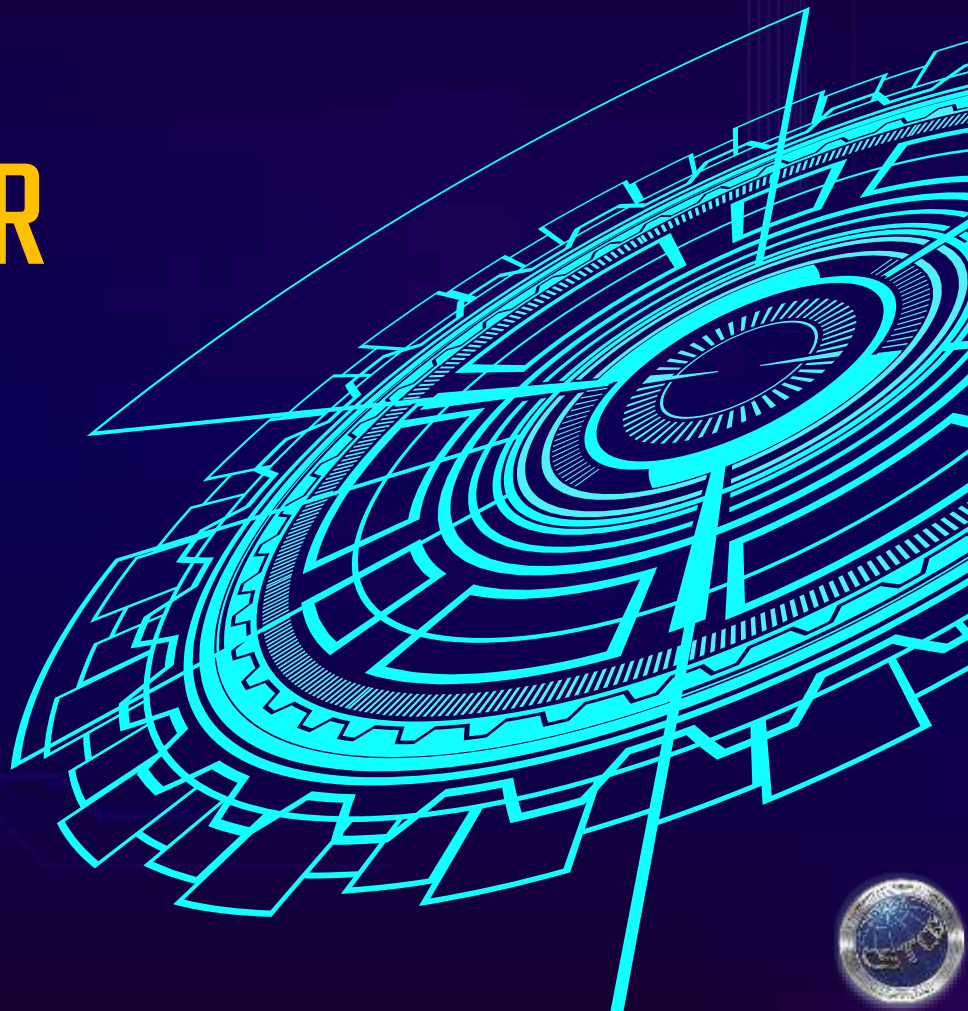


# ADVANCING CYBER RESILIENCE:

*Are you ready for the next cyber threat?*

Paul Yeung  
Senior Inspector of Police  
Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau



# AGENDA

**01** Cyber Security Landscape

**02** Cyber Threats and Pitfalls

**03** What is Cyber Resilience?

**04** How to Build Cyber Resilience?





# Cyber Security Landscape

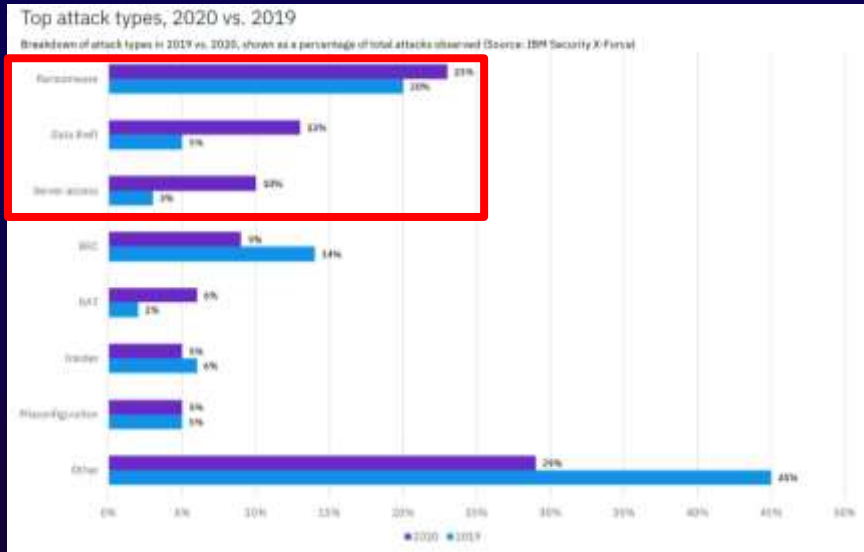
# Global Landscape

## Top 3 attack types

1. Ransomware (23% of attacks)
2. Data theft (160% increase since 2019)
3. Server access (233% increase since 2019)

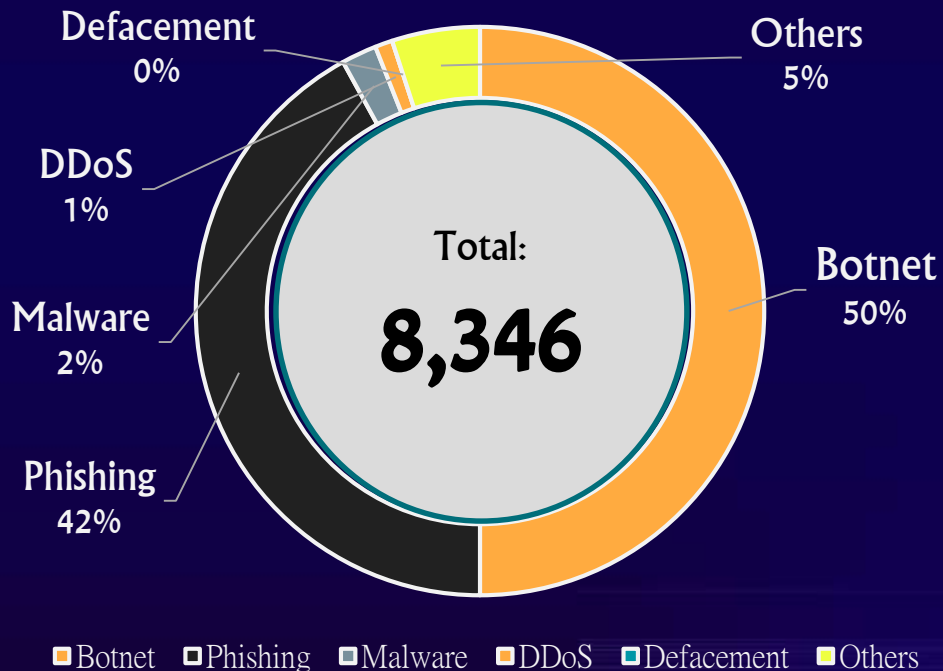
## Top 3 initial attack vectors

1. Scan-and-exploit (35% of attacks vs. 30% in 2019)
2. Phishing (33% of attacks vs. 31% in 2019)
3. Credential theft (18% of attacks vs. 29% in 2019)



# Local Landscape

## Distribution of Incident Reports in 2020



## Global Incidents

**Ransomware Hackers Claim To Leak 250GB Of Washington, D.C., Police Data After Cops Don't Pay \$4 Million Ransom**

**Colonial Pipeline paid \$5 million ransom one day after cyberattack, CEO tells Senate**

**JBS Paid \$11 Million to Resolve Ransomware Attack**

Meat supplier's U.S. chief says firm paid cybercriminals in bitcoin to avoid more disruptions

## Local Incidents



...reported that its public enquiry email suffered from an email bomb attack...

...reported that phishing emails purportedly to be sent by the GovHK lured the public to provide personal particulars to claim anti-pandemic funds through an attached link

...reported that phishing SMS messages embedded with links purported to be sent by the companies to lure for users' personal particulars and credit card details for bill refund



# Cyber Threats and Pitfalls





# Cyber Threats



**Phishing**



**Email Scam**



**Ransomware**



**Data Breach**



**Insider Threat**



**Supply Chain  
Attack**

**Different yet interconnected**

**Human element-emphasized**

**Sophisticated Attack**

# Phishing & Email Scam

## Phishing

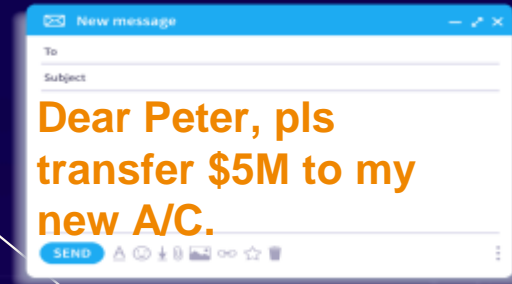
- A way that cybercriminals steal **confidential information** by sending fraudulent messages
- Use **pressure and quick emotional responses** to trick the recipient

There has been a scheduled outward PAYMENT of HKD50,000.00. If this was NOT made by you, please CANCEL via: <https://hangseng-online.com/signin>



## Email Scam

- Scam targeting companies who conduct **wire transfers** and have suppliers abroad
- Rely heavily on **social engineering tactics** to trick unsuspecting employees



# Pseudo Phishing Email Campaign



# Pseudo Phishing Email Campaign

INDIVIDUALLY

**12%**

CLICKED ON THE  
PHISHING EMAIL

COMPANY-WISE

**70%**

HAD AT LEAST ONE STAFF  
MEMBER CLICK ON THE  
PHISHING EMAIL

# Ransomware



◆ Progressing attack pattern:  
Double extortion

➤ **Triple Extortion**

- Encrypt data
- Threaten to publish
- Demand payments from partners, customers and other third parties

◆ **Ransomware-as-a-service (RaaS)**

# Data Breach (資料外洩)



**Aug 2020**

Personal information of over 720,000 customers of an online food ordering website were leaked



**Oct 2020**

1.2TB size of activity log is exposed in data breach of a VPN provider of HK



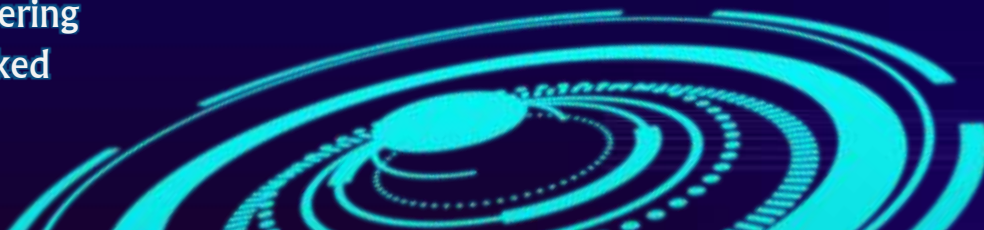
**Mar 2021**

Personal data of 1,644 subscribers of a news agency leaked including credit card information



**Apr 2021**

A Social Audio App data leak: 1.3 million scraped user records leaked online for free



# Data Breach (資料外洩)

**250 days**

Average time to identify and contain

**Healthcare**

Highest industry cost



**44%**

Breaches with customers' info



**HK\$1,440**

Average cost per customer record



**HK\$33 million**

Average total cost



# Insider Threat (内部威脅)

## 4 warning signs of a breach

- 1) Erratic Access
- 2) Excessive Access
- 3) No need to know
- 4) Off-peak access





# Supply Chain Attack (供應鏈攻擊)

- A cyberattack that attempts to inflict damage to a company by **exploiting vulnerabilities** in its **supply chain network**
- E.g. Material supply, manufacturing, assembly, distribution, etc.





# What is Cyber Resilience?



## What is Cyber Resilience?

The ability to anticipate, withstand, recover from and adapt to adverse conditions, stresses, attacks or compromises on systems that use or are enable by cyber resources.



## A cyber-resilient posture brings you

- Reduce financial losses
- Meet legal and regulatory requirements
- Improve incident response and business continuity management
- Improve your culture and internal processes
- Protect brand and reputation

Source: IT Governance Ltd - Cyber security solutions

# Cyber Resilience (網絡韌性)



## Resilience is Key

Protect the best you can, but realize that absolute cyber security is unattainable, so **system resilience is the path forward**



# How to Build Cyber Resilience?



# Cyber Resilience (網絡韌性)

## Being cyber resilient is:

- 1) Taking steps to reduce the risk of cyber breaches
- 2) Making sure that if a breach occurs you know how to respond to ensure:
  - ◆ Adequate legal response
  - ◆ Responsible public response
  - ◆ Business continuity

# Cyber Resilience (網絡韌性)

## IDENTIFY

- Identify vital security vulnerabilities
- Identify high-value and critical assets

## PROTECT

Protect critical infrastructure and services

- Securing business-critical systems
- Protecting endpoints and gateways
- Protecting mobile workforce and customers

## DETECT

Implement a detection system for identifying attacks and assessing affected systems

## RECOVER

Implement a plan to restore any data or services affected by an attack

## RESPOND

Implement a plan to restore any data or services affected by an attack





# Case Study (1) – Local (Gov't Dep't)

## What happened?

- **Unsuccessful login attempts** to an online portal for Government Departments to upload information within Government were detected
- Classified and sensitive data were stored in one of the compromised **servers in another Gov't Dep't** initiating attack



## Why it happened?

- Originated from **compromised servers of a Gov't Dep't**



# Case Study (1) – Local (Gov't Dep't)

## What were the malpractices?

- 1) **Weak protection** on internet-facing servers
- 2) **Weak password protection**
- 3) The testing server is **lack of suitable patching**
- 4) Personnel have no knowledge that the testing server is **directly exposed to the Internet**
- 5) **Poor segmentation policy** for the network
- 6) The firewall policies do not record the incoming traffic of the testing server
- 7) Personnel could not provide a **clear network diagram**



# Case Study (2) – Local (Gov't Dep't)

## What happened?

- A Government department reported a **ransomware attack** (i.e. **REvil**) against its internal server in June 2021



## How the attack happened?

- Insertion of an **infected USB** by staff

## The impact

- 1) A number of files with personal data were **encrypted**
- 2) Server **suspension**
- 3) Unknown threat actor **demanding \$5.5M-HKD** valued cryptocurrency



# Case Study (2) – Local (Gov't Dep't)

## What could have been done better?

### Prevention

- People
- Processes
- Technology



### Detection

- Pre-incident
- Real-time
- Post-incident



### Response

- Identification
- Containment
- Eradication
- Recovery



# Enhancing Preparedness



# Food for Thoughts

To reach high levels of Cyber Resilience:

- 1) A continuous monitoring of **new trends in cyber attacks** and update of **defence mechanisms**
- 2) Focus not only technology, but consider also **processes and people**
- 3) Design and implement both **preventive, detective and reactive controls**
- 4) Crucial elements:
  - The identification and prioritization of **risks**
  - Use of an established **framework**
  - The risk stemming from **third parties and new technologies** must be identified and managed

# Grand Launch of 'CyberDefender'



- ◆ One-stop shop
- ◆ Providing timely and comprehensive information on Cyber Security, Information Security and prevention advice of Technology Crime

# Grand Launch of 'CyberDefender'

<https://cyberdefender.hk/>



守網者





## THANK YOU

Does anyone have any questions? ▶

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3661-7712

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