block list updated every 5 minutes
  - Contains URLs from previous three days' reports
  - Generally, about a 10 megabyte file
  - Each URL has a 'confidence level' of certainty of its inauthenticity
  - Multiple uses in counter-ecrime technologies and forensics
    - Integrated browser anti-phishing systems
    - Standalone toolbars
    - Industrial research and development
    - University research
    - eCrime forensic analyses



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## Reporting & Blocking Makes More Work for Phishers



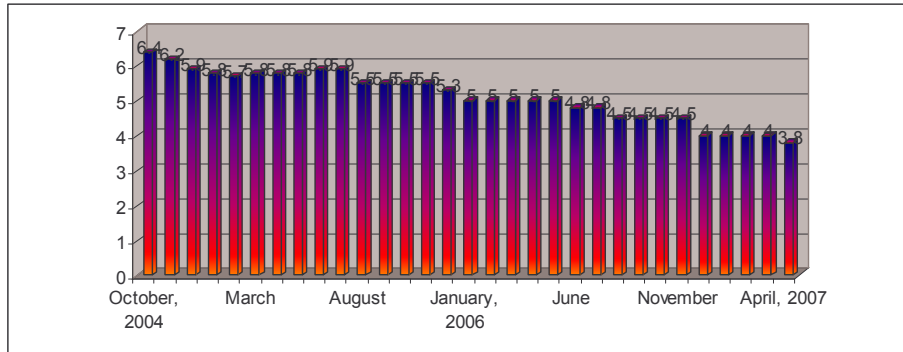
In this same period time-live for phishing sites has dropped to just four days



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## Time-Live for Phish Servers Drops to Under 4 Days



Time-live dropped steadily even as numbers of servers grew by large increments



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## Repository & Block List Sources and Methods

- Repository and Block List Users
  - 129 agencies, companies and associations taking outbound feed
  - 60 agencies and companies making inbound contributions
  - A number of university researchers examining the full repository for research purposes
- Repository and Block List Sources
  - Brandholders send confirmed URLs directly to the Repository
  - APWG member security and take-down companies send confirmed URLs directly to the Repository
  - [Reportphishing@antiphishing.org](mailto:Reportphishing@antiphishing.org) send unconfirmed reports to APWG for processing
    - Automated parsing pulls out relevant data and places it in Repository
  - Volunteer antiphishing organizations (PIRT and PhishTank)
  - Research partners
- Lots of room for expansion
  - Some of the largest sources not yet exploited
    - Though we're talking with many of them now
  - New contributing companies, groups and associations coming online regularly
- Why It's Working and Will Continue to Grow
  - Clearinghouse model operates similarly to the genomic databases used by life sciences researchers in the US and Europe
  - Assurance that the full resource available will be provided
  - User agreement that assigns no new liability
    - Role of NDAs, User Agreements often underappreciated in technical community



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## Outlook for Long-Term Repository Development

Getting partners to contribute data in a common format also allows useful automated functions to develop.

Example, close to real-time statistics can be generated, and immediate notification of current phishing attempts can be sent to institutions or CERTs.

Instant notification can contain the IP Address and other data of the phishing source instead of just a "you are being phished" alert.

A passive repository can take on the characteristics of a switch



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## If You've an Interest

- Foy Shiver, APWG Deputy Secretary General
  - [fshiver@antiphishing.org](mailto:fshiver@antiphishing.org)



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# APWG Contact System for Abuse Managers



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## APWG Contact System for Abuse Managers

- **APWG Contact System for Abuse Managers** allows companies who need to communicate about a phishing attack (typically ISPs and victimized brandholders) to find each other without exposing a large database
  - In Beta mode currently with some 1600 companies, CERTs, and government agencies' representatives enrolled
    - Cleaning up enrollments now and will be moving membership to locate and enroll proper forwarding address or specific personnel to have listed for contact
  - Organizing a standard User Agreement (Click through) for the Contacts system
    - User authorization to act on notices
    - Reasonable good faith effort
    - Refrain from using system for any other communications
  - Established new APWG membership level with single benefit: enrollment in the contacts system



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[https://contacts.antiphishing.org/index.php?message=You+have+logged+in...](#)

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Central Operations Server: Home

## Latest News

[APWG Contacts System Usage](#)  
This document will attempt to summarize the basic features and usage of the APWG Contacts System. ... [More...](#)

[December Phishing Trends Report](#)  
The APWG's combined report, covering phishing activity during December 2006 is available at [http://antiphishing.org/reports/apwg\\_report\\_december\\_2006.pdf](http://antiphishing.org/reports/apwg_report_december_2006.pdf) ... [More...](#)

[CFP Posted - eCrime Researchers Conference 2007](#)  
The call for papers has been published for this year's eCrime Researchers Conference. See details at <http://www.ecrimeresearch.com/2007/cfp.html> ... [More...](#)

[Latest Korea Phishing Activity Trends Report](#)  
The current Phishing Trends Report published by the Korean Information Security Agency can be viewed at [http://www.krcert.or.kr/english\\_vwv/publication/8\\_1\\_publication\\_list.jsp?boardType=PUB](http://www.krcert.or.kr/english_vwv/publication/8_1_publication_list.jsp?boardType=PUB) ... [More...](#)

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[https://contacts.antiphishing.org/company/contact.php](#)

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Central Operations Server:

## Contact a company

Please use this form to contact a company. We will send your email and contact information to the selected company.

**Company:**

No companies match your query. Please be less specific.

**Type of incident:**

**Message:**

Include alternate contact information in your message.

## APWG Contact System for Abuse Managers

- Discussions of federation of Abuse Manager Contact Systems under way with trade groups and response organizations
- Throttled system (5 a day maximum) with reportage to administrators for users hitting maximum allotments
  - Working on scheme to discipline abusers of system, if they should arise
    - Necessary part to organize robust federating agreements



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  - [fshiver@antiphishing.org](mailto:fshiver@antiphishing.org)



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# APWG Domain Name System Policy Working Group



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## APWG DNS Policy Working Group

DNSPWG Formed at the request of ICANN to identify remedial solutions to eliminate or minimize the ability of phishers and e-criminals to co-opt the worldwide domain name registration system.

- Developing a comprehensive problem statement discussing the practices, policies and operational conventions that assist e-criminals in their enterprise
- Researching ameliorative solutions in terms of industry practices, governing policies, and operational conventions;
- Vote on the preferred remedial solution to cover specific domain name system issues



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## Providing Research on WHOIS Proposals at the ICANN

- Operational Point of Contact (OPoC)
  - Provides for third-party cache of WHOIS data
- Special Circumstances Proposal
  - Keeps WHOIS data public but allows redaction of data for safety and other “special circumstances”
- APWG Role largely reportorial, providing ICANN with operational insight on how DNS and WHOIS data are exploited
  - Developing ICANN’s appreciation of the role of the DNS in different kinds of Internet-mediated crime
- ALSO: Examining and developing .ASIA proposal for certifying third-party interveners who can ask registrars directly for expedited (an hour) removal of a domain name record



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Or

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Thank You

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