Task-2 Analyze a Phishing Email Sample

- Objective: Identify phishing characteristics in a suspicious email sample.
- Tools: Email client or saved email file (text), free online header analyzer.

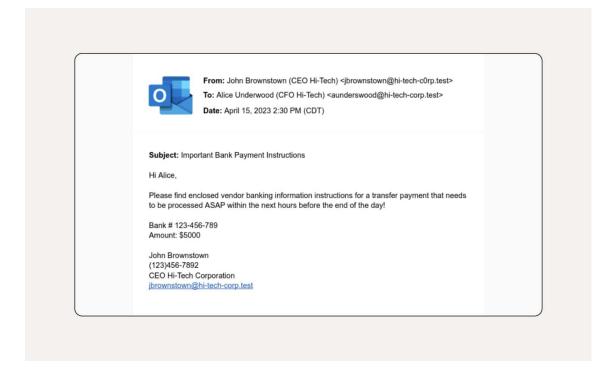
What is Phishing?

Phishing is a type of online scam where cybercriminals trick individuals into revealing personal information, like passwords or credit card details, by disguising themselves as legitimate organizations or individuals. They often use fake emails, websites, or messages that appear to be from trusted sources.

Phishing Email

This is the example of a Phishing Email that we are going to look into.

https://us.norton.com/blog/online-scams/phishing-email-examples



Key Points that make this Email a Phishing Email

1. Fake Email Address

- The email is from: jbrownstown@hi-tech-c0rp.test
- The domain looks similar to a real one (like hi-tech-corp.com) but uses a zero (0) instead of the letter "o" a common trick used by scammers.
- It tries to appear legit by using a real-sounding name and company, but it's just a look-alike.

2. Urgent and Pushy Language

- The message pressures the recipient to act "ASAP before the end of the day."
- This kind of urgency is meant to make someone rush and skip normal checks.

3. Unusual Request for Money

- It asks for a \$5000 payment to a bank account, but:
 - o There's no invoice.
 - o No explanation for why the payment is needed.
 - No confirmation process or approval steps.
- This is classic phishing just trying to get someone to wire money fast.

4. Looks Basic and Unprofessional

- There's **no company logo**, branding, or professional formatting.
- The signature just says "CEO Hi-Tech Corporation" with a phone number and email, but nothing else you'd normally see in an executive email (like a disclaimer, confidentiality notice, etc.).

5. Tricky Display Name

- It shows "John Brownstown (CEO Hi-Tech)" as the sender's name.
- That seems convincing but it doesn't match the **real company email domain**.