November 2025 Phishing Scenario Results

As part of our Security Awareness Education Program, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) sent a phishing simulation email titled, *New Policy for All Employees*. The body of the email indicated the "new policy" is attached and needs to be signed and returned.

Phishing emails with attachments are a significant threat as attackers hide malware within seemingly harmless files such as Word documents. Once the attachment is opened the attacker may have remote access, steal data, or deploy ransomware.

One clue may be found in the sending domain, *infosecurityshop.com,* which is unknown, and not a Montgomery College affiliated domain used to communicate College updates or policies. The lack of information about the "new policy" is another clue. Attackers craft the message as vague as possible to lure you into downloading the attachment to find more information. View the red flags in the November phishing scenario here.

To understand the official MC broadcast email communication channels please review the guidelines here. The most common sending domains are **mcemail.org**, and **IT Communications@montgomerycollege.edu.**

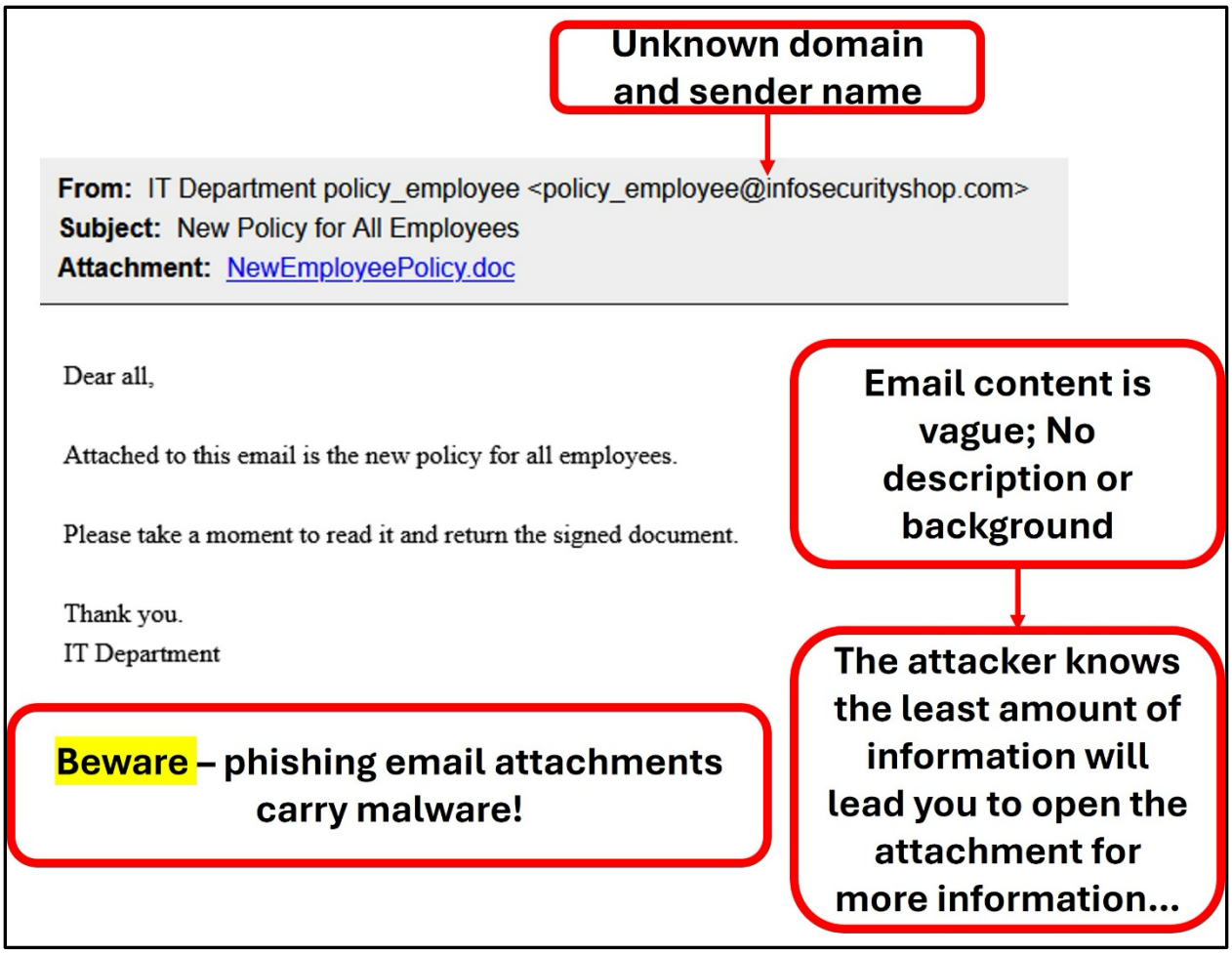
Good News

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

Opportunities for Improvement

54 employees clicked on the attachment.

If you suspect an email may be a phishing attempt, let IT Security analyze the email for you by REPORTING the email using the report phishing button.


Unknown domain and sender name
From: IT Department policy_employee <policy_employee@infosecurityshop.com>
Subject: New Policy for All Employees
Attachment: NewEmployeePolicy.doc
Dear all,
Attached to this email is the new policy for all employees.
Please take a moment to read it and return the signed document.
Thank you.
IT Department
Email content is vague; No description or background
The attacker knows the least amount of information will lead you to open the attachment for more information...
Beware – phishing email attachments carry malware!