



Hong Kong Internet
Registration Corporation Limited
香港互聯網註冊管理有限公司



Hold On & ReThink!

Protect Yourself Against Phishing & Spamvertising!

“.hk” join Hands with you
to stay away from Internet Traps



Hong Kong has about five million Internet users, approximately seventy percent of the total population. With rapid advance in Internet technology and popularity, there have been significant increases in Internet frauds in recent years. We should be more cautious when surfing the net.

Online frauds can take many different forms. For example, criminals can use fake websites to acquire your personal information such as passwords or credit card details, an activity known as Phishing. Hackers can also secretly downloading malicious programs to your computer and hence gaining control of your computer.

Spamvertising emails regarding sale of counterfeits, free prizes, lottery, etc. can also be cunning devices for Phishing activities. These emails will trick you into accessing the fake websites and giving up private information.

Falling into these online traps could lead to enormous financial losses or irrecoverable damages to corporate operations.

The following smart tips are recommended for your safe surfing:

When Receiving Emails From Unknown Senders :



1. Don't trust and open emails or attachments from unknown senders.
2. Don't reply to emails from unknown senders. Replying to these emails may trigger more spam emails to your inbox.
3. Don't click on any links in these emails or disclose your password, birth date, address and other personal information.



For Daily Internet Use :

1. Don't disclose any personal information on the Internet when chatting with someone you don't know.
2. Always check the website addresses displayed in the browser during Internet surfing and go to the websites directly by entering the correct web addresses.
3. Watch out for emails asking for bank or personal accounts information. Most of the banks and websites seldom require you to verify login or account details via emails.
4. Always memorize your login details by heart and avoid storing them in your PCs, mobile phones or PDAs.
5. Rethink before logging into personal accounts at public computers; always log out immediately after use.



When Doing Online Transactions :

1. Make purchases cautiously and research on vendors' background beforehand.
2. Refer to other buyers' ratings or use reputable websites recommended by your friends.
3. Order a small quantity as a start. Only order more after having a few satisfactory services.



Security Measures :

Individual Level

1. Use different usernames and passwords for different online bank accounts to minimize the risk in case your account information is stolen.
2. Change your passwords on a regular basis, at least every 30-60 days.
3. Use security software from authorised dealers or legal websites only. Never use one from illegal websites. Have the security software updated regularly.



Corporate Level

1. Install the latest anti-virus and anti-spam software and update them regularly. Encrypt personal and sensitive data when stored on PCs or storage devices and when transmitted via email.
2. Ensure that the corporate Intranet and Extranet systems are separated to block any hacking from the Extranet into the Intranet.
3. Issue clear IT security guidelines to staff. Make sure they will not download software or open files from unknown or unidentified sources.



Bear in mind these smart tips, **Hold on and ReThink**, we can enjoy the ease of Internet surfing securely.

Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited (HKIRC) has been spending tremendous efforts in combating phishing and spamvertising activities using '.hk' domain names. In line with the efforts, HKIRC not only has tightened its domain registration policy and process, but also work closely with different regional and international organizations, The Hong Kong Police Force and other local parties in combating malicious websites using '.hk' domains.

Should you encounter or suspect any phishing or spamvertising activities using '.hk', please contact:

HKIRC
Email : abuse@hkirc.hk
Telephone : 2319 1313

Technology Crime Department, Hong Kong Police
Email : crimeinformation@police.gov.hk