

Phishing Scenario Results: Failed Transaction

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) recently completed a simulated phishing scenario titled, *FAILED TRANSACTION*. This phishing scenario implies you initiated a “transaction” and the limited information provided is a purposeful tactic used to trick you into clicking the link. The attacker expects you to search for more context within the link provided.

Learn the basics of [recognizing a phishing email](#) and most importantly, follow MC business processes when ordering products, expecting deliveries, and approving invoices. To help organize your professional and personal online communications and keep your personal business private, use your MC email address for MC business related accounts and communications, and use a personal email address for personal accounts.

Good news:

1011 employees reported the phishing scenario to the Phishtrap. **Nice work MC!**

We are making progress:

41 employees clicked the link within the training email. One click is one too many - one click puts the entire MC network at risk!

Did you click? In a real-world phishing attack clicking the link may have prompted you to give up your login credentials.

Please review the red flags within this type of phishing attack and to learn ways to spot a suspicious email.

The image shows a screenshot of an email from Erin Wilkinson (e.wilkinson@invoicenotices.com) with the subject "FAILED TRANSACTION". The email content includes a generic greeting "Dear Valuable Partner," a request for a valid ID, and a link labeled "Transaction details". A "Report Phishing MC" button is visible at the bottom. Red callouts highlight several red flags: "Unknown sender and domain" points to the sender's email address; "Social engineering tactics" lists "Failed" (used to provoke an emotional response), "Generic greeting", and "Limited details to invoke your curiosity"; and "Do not click the link expecting to find an answer! Report the suspicious email" points to the "Transaction details" link.

Unknown sender and domain

Social engineering tactics:

- “Failed” – used to provoke an emotional response
- Generic greeting
- Limited details to invoke your curiosity

Do not click the link expecting to find an answer!
Report the suspicious email

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE This e-mail message and any attachments are only for the use of the intended recipient and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, distribution or other use of this e-mail message or attachments is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail message in error, please delete and notify the sender immediately. Thank you

What should you do if you suspect an email may be a phishing attempt?

Let IT Security analyze the email for you - **REPORT** the email! The Report Phishing button within your email client allows you to quickly report suspicious emails to IT Security. [Learn how to access the Phishing Reporter button when using Office 365 at home.](#) If you accidentally clicked on a link or attachment in a suspicious email, contact the IT Service Desk immediately.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the IT Service Desk:

- by email at itservicedesk@montgomerycollege.edu
- by web chat on [OIT's web page](#)
- by phone at 240-567-7222

Please do not reply to this email, as this mailbox is not monitored. Thank you.