

Security Ed Challenge

Consumers are first line of defense in preventing identity fraud

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Trade Commission and the National Consumers League recently held a press conference to remind the public that consumers are the first line of defense in preventing identity fraud. The latest trend in e-mail fraud is criminals sending unsolicited e-mails with corporate logos telling the recipient that the company lost their consumer data files and will delete their account unless they update private information such as account numbers, social security numbers and passwords. Do not fall for these scams! Legitimate companies will not ask for this type of information via e-mail messages.



Take the Security Ed Challenge: What three steps can you take to protect yourself if you receive an unsolicited e-mail and the sender asks for personal information; announces that you have won a prize, but you need to pay shipping fees or taxes; or needs your bank account number to transfer large sums of money from a third-world country?

- A. Delete the e-mail.
- B. Answer the e-mail.
- C. Call the company's customer service department on a known phone number to verify the message.
- D. Do not click on e-mail hyperlinks; they can take you to phony Web pages. Instead go to a known company Internet address to verify the message.

Do you know the answers? Send an e-mail message with the three steps you can take to protect yourself from e-mail identity fraud schemes (indicate "Ed's Scam Prevention" in the subject line) to C. E. (Chet) Braswell, or clip this article, circle the correct answers, add your name and Hanford identification number, and send your response to Security Education at L4-09. Prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn correct entries. The names of prizewinners and the correct answer will appear in a future *Hanford Reach* article.

For information on identity fraud, go to the Federal Trade Commission's Web page at <http://www.FTC.gov>.

Submitted By _____ Hanford ID No. _____

Mailstop _____

Congratulations to Sam Baker of Fluor Hanford, winner of the July 21 Security Ed Challenge, "Bomb Threat Notification." Baker won a MiniMag light for correctly answering that if you receive a bomb threat call, you should take down the information, try not to hang up the phone (if possible use another phone to notify authorities) and take a look around for suspicious objects as you evacuate.

If you have any challenges you would like Security Ed to consider, e-mail them to Security Ed at ^Security Ed or send them by plant mail to Security Ed at L4-09.