Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)

Version: 13

Topic: Phishing Email Attack by GoPhish Platform

■ This report is prepared strictly for academic and authorized lab purposes only

Table of Content

Executive Summery

The primary objective of this study is to demonstrate how phishing attacks are designed, executed, and monitored using GoPhish, while highlighting the risks such attacks pose to organizations. The assignment explores the full phishing lifecycle, including campaign planning, email template creation, landing page configuration, target user selection, and real-time tracking of user interactions such as email opens, link clicks, and credential submissions.

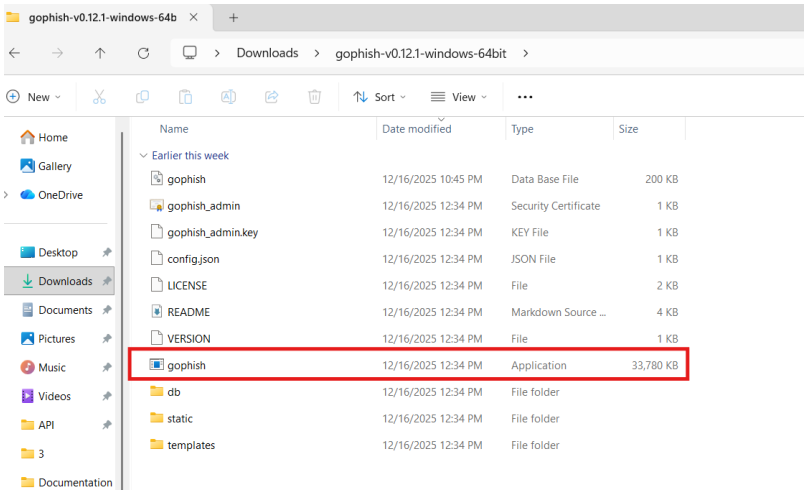
Theoretical Background

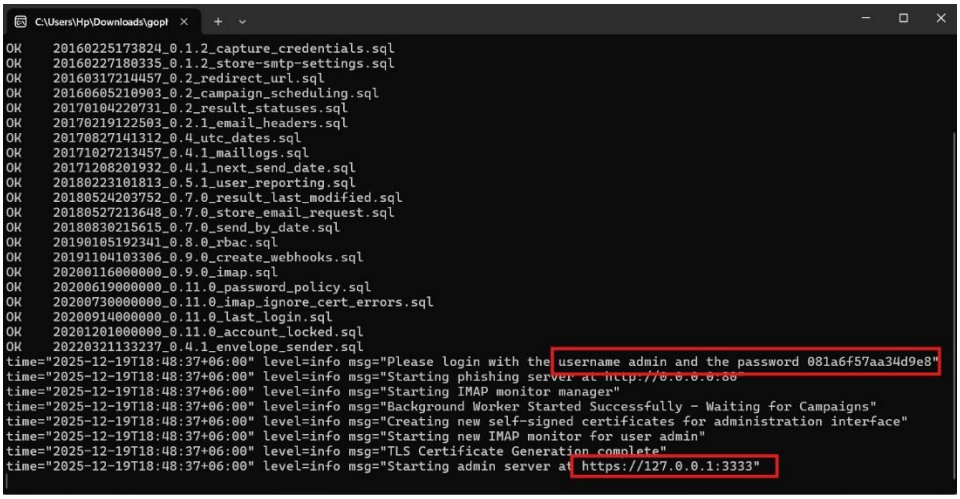
Phishing attacks can be categorized into several types, including generic phishing**,** spear phishing**,** whaling**,** and clone phishing**.** Each type varies in complexity and target specificity but shares the same fundamental goal: tricking users into performing actions that compromise security. The effectiveness of phishing highlights the human element as one of the weakest links in information security.

- In a controlled lab environment
- On intentionally Execute Phishing Email via GoPhish Platform
- For academic and training purposes only

Methodology

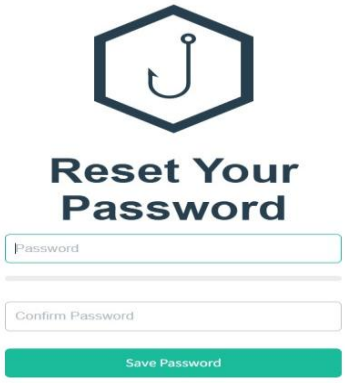
Step:1 We will download Gophish Tools / Application from Internet and Unzip the file and run the Application file
url for download: https://getgophish.com/



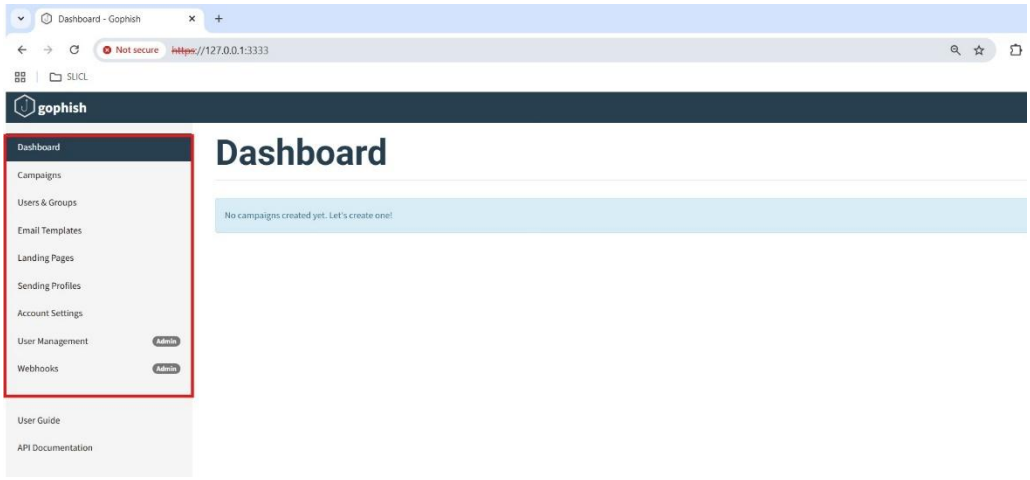


You will get a dynamic Username: admin & Password: **** and Local Server IP which is https://127.0.0.1:3333

After Successful login with Dynamic user & Password you will get a UI for reset password after first login

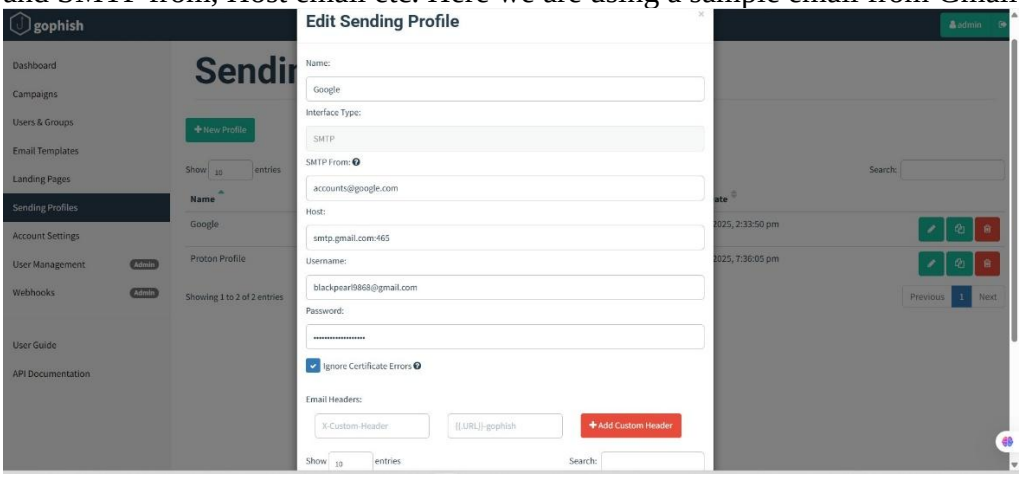


Make sure use a Strong password, After Reset password you will get Gophish Home / UI

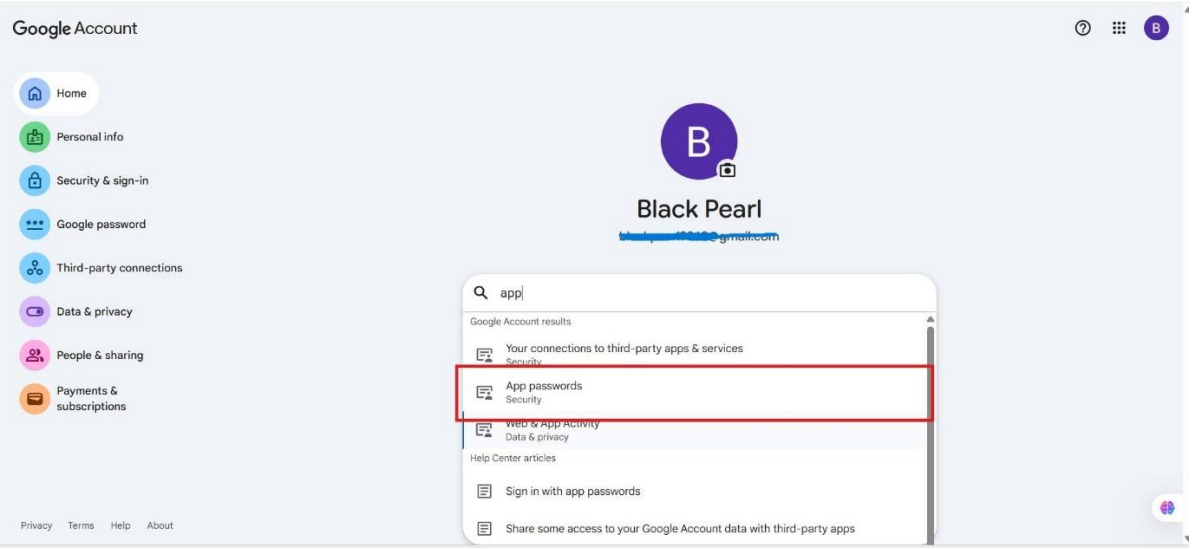


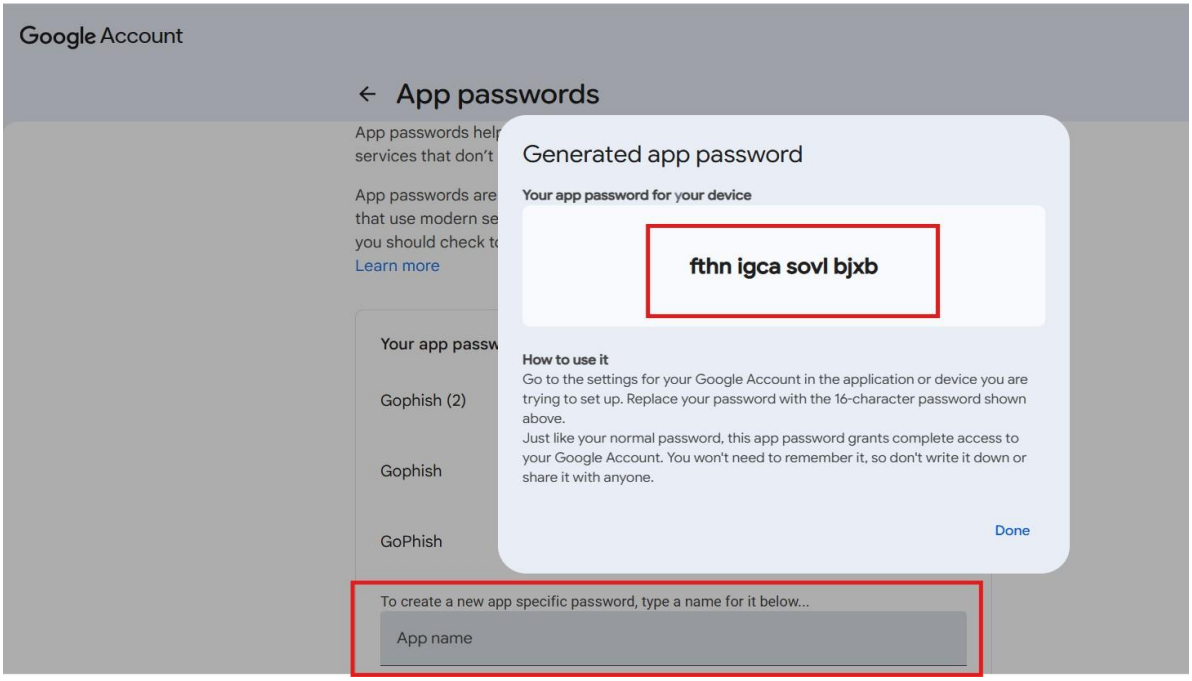
Step:2 After Login, now we will configure step by step all the Menu. First Sending Profile > Landing Page > Email Templates > User & Groups > Campaign.

Sending Page: A sending page is include by which email address is using for the Phishing Email and SMTP from, Host email etc. Here we are using a sample email from Gmail platform



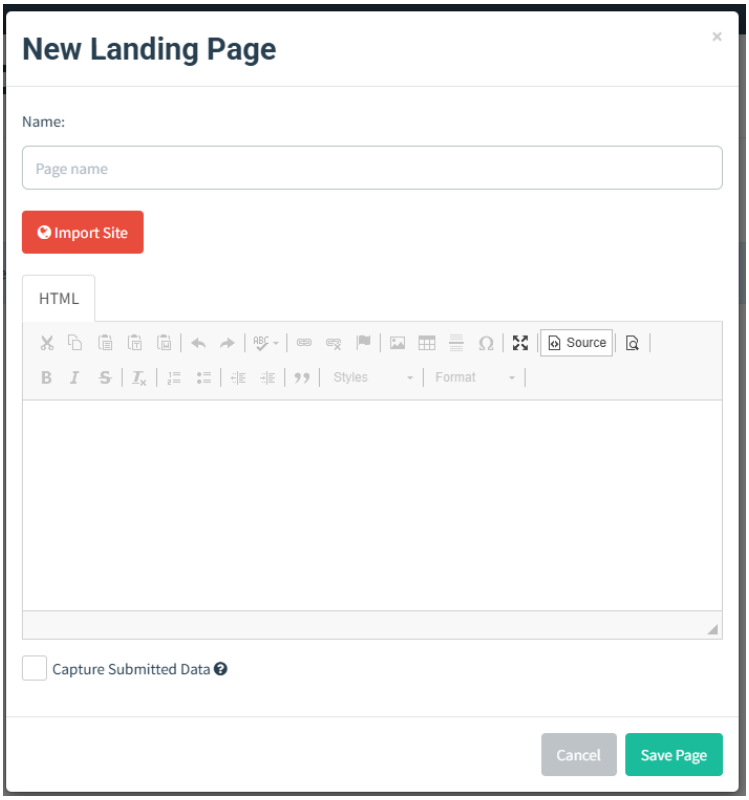
Here> Name is : Google (you can config whatever you wants)
Interface Type: by default SMTP
SMTP from: as we are using google platform > accounts@google.com
Host: smtp.google.com:465
Username: ****@gmail.com [as we are using gmail account]
pass: This password is App password which is generate from Particular Gmail Accounts Menu



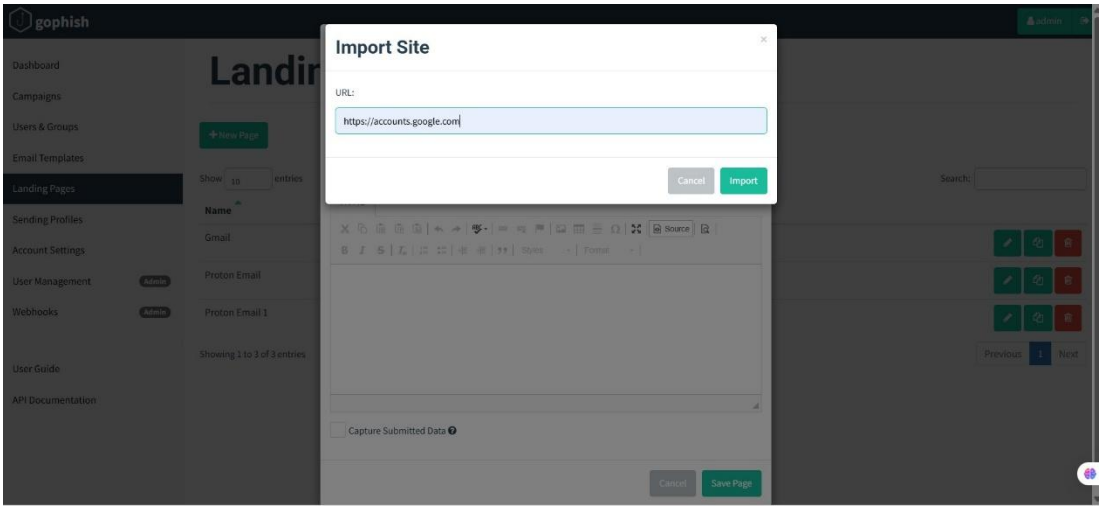


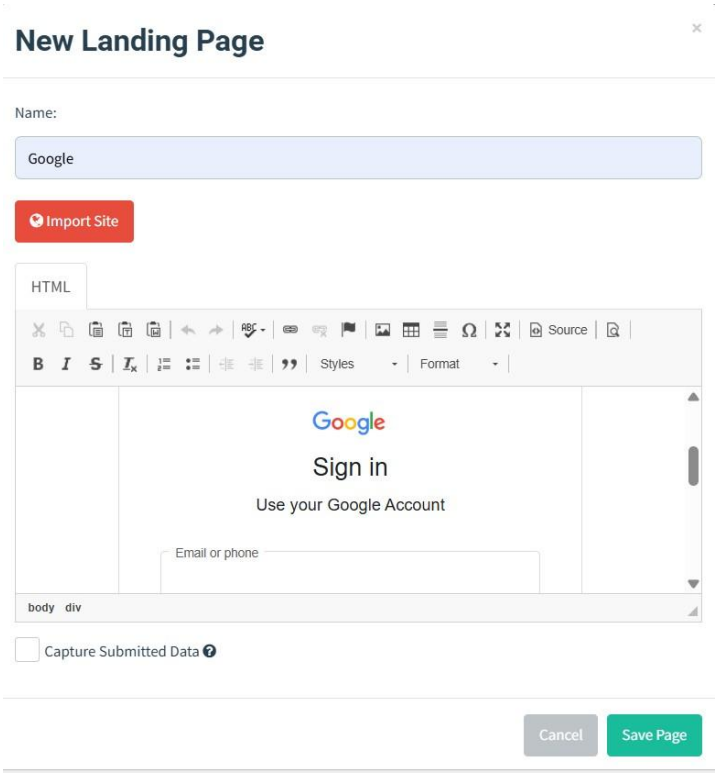
N:B > Must be enable 2 Step Verification in Google Accounts otherwise you will not be able generate App Password.

Step:3 Now we will configure Landing Page [This is most important part of Gophish platform]
Landing Page: A landing page is include a Site that Target will redirect after click the Email Link that you are going to send.

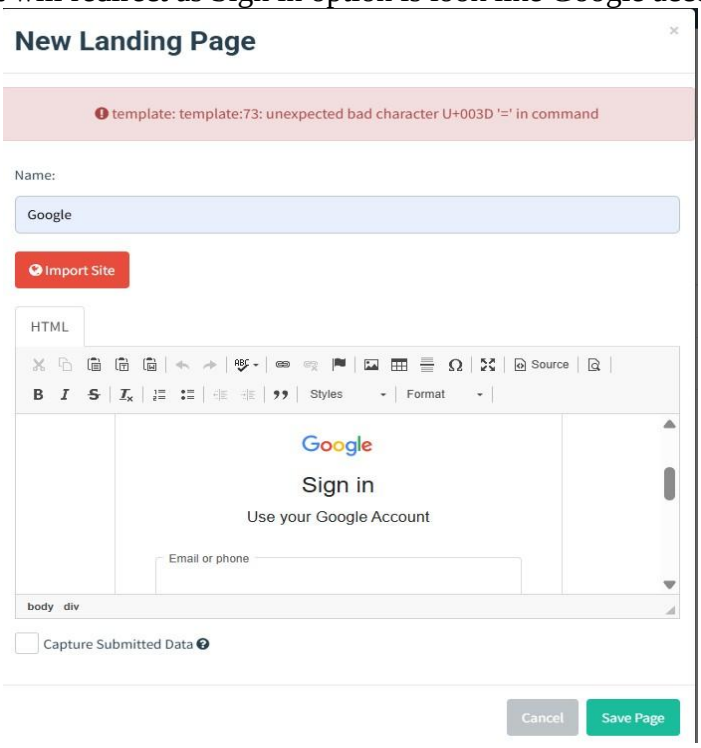


Here, Name> As you you like.
You can add a HTML code if you have one or you can import a HTML code from a link, we will use 2 html code. One is from direct link which is Gmail platform and another is own writing a html code exactly look like Proton Mail platform

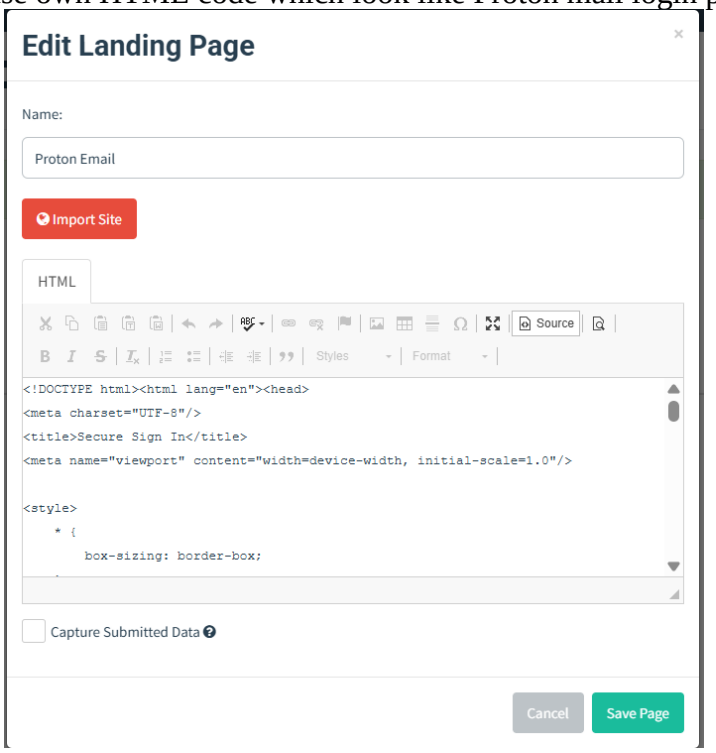


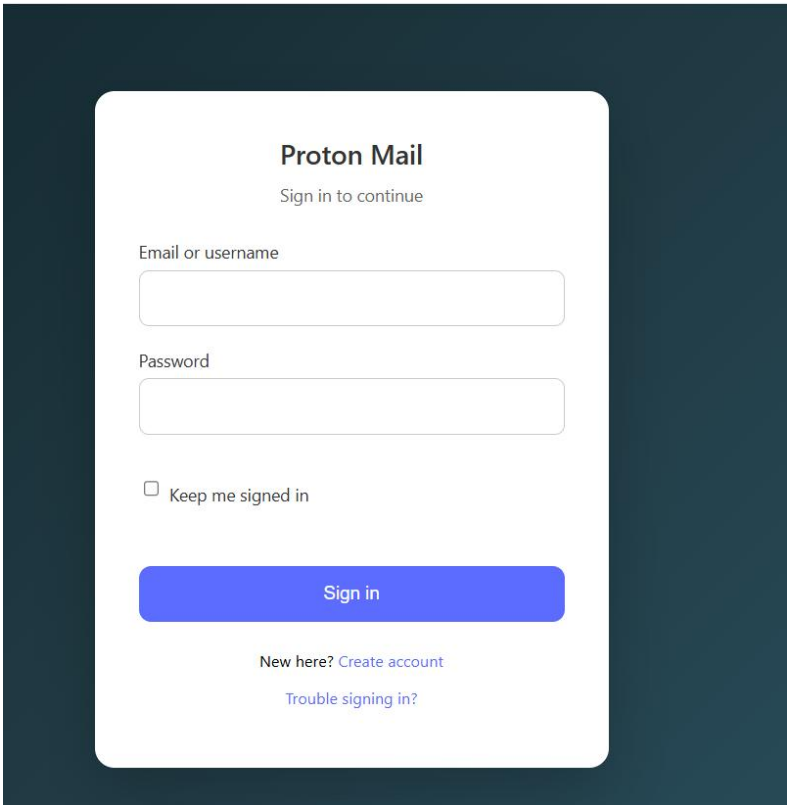


And Save page. Sometimes it will give you error, If not you can save page and after target click the email link it will redirect as Sign in option is look like Google account.

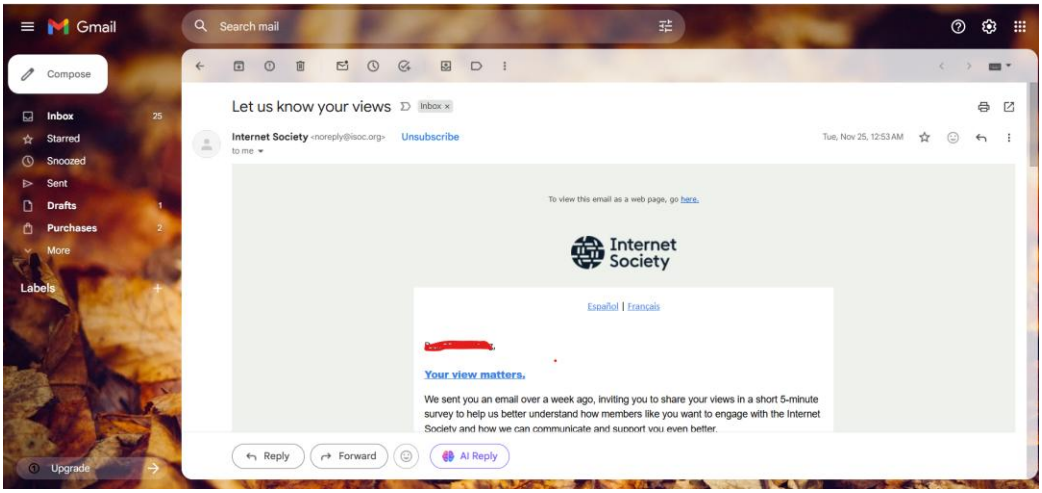


Another One we will use own HTML code which look like Proton mail login page.

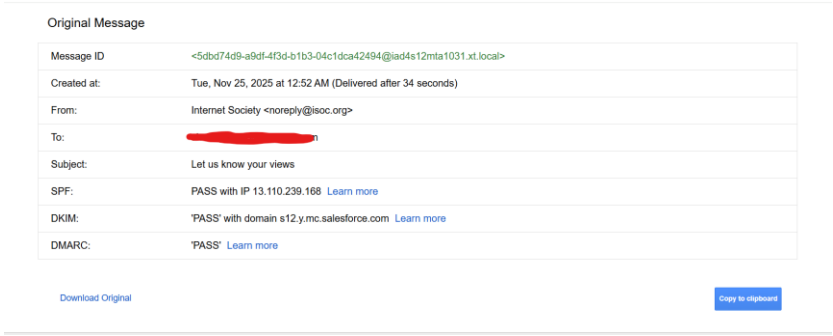




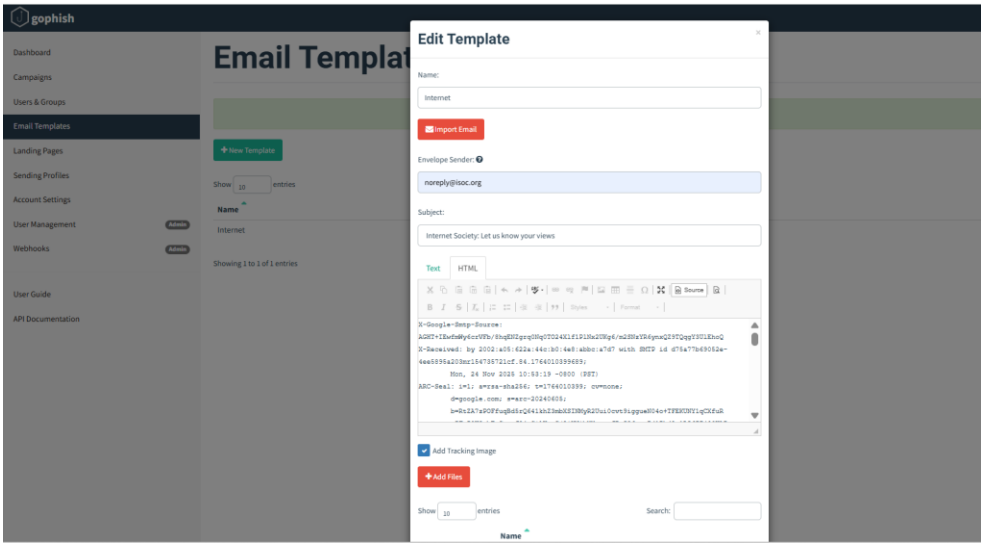
Step 3: Once, Landing Page is configured, we will configure Email template. You can generate Email template from several source, Like Here will Generate a Email Template from Real Google account and import it our Gophish platform.



This a email which are internet Society and we will use this temaplte fro our own. So here we need the code which will find out by > Top bottom you are seeing three dots > show original > copy clipboard.

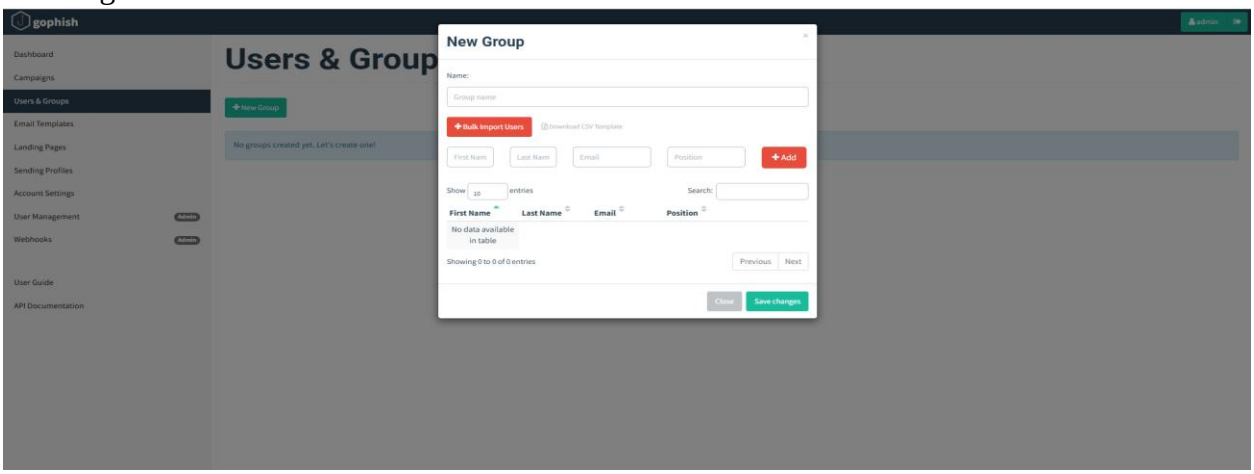


Paste it as in our Gophish platform >



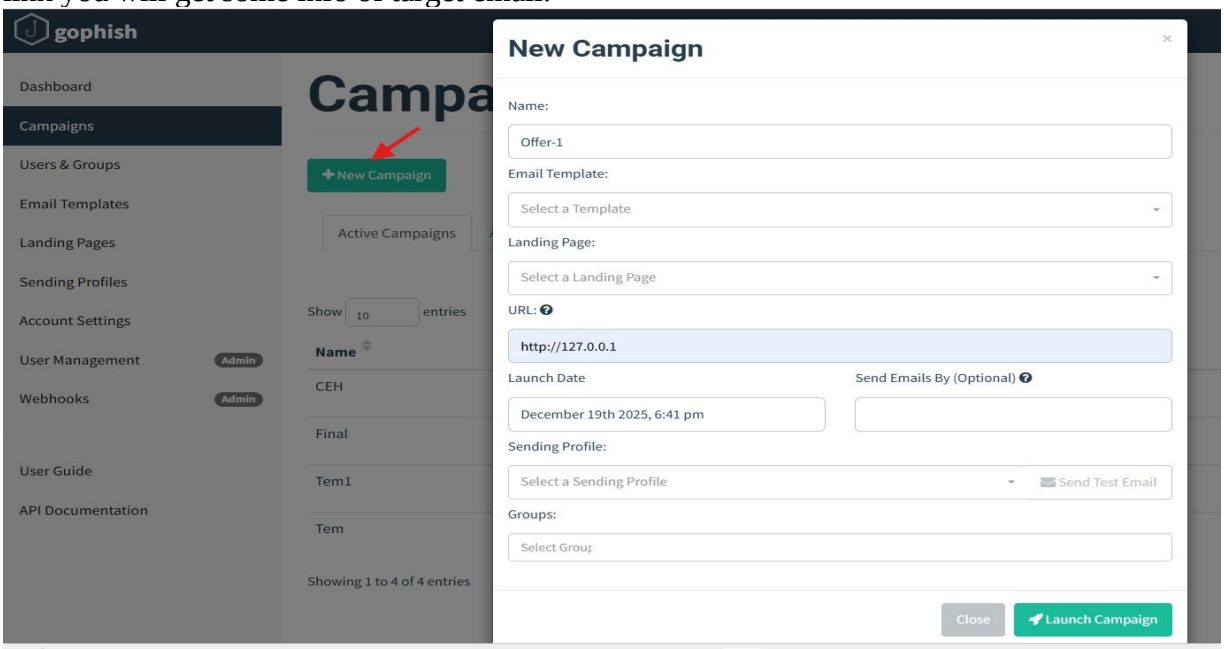
Here> Name: add a name
Envelop Sender: As it was from internet society
Subject: As it was from Email Subject or you add config as your own Subject that will look like real.
HTML code: copy paste from ***show original***.

Step 4: Now we will configure User & Groups. This is included in which email you want to send Phishing Email.

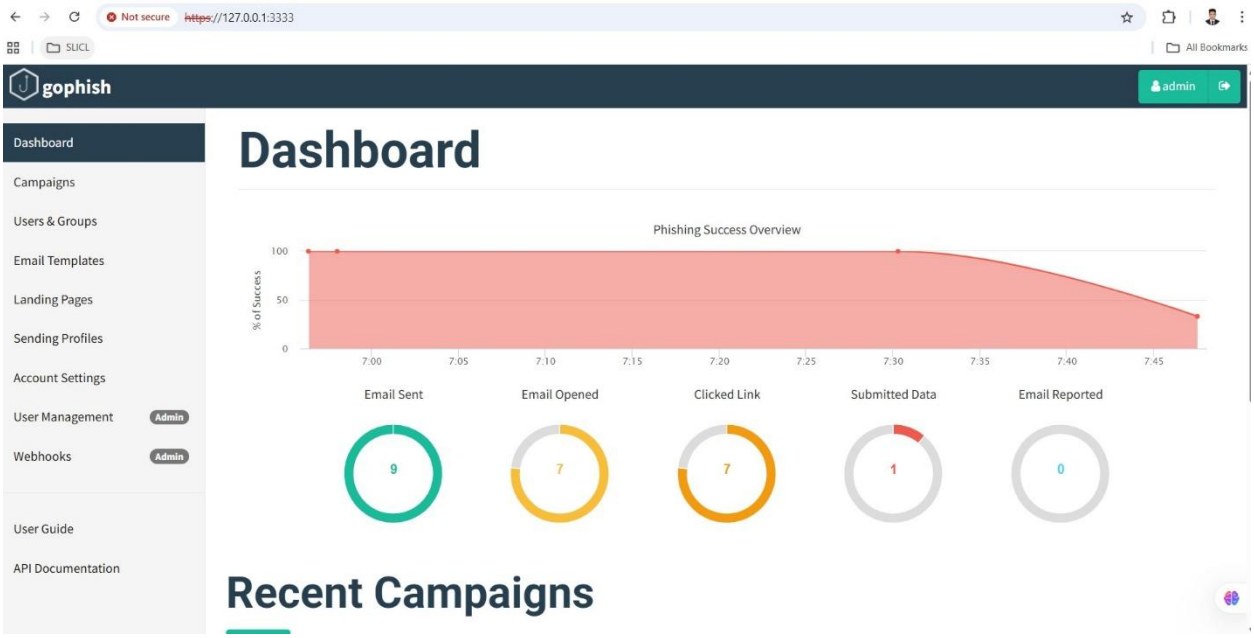


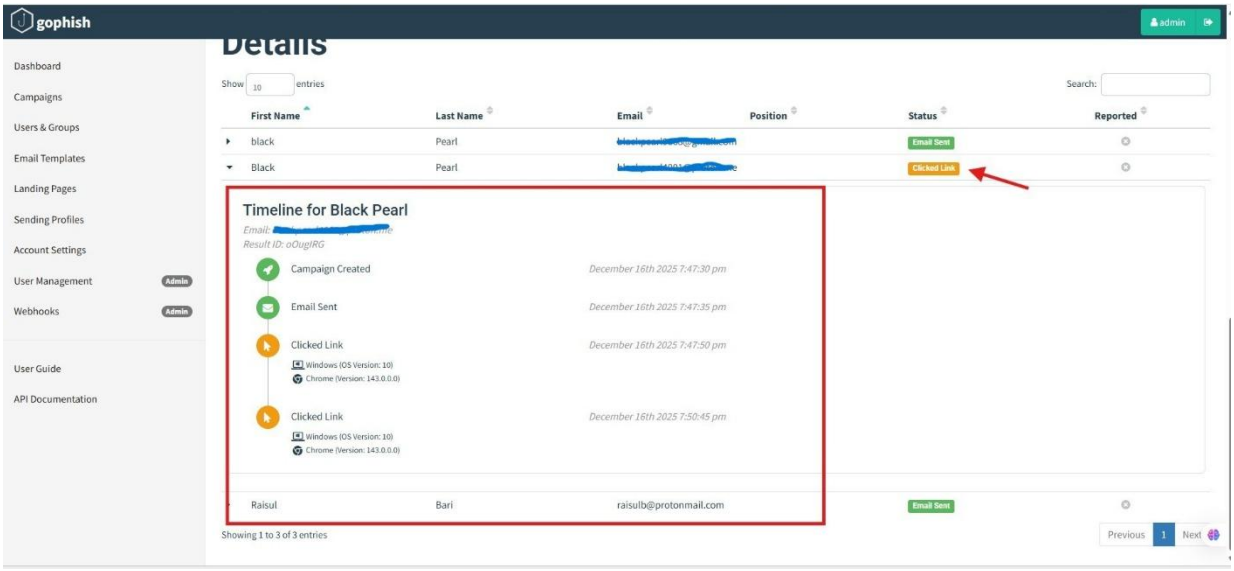
You can add Multiple Email address by +Add.

Step 5: Now we will Configure a Campaign which will include Sending Page> Landing Page > Email Template > User & Groups. After Successfully Configured all the items, Target Email will get a Email from your real Email but Redirect to your Own Landing Page and After clicking any link you will get some info of target email.



Step 6: Once Campaign Generate, you will get a Dashboard Like below, Including How Many Emails you have send, how many Target Has open the email and click your redirect link.





Remediation:

Regular security awareness training, focusing on how to identify phishing emails, suspicious links, and fake login pages. Employees should be trained to verify sender addresses, avoid clicking unknown links, and report suspected phishing attempts immediately.
Organizations should strengthen email security controls, including spam filters, email gateways, and authentication mechanisms such as SPF, DKIM, and DMARC. Implementing **Multi-factor authentication (MFA)** can significantly reduce the impact of compromised credentials obtained through phishing.

Conclusion

Phishing email attacks remain a critical cybersecurity threat due to their reliance on human behavior rather than technical vulnerabilities. This assignment demonstrated how the GoPhish platform can be used to simulate real-world phishing attacks in a controlled and ethical manner. The findings show that user awareness plays a vital role in preventing phishing incidents. In conclusion, combining phishing simulations, user training, and strong technical controls is essential for reducing phishing risks and strengthening an organization's overall security posture.

Reference: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yes4oc046hY