

Project 1: Phishing Awareness Simulation

Internship Project 1 – Cyber Security Domain

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Overview of Phishing Awareness Simulation:

Phishing Awareness Simulation is a cybersecurity training method designed to **educate users about phishing attacks** by exposing them to safe, controlled, and realistic simulations. Instead of learning only through theory, users experience firsthand how phishing emails and fake websites operate, helping them recognize warning signs in real-world scenarios. In a typical phishing awareness simulation:

- **Simulated Phishing Emails** are sent to employees or students, mimicking real attacker strategies.
- **Fake Login Pages** are created to resemble popular services (e.g., email, social media, corporate portals).
- **User Responses** are tracked, including whether they clicked the link, attempted to log in, or reported the suspicious activity.
- **Credential Capture (Simulation Only)** allows the system to log entered details for training purposes, without exposing users to real threats.
- **Redirection** ensures users are taken to the legitimate website afterward, maintaining realism while avoiding disruption.

The goal of such simulations is not to punish users but to raise awareness and improve security behavior. By safely experiencing phishing tactics, users learn to:

- Identify suspicious emails and links.
- Avoid entering credentials on untrusted sites.
- Develop a security-first mindset in daily digital interactions.

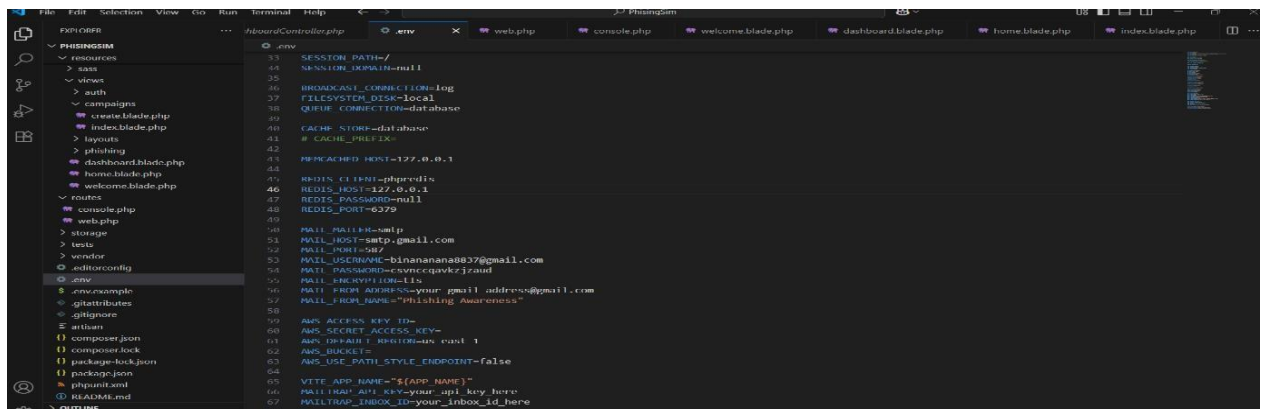
Overall, phishing awareness simulations provide organizations with valuable insights into employee readiness, while empowering individuals to recognize and resist phishing attempts more effectively.

Project 1: Phishing Awareness Simulation

Task 1: Develop a Phishing Awareness Simulation platform in Laravel with email sending via Mailtrap /Gmail.

Description:

The platform was developed using Laravel. Mailtrap/Gmail is configured in '.env' to test sending phishing simulation emails safely.



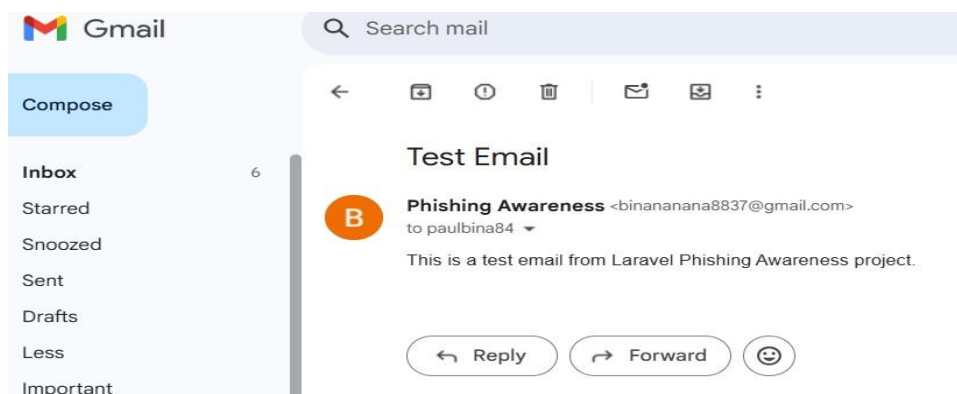
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43 SESSION_PATH=/
44 SESSION_DOMAIN=null
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46 BROADCAST_CONNECTION=log
47 FILESYSTEM_DISK=local
48 QUEUE_CONNECTION=database
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50 CACHE_STORE=database
51 # CACHE_PREFIX=
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53 PREPARED_HOST=127.0.0.1
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Project Structure



```
47 REDIS_PASSWORD=null
48 REDIS_PORT=6379
49
50 MAIL_MAILER=smtp
51 MAIL_HOST=smtp.gmail.com
52 MAIL_PORT=587
53 MAIL_USERNAME=binananana8837@gmail.com
54 MAIL_PASSWORD=csvnccqavkzjzaid
55 MAIL_ENCRYPTION=tls
56 MAIL_FROM_ADDRESS=your_gmail_address@gmail.com
57 MAIL_FROM_NAME="Phishing Awareness"
```

Mailtrap/Gmail Configuration



Test Email Success

Task 2: Implement full CRUD for campaign management.

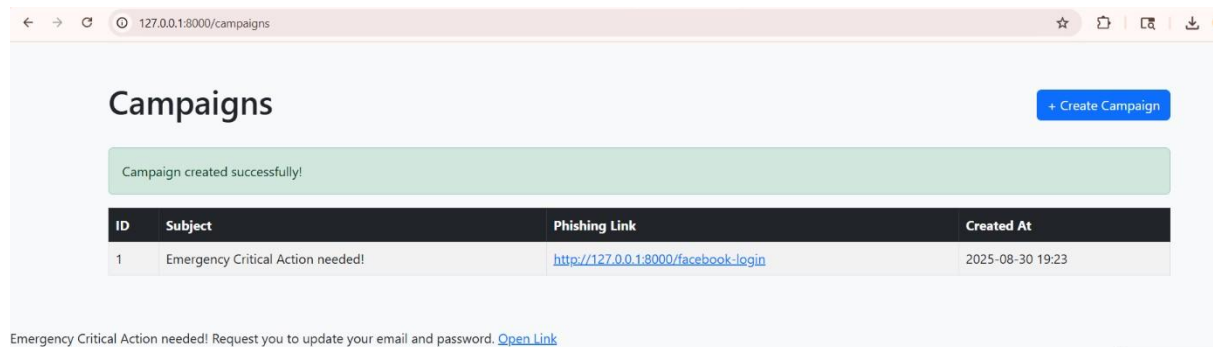
Description:

Campaign management was implemented using the CampaignController in Laravel.

Currently, the system supports:

Create: Users can create new phishing simulation campaigns via a form.

Read (List): Users can view the list of all created campaigns.



Campaign List Page

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `127.0.0.1:8000/campaigns/create`. The page title is "Create New Campaign". The form contains the following fields:

- Subject:** A text input field containing "Emergency Critical Action needed!".
- Email Body:** A text area containing "Request you to change your email and password."
- Phishing Link:** A text input field containing `http://127.0.0.1:8000/facebook-login`.

At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: a green "Create Campaign" button and a grey "Cancel" button.

Campaign Create Form

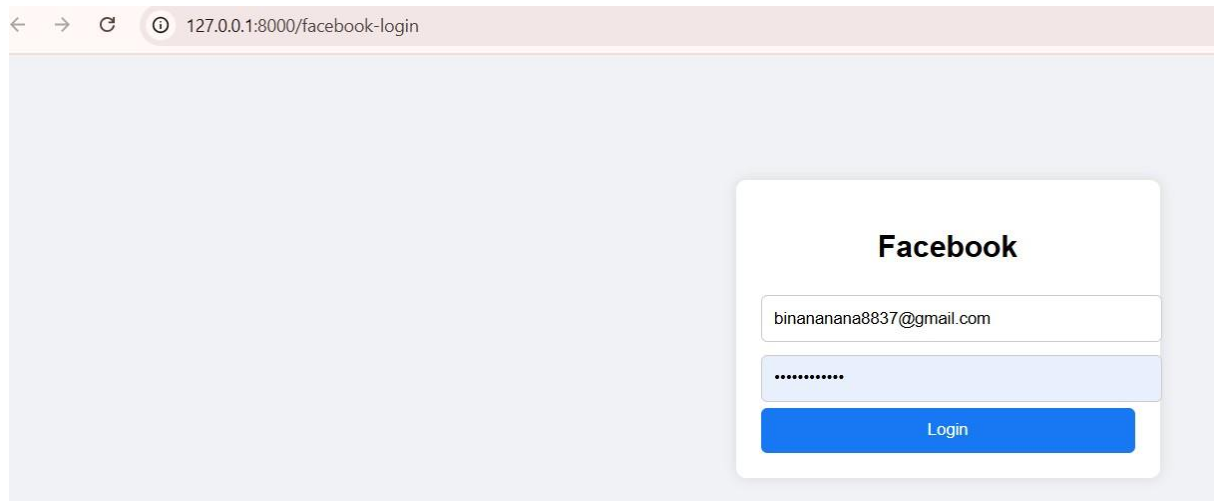
Task 3: Simulated Phishing Login Page

Description:

When a user submits credentials through the simulated phishing login page, the following sequence occurs:

1. **Credentials Capture** – The entered email/username and password are captured.

2. Database Logging – The details are securely stored in the phished_credentials table.
3. Attempt Logging – Each login attempt is logged for awareness tracking.
4. Redirection – After submission, the user is redirected to the real Facebook login page to complete the simulation realistically.



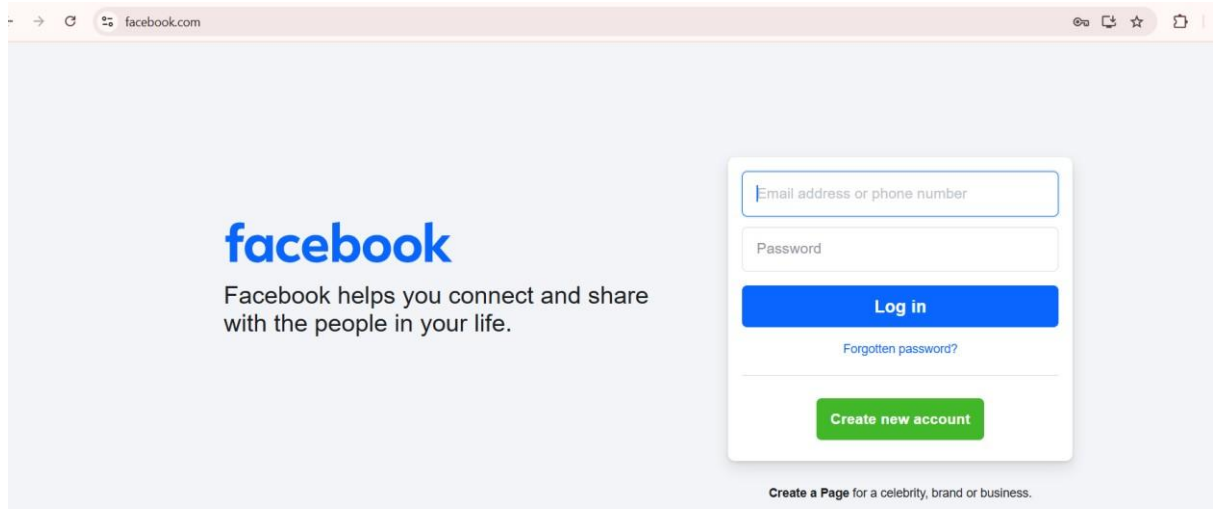
Facebook Login Page



Captured Credentials

ID	Email / Username	Password	Captured At
1	user	12345	2025-08-29 23:37:29
2	binananana8837@gmail.com	#qwerty88370	2025-08-29 23:46:19

Database Credential Table



Redirection to Real Facebook Page

Conclusion:

This project successfully demonstrates a controlled **Phishing Awareness Simulation System** developed using Laravel. The platform is designed to educate and train users in recognizing phishing attempts within a safe environment.

- Simulated phishing emails are sent to targeted users.
- Clicking the embedded link directs users to a mock login page.
- Any entered credentials are securely captured and stored in the local database for analysis.
- To maintain realism, users are then redirected to the legitimate website. By mimicking real-world phishing scenarios, this system helps employees or students better understand how phishing attacks operate, recognize red flags, and adopt safer online practices.