

OSINT and Social Engineering Awareness – Ghana Health Service

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1. Introduction

This report details an OSINT (Open Source Intelligence) investigation conducted on the Ghana Health Service to identify publicly available information that may pose a risk in social engineering attacks. The purpose is to raise awareness and strengthen cybersecurity posture.

2. Methodology

The following tools and techniques were used:

- **whois:** To extract domain registration data
- **theHarvester:** To gather emails, hosts, and subdomains
- **Google Dorking:** Manual search for public files, admin panels
- **Social Media Intelligence:** Review of LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook

All steps were executed on a secured EC2 Ubuntu instance on AWS Cloud.

3. Findings

3.1 EC2 Setup

We created and accessed a cloud-based Ubuntu EC2 instance to run the OSINT tools securely.

📸 EC2 Instance Summary

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 Instances summary page. On the left, there's a sidebar with navigation links like Dashboard, EC2 Global View, Events, Instances (selected), Instance Types, Launch Templates, Spot Requests, Savings Plans, Reserved Instances, Dedicated Hosts, Capacity Reservations, Images, AMIs, and AMI Catalog. The main content area shows a table of instances:

Name	Instance ID	Instance state	Instance type	Status check	Alarm status
Phishing-Lab	i-0e7011c9b870424dd	Terminated	t2.micro	-	View alarms
OSINT-Analyzer	i-08b412dc4ed91c447	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks passed	View alarms

Below the table, there's a detailed view for the OSINT-Analyzer instance, showing its Public IPv4 address (44.201.195.31), Private IPv4 addresses (172.51.83.114), and Public DNS. The instance state is listed as "Running".

3.2 SSH Login

SSH was used to connect to the EC2 instance using a secured key pair.

📸 SSH Login Terminal

The screenshot shows a macOS terminal window with the following text output:

```

Downloads -- ubuntu@ip-172-31-83-114: ~ -- ssh -i sdq.pem ubuntu@44.201.195.31 -- 157x41
The authenticity of host '44.201.195.31 (44.201.195.31)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:8sg2D3YGTWegFRnX17XOqws7/51dyfCbkkNbTjzs34.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '44.201.195.31' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
Welcome to Ubuntu 24.04.2 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.8.0-1029-aws x86_64)

 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management: https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support: https://ubuntu.com/pro

 System information as of Sun Aug  3 17:41:52 UTC 2025

  System load: 0.0      Processes:          105
  Usage of /: 25.4% of 6.71GB   Users logged in:    0
  Memory usage: 20%           IPv4 address for enX0: 172.31.83.114
  Swap usage: 0%
 
 Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.

 0 updates can be applied immediately.

 Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
 See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status

 The list of available updates is more than a week old.
 To check for new updates run: sudo apt update

 The programs included with the Ubuntu system are free software;
 the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
 individual files in /usr/share/doc/*copyright.

 Ubuntu comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by
 applicable law.

 To run a command as administrator (user "root"), use "sudo <command>".
 See "man sudo_root" for details.

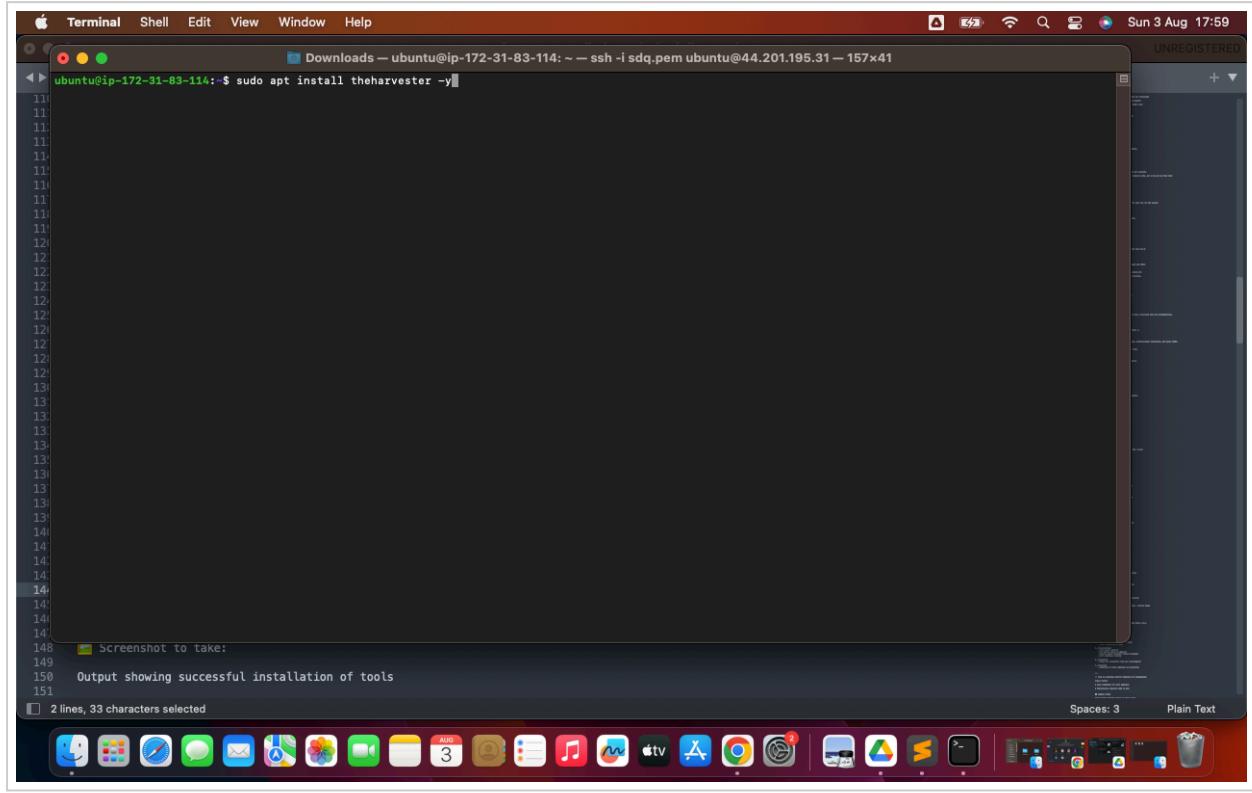
ubuntu@ip-172-31-83-114:~$ 

```

3.3 Tool Installation

We updated the system and installed OSINT tools including whois, dnsutils, theHarvester, and Python packages.

💡 Installed OSINT Tools



A screenshot of a macOS desktop environment showing a terminal window. The window title is 'Terminal'. The command entered is '\$ sudo apt install theharvester -y'. The output shows several lines of text, including 'Output showing successful installation of tools'. The terminal window has a dark theme. The desktop background is visible behind the window, showing a dark interface with various icons. The status bar at the bottom right of the screen shows the date and time as 'Sun 3 Aug 17:59'.

3.4 Whois Data

Command: whois ghanahealthservice.org

Results: Admin contact, registrar, DNS servers, and creation/expiry details were found.

📸 Whois Output

```
[ubuntu@ip-172-31-83-114: ~]$ ls
[ubuntu@ip-172-31-83-114: ~]$ cd theHarvester
[ubuntu@ip-172-31-83-114: ~/theHarvester]$ whois ghanahalthservice.org
Domain Name: ghanahalthservice.org
Registry Domain ID: 9d921348a01c45dd83c521c706cd8aa38-LROR
Registrar WHOIS Server: http://whois.godaddy.com
Registrar URL: http://www.whois.godaddy.com
Updated Date: 2024-10-13T17:16:27Z
Creation Date: 2004-08-29T17:15:54Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2025-08-29T17:16:54Z
Registrar: GoDaddy.com, LLC
Registrar IAN ID: 146
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: abuse@godaddy.com
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1-480-624-2505
Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientDeleteProhibited
Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientRenewProhibited
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited
Domain Status: clientUpdateProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientUpdateProhibited
Registry Registrant ID: REDACTED
Registrant Name: REDACTED
Registrant Organization: Domains By Proxy, LLC
Registrant Street: REDACTED
Registrant City: REDACTED
Registrant State/Province: Arizona
Registrant Postal Code: REDACTED
Registrant Country: US
Registrant Phone: REDACTED
Registrant Phone Ext: REDACTED
Registrant Fax: REDACTED
Registrant Fax Ext: REDACTED
Registrant Email: REDACTED
Registry Admin ID: REDACTED
Admin Name: REDACTED
Admin Organization: REDACTED
Admin Street: REDACTED
Admin City: REDACTED
Admin State/Province: REDACTED
Admin Postal Code: REDACTED
Admin Country: REDACTED
Admin Phone: REDACTED
Admin Phone Ext: REDACTED
Admin Fax: REDACTED
Admin Fax Ext: REDACTED
Admin Email: REDACTED
Registry Tech ID: REDACTED
Tech Name: REDACTED
Tech Organization: REDACTED
```

3.5 Email and Subdomain Enumeration

Command: theHarvester -d ghanahalthservice.org -l 100 -b bing

Results: Several subdomains and email addresses were discovered via Bing API.

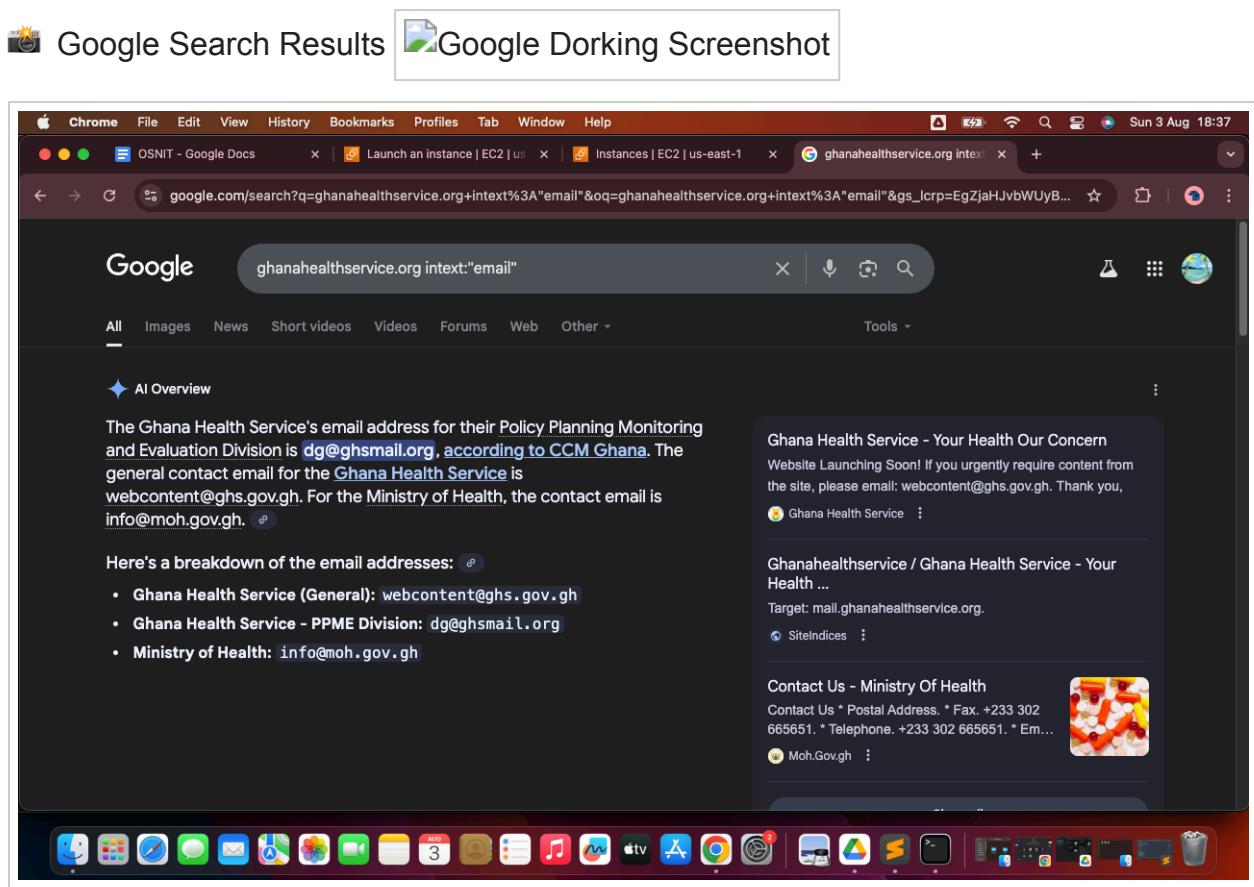
 theHarvester Output

3.6 Google Dorking

Manual searches using:

- site:ghanahealthservice.org filetype:pdf
 - site:ghanahealthservice.org inurl:admin
 - site:ghanahealthservice.org intext:"email"

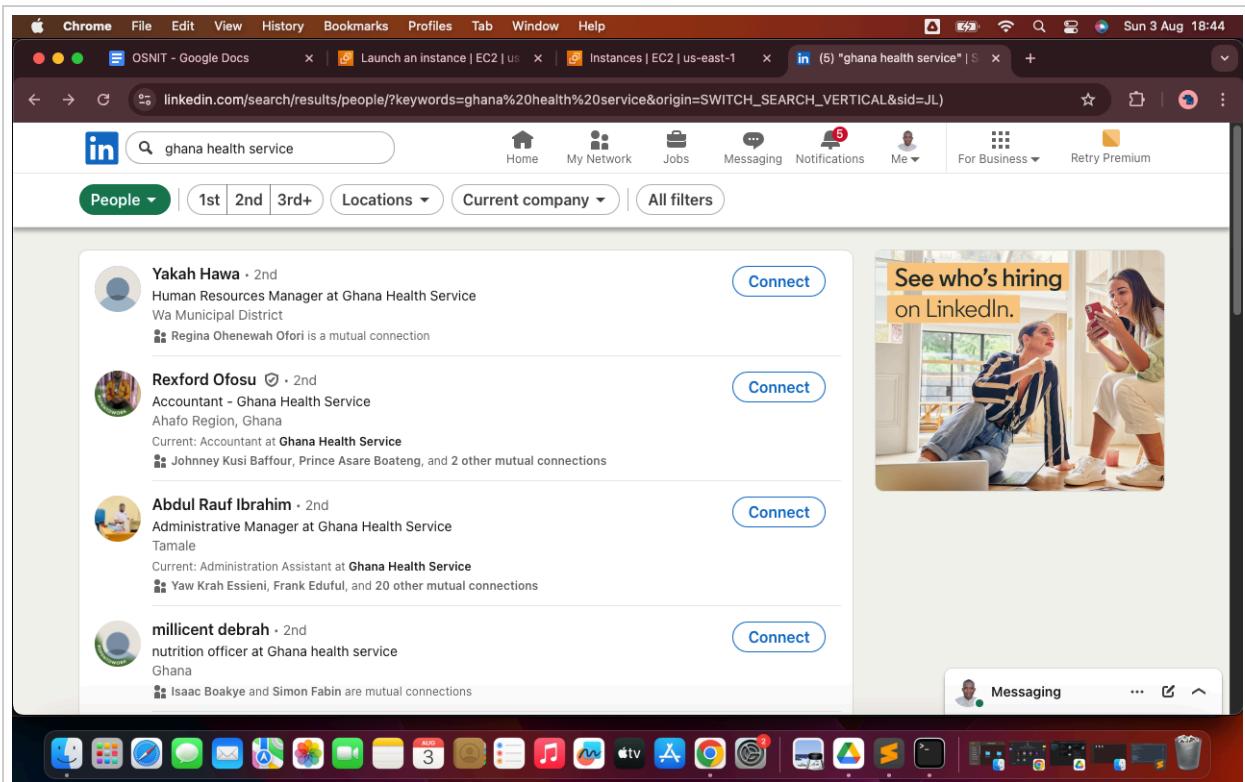
These queries revealed downloadable public documents, some containing metadata like authorship and revision info.



3.7 Social Media Intelligence

- **LinkedIn:** Found employee names and job titles
- **Twitter:** Found public emails and announcements
- **Facebook:** Found team photos and event postings

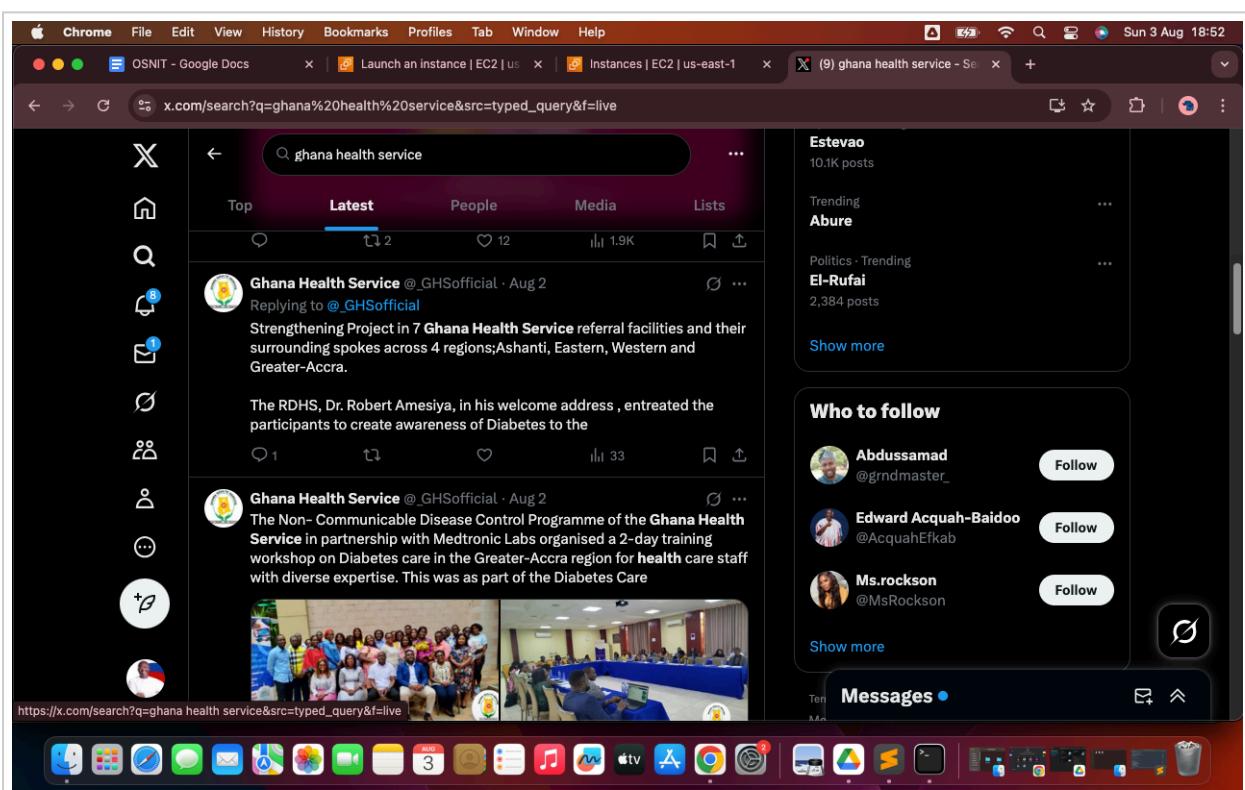
Social Media Posts



The screenshot shows a LinkedIn search results page for the query "ghana health service". The results list four profiles:

- Yakah Hawa** - 2nd
Human Resources Manager at Ghana Health Service
Wa Municipal District
Regina Omenewah Ofori is a mutual connection
- Rexford Ofosu** - 2nd
Accountant - Ghana Health Service
Ahafo Region, Ghana
Current: Accountant at **Ghana Health Service**
Johnny Kusi Baffour, Prince Asare Boateng, and 2 other mutual connections
- Abdul Rauf Ibrahim** - 2nd
Administrative Manager at Ghana Health Service
Tamale
Current: Administration Assistant at **Ghana Health Service**
Yaw Krah Essieni, Frank Eduful, and 20 other mutual connections
- millicent debrah** - 2nd
nutrition officer at Ghana health service
Ghana
Isaac Boakye and Simon Fabin are mutual connections

Each profile has a "Connect" button. To the right of the profiles is a promotional image for LinkedIn hiring.



The screenshot shows an X.com search results page for the query "ghana health service". The results include tweets from the official account @GHSofficial:

- Ghana Health Service @ GHSofficial** · Aug 2
Replying to @GHSofficial
Strengthening Project in 7 **Ghana Health Service** referral facilities and their surrounding spokes across 4 regions; Ashanti, Eastern, Western and Greater Accra.
- Ghana Health Service @ GHSofficial** · Aug 2
The RDHS, Dr. Robert Amesia, in his welcome address, entreated the participants to create awareness of Diabetes to the

On the right side, there is a sidebar titled "Who to follow" featuring profiles of users like Estevo, Abure, El-Rufai, and others, each with a "Follow" button. There is also a "Messages" section at the bottom.

The screenshot shows the X (Twitter) search results for "ghana health service". The search bar at the top contains the query. Below it, there are tabs for "Top", "Latest", "People", "Media", and "Lists", with "Top" being selected. A sidebar on the left features various icons for navigation. The main content area displays two tweets. The first tweet is from "Disease Surveillance Dept_GHS" (@DSD_GHS), which is a "Following" account. It states: "The Official account of Disease Surveillance Department, Ghana Health Service." The second tweet is from "U.S. Embassy Ghana" (@USEmbassyGhana), posted on Jun 18. It says: "Today, the United States, in partnership with the **Ghana Health Service**, officially commissioned 10 cutting-edge liquid oxygen plants across 7 regions—marking the largest investment in oxygen infrastructure in **Ghana's history**. These plants are reliable, efficient, and ready—even Show more". Below the tweets is a preview of a photo showing a yellow and blue patterned umbrella and a large industrial oxygen plant. The interface includes a "Location" filter set to "Anywhere" and "Near you", and a "Live on X" section showing a live broadcast by "ChannelOne TV". The bottom of the screen shows the Mac OS Dock with various application icons.

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for "Ghana Health Service". The page profile picture is the same as the one on the X page. The bio reads: "Health through its governing Council - the Ghana Health Service Council.". The page has 14K followers. A post from the page on August 3, 2025, celebrates "WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2025" from August 1st to 7th. The post includes a green graphic with the text "WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK 2025" and "1ST - 7TH AUGUST, 2025". The interface includes a sidebar with links to other pages and a dark mode header.

4. Risk Analysis

- Exposed staff emails can be used for phishing attacks.
- Admin URLs increase the risk of brute-force attacks.
- Public metadata from PDF/doc files can reveal internal authorship and systems.
- Employee names and roles aid social engineering and impersonation attacks.

5. Recommendations

- Remove or obfuscate admin URLs from public-facing pages.
- Use generic email addresses (e.g., info@domain.com) where possible.
- Scrub metadata before uploading public files.
- Conduct staff training on phishing and impersonation tactics.

6. Screenshots

All relevant screenshots from the investigation are embedded at appropriate points in the report above.

7. Conclusion

This OSINT assessment demonstrates how publicly available data can aid cyber attackers in launching social engineering campaigns. It highlights the importance of securing digital footprints and raising awareness among staff on privacy best practices.

Appendix: Investigation Steps Summary

1. Launch EC2 (Ubuntu)
2. SSH into EC2 using key
3. Update system packages
4. Install whois, dnsutils, theHarvester
5. Run whois on target domain
6. Run theHarvester to collect emails
7. Use Google Dorking techniques
8. Check LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook for info
9. Take screenshots of findings
10. Analyze risks and compile report