

Anti-Phishing SMS (APS) System



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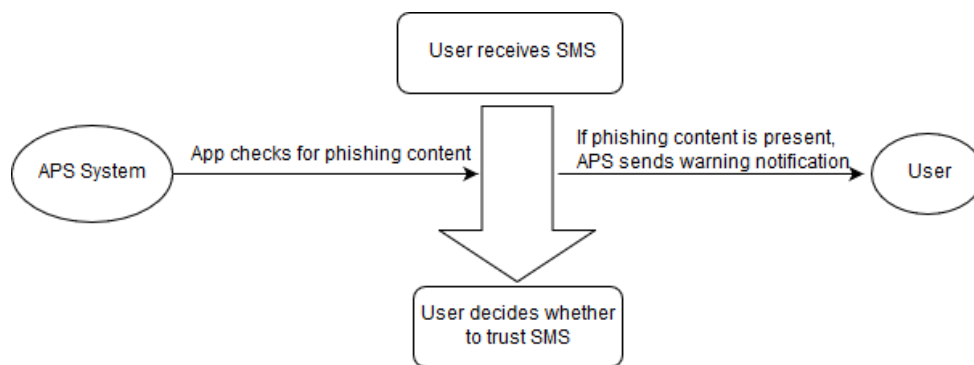
8 DAYS

SINGAPORE – There was an increase in all forms of cyber threats last year, with phishing attacks topping the list and surging by almost 10 times, according to the latest annual report by the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA) released on Tuesday (June 19).

Fig 1. Screenshot of a news article describing the rise in cyber threats.

The APS system is a project under the Security and Enforcement theme and is a platform that helps combat cyber threats involving phishing attacks. With rising cyber threats in Singapore and phishing attacks seeing the biggest jump in 2018, there should be efforts made to help mitigate this problem.

The APS system aims to become a new layer of cybersecurity protection that uses machine learning techniques to detect plausible phishing SMS messages and flags them out with reasons for suspicions, which can also help to educate users on what to spot for phishing signs and to enable them to make more well-informed decisions with valuable information provided by this system.



Currently, effort is focused on educational platforms that teaches manual detection for phishing attempts. Furthermore, these platforms may not be highly utilized due to reasons like laziness or complacency. The APS system acts as an additional layer that protects users regardless of their proficiency in manually detecting phishing attempts and allows them to make more well-informed decisions when it comes to trusting SMS messages.

The target audience is non-tech-savvy individuals like elderlies who cannot detect phishing messages, although everyone with access to phone messaging functionalities would also be able to benefit from valuable information provided by the APS system.

The type of data to be used will include phishing emails because it is publicly available, however further data refinements may be required since messages are shorter and phishing content is usually largely similar to legitimate ones.