

# Phishing Attempts: WHAT TO LOOK FOR!

### Suspicious sender's address

The sender's address may imitate a legitimate business. Cybercriminals often use an email address that closely resembles one from a reputable company by altering or omitting a few characters.

#### Generic greetings & signature

Both a generic greeting—such as "Dear Valued Customer"—and a lack of contact information in the signature block are strong indicators. A trusted organization will normally address you by name and provide their contact info.



Think you have one?
Contact:
support@lumestrategies.com

## Spoofed hyperlinks & websites

Hover your cursor over a link in the email, and if the links do not match the text that appears when hovering over them, the link may be spoofed. Malicious websites look identical to a legitimate site, but the URL may use a variation in spelling or a different domain (e.g., .com vs. .net).

# **Spelling & layout**

Poor grammar and sentence structure, misspellings, and inconsistent formatting are other indicators of a possible phishing attempt. Reputable institutions have dedicated personnel that produce and proofread customer correspondence.

# Suspicious attachments

An unsolicited email requesting a user download/open an attachment is a common indicator of malware. A cybercriminal may use a false sense of urgency to help persuade you to download without examining it first.