Social Engineering: Questioning the Human Security?

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ABSTRACT

Social engineering has emerged as a serious threat in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enabled environment and is an effective means of attack within the realm of security, in which the psychological aspects of the human mind and the social interaction patterns between people are exploited by an efficient social engineer. Different modes of attacks including phishing, vishing, pre-texting etc. used to pursue for the malware installation. In this ICT-enabled society, people's unawareness of the information security measures causes vulnerability to social engineering attacks. So, protective techniques and safety measures for the information security awareness is to be followed. This paper explains briefly on social engineering, the different aspects of social engineering and investigates methods that have been employed in successful social engineering attacking techniques. It demonstrates countermeasures against social engineering attack and to educate the users on typical attacks, assailants, and their manipulative techniques.

Keywords: Social Engineering; Information Security; Human security; ICT.

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