



# Email Fraud Spoofing and Phishing Risks

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*Non-proprietary content- Safe for external audience*

# Who am I

## Background

- Role: Director of Engineering
- Studied Computer Science
- Projects:
  - SMBfs on Unix
  - Networking
  - IPv6
  - Virtualization
  - VoIP
  - Systems Engineering
  - Data Processing
  - Email

## Places I've worked



| FONALITY

Return Path

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# Proofpoint, Inc. (NASDAQ: PFPT)

Cybersecurity Company

- Based in Sunnyvale, CA
- Offices worldwide
- Founded in 2002

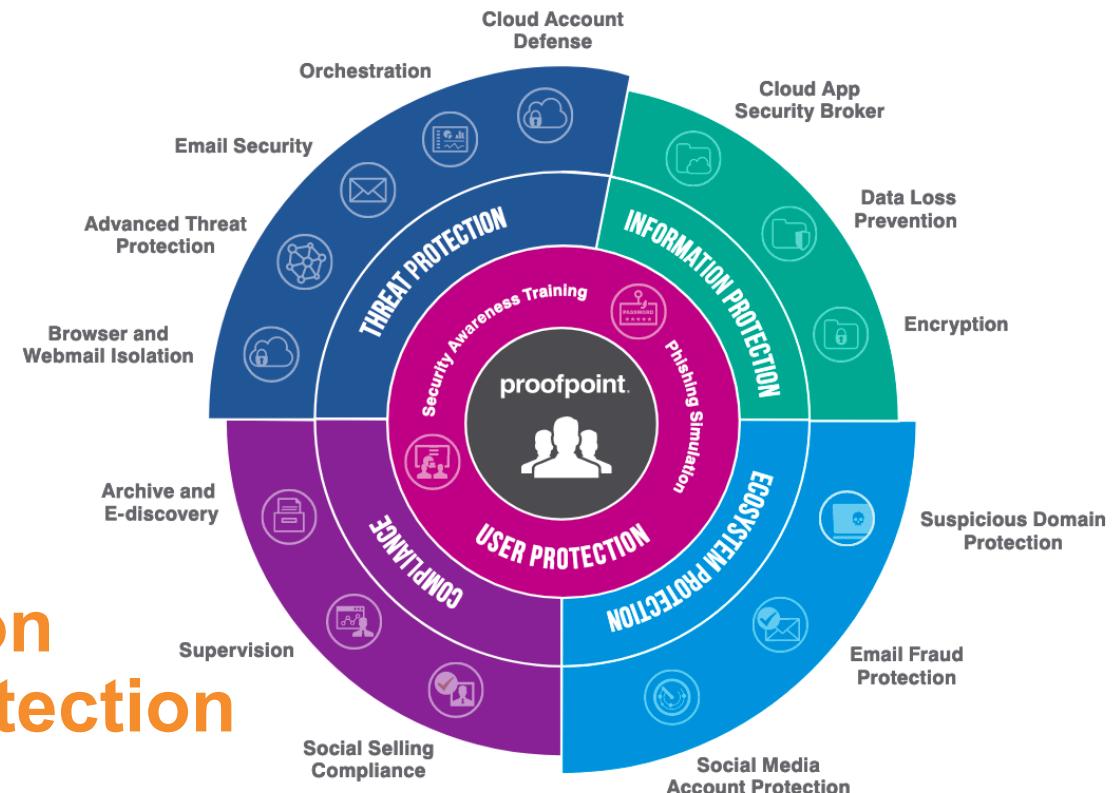


2019 Best Cybersecurity Company  
(between 1,000 to 4,999  
employees)



Most Important Cybersecurity  
Companies of the Last 30 Years

**Threat protection**  
**Information protection**  
**User protection**  
**Compliance**  
**Ecosystem protection**



# Email 101

SMTP

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# **SMTP**

Simple  
Mail  
Transfer  
Protocol

- TCP Port 25 (smtp)
- TCP TLS Port 465, 587 (smtps)
- RFC 821 (1982)
- RFC 5321 (2008)

# STMP - Conversation

```
telnet mxa-00148501.gslb.pphosted.com 25
Trying 10.20.0.200...
Connected to mxa-00148501.gslb.pphosted.com.
Escape character is '^]'.
220 binky.us.proofpoint.com ESMTP Sendmail 8.14.4/8.14.4; Thu, 25 Oct 2018 08:41:54 -0700
MAIL FROM: bounces@colorado.edu
250 2.1.0 bounces@Colorado.edu... Sender ok
RCPT TO: gcolburn@proofpoint.com
250 2.1.5 gcolburn@proofpoint.com... Recipient ok
DATA
354 Enter mail, end with "." on a line by itself
From: "Darth Vader" vader@thesith.net
Subject: Training

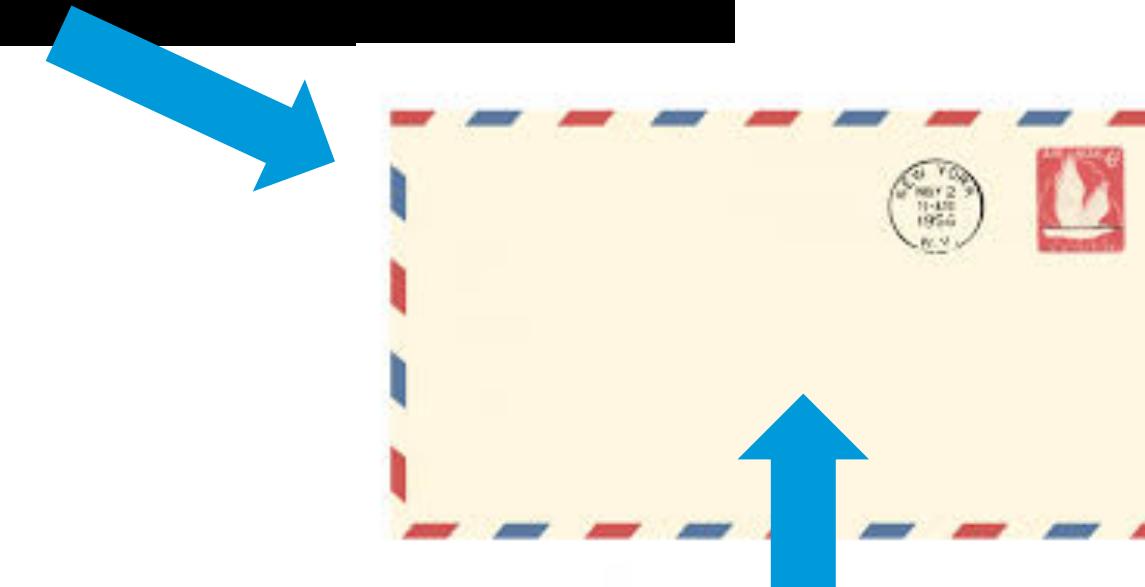
Greetings young apprentice! Please practice your Force skills!
.

250 2.0.0 w9PFFs9P006487 Message accepted for delivery
QUIT
221 2.0.0 binky.us.proofpoint.com closing connection
```

# SMTP – Envelope

MAIL FROM: bounces@colorado.edu

250 2.1.0 bounces@colorado.edu... Sender ok



RCPT TO: gcolburn@proofpoint.com

250 2.1.5 gcolburn@proofpoint.com... Recipient ok

# SMTP - Letter

## DATA

354 Enter mail, end with "." on a line by itself

From: "Darth Vader" [vader@thesith.net](mailto:vader@thesith.net)

Subject: Training

Greetings young apprentice! Please practice your Force skills!

.

250 2.0.0 w9PFfs9P006487 Message accepted for delivery

## Training

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Greetings young apprentice! Please practice your Force skills!

Darth Vader

Reply-to: vader@thesith.net

# Email Authentication

SPF, DKIM

# Sender Policy Framework (SPF)

**"Path Verification" - Who is authorized to sender for Envelope From**

Who = IP Address of Sender

Envelope From = bounces@Colorado.edu

hostname	TXT
colorado.edu	"v=spf1 ip4:128.138.1.0/24 ip4:128.138.48.0/20 ip4:128.138.64.0/18 ip4:128.138.128.0/17 ip4:204.228.68.242 ip4:132.194.255.30 include:_spf1.colorado.edu ~all"
spf1.colorado.edu	"v=spf1 ip4:216.69.106.22 ip4:216.177.90.7 ip4:13.111.53.159 ip4:198.37.147.217 include:_spf.google.com include:spf.protection.outlook.com ~all"

# Domain Keys Identified Mail (DKIM)

**Sign parts of header and body to ensure message does not change in transit**

```
DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; c=relaxed/relaxed;  
d=colorado.edu; s=google;  
h=mime-version:references:in-reply-to:reply-to:from:date:message-  
id:subject:to;  
bh=HiR8NYGGGywdx5d9XCaoNbeJJf5mpP0RWD16R2Q3SkY=;  
b=cVCA+uqkH92Enx6mcgVtbohDjntC0UtnM/X6LHQYhYzERTwpo4FsWprYY/DTKHrLJR  
f+QlD1ITDzQZtRjdpYU6ApSa+oomXEsj6z1ZU9zlecEYYEQBOVF79GEENBuY0+Wh+xrb  
QPgdVXavIIXc81tV76HSMSfcSR1MwczPFYsRRFACTCcuZM5zAhYZD3krnjesulxQwT  
f2ErAoV9gLmRfL19m0f1KLwP6gYnW04bddf94bLKnuD8D7avuVhMqbh0oko0kt7R5v+j  
PGgG+sP8tZgNOXAcWoaaDxx2nVZB2ILRnL4iy9ScL2XqRePirNf30EA31Hrrcqo0Rp1Lw  
Ff+w==
```

# Domain Keys Identified Mail (DKIM)

hostname	TXT
google._domainkey.colorado.edu	"v=DKIM1; k=rsa; p=MIIBIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAOCAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEAiB9xMzToz+El7o DglrlHbZk7Tmz0cfxNPR5nzZSAeKBWIH7DMt/FiVG" "E8C2Qhgrqad3OMAddixm9s4UyztMWj5rXql0IK+ALH5JdVCPuNAXHHLXF1B 4QizNj6PKVVcAJ6hnvuslV7hKDv4+9zUVJa2FSrgrEUeockpSmN6cJB2q" "Wlef6xYKN1IEDCg/4Q8OmDiiu5RaB+lzFDrAE9vTrKKa58Ms8QcX4TRF1f9kzV vrpEMGdOk6d6v0Zmva/bLV0Hr/79keJZuDOa1KQp/KQVDssHVuPAuwVG6PS O6AwT7DWpMoUPJm5moIMblo2/ldg9BsTUW4DWBGZfG85q55QIDAQAB"

# Email Spoofing

DMARC

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# Problem: No relationship between letter and envelope

## DMARC

Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting & Conformance

hostname	TXT
_dmarc.thesith.net	empty
_dmarc.colorado.edu	"v=DMARC1; p=none; pct=100; rua=mailto:dmarc_agg@vali.email; sp=none; aspf=r;"
_dmarc.proofpoint.com	"v=DMARC1; p=reject; sp=reject; fo=1; rua=mailto:dmarc_rua@emaildefense.proofpoint.com; ruf=mailto:dmarc_ruf@emaildefense.proofpoint.com"

# DMARC

## Policy applied to traffic

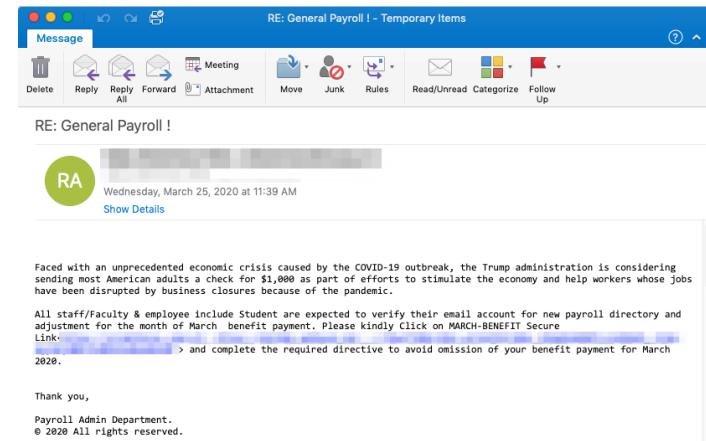
- If SPF pass and SPF align
  - Or --
- If DKIM Pass and DKIM Align
  - Then apply policy to email specified by p= flag in DMARC record.

# Covid-19

# COVID-19 Payment lures

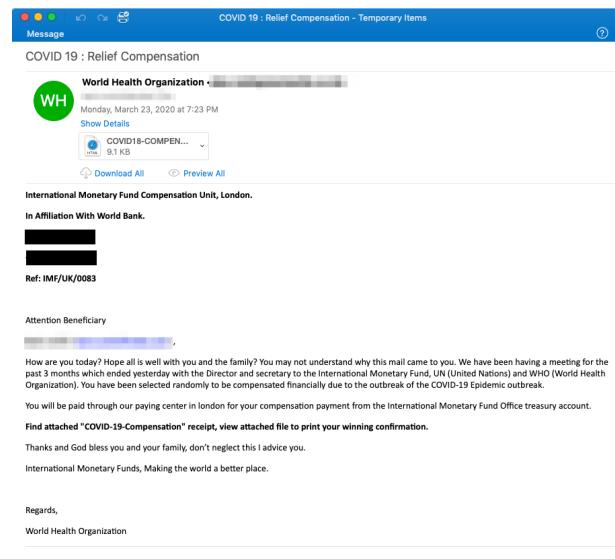
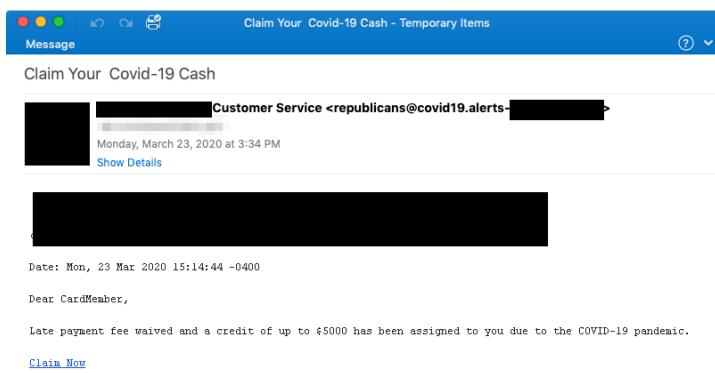
## Governments

*Recipients are directed to verify their information for the “new payroll directory” by clicking the malicious link in the email.*



## Credit Card Companies

*“Claim Your Covid-19 Cash”*



## Nonprofits Organizations

*“been randomly selected to be compensated financially due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 Epidemic outbreak”*

# Protect yourself

1. Be aware that you are at risk
2. Be wary of any emails, text messages, social media communications, or phone calls you receive that promise stimulus payments.
3. Don't provide your bank account number, usernames/passwords, social security number, or other personal information in response to any online requests — and avoid clicking on email links.
4. Create unique usernames and passwords for each account.
5. Verify websites are legitimate.
6. Avoid disinformation with multiple sources.

Ref: <https://www.proofpoint.com/us/security-awareness/post/six-ways-protect-yourself-covid-19-payment-fraud-attempts>



**We're hiring**

[gcolburn@proofpoint.com](mailto:gcolburn@proofpoint.com)

<https://www.proofpoint.com/careers>

A professional man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark suit, is looking thoughtfully at a tablet he is holding in his hands. He is positioned in front of a window with a view of a city skyline at night. The overall color palette is blue-toned.

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