

Cybersecurity Internship Task Report

Task Title: Phishing Simulation using GoPhish

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◆ Objective

To perform a realistic phishing simulation using GoPhish, targeting a sample recipient group and tracking user behavior to raise awareness about phishing attacks.

◆ Tools & Resources Used

- **GoPhish:** Open-source phishing toolkit
- **Mailtrap:** Fake SMTP testing service for sending test emails (used due to lack of access to a real SMTP server)
- **VS Code + Git:** For maintaining code snippets and configuration
- **ScreenRec:** For capturing screen recordings (no watermark)
- **GitHub:** For maintaining project documentation and deliverables

◆ Limitations & Workaround

□ I was **not provided access to a real SMTP server**, so I used [Mailtrap.io](https://mailtrap.io) to simulate email delivery, which is suitable for demo/testing environments.

◆ Steps Taken

Step 1: Setup GoPhish Locally

- Downloaded the GoPhish binary and extracted it.
- Ran the server using `.\gophish.exe` on Windows.
- Accessed the GoPhish dashboard at `https://127.0.0.1:3333`.

Step 2: Configure Mailtrap as Sending Profile

- Created a fake SMTP inbox in Mailtrap.
- Used provided SMTP credentials:
 - Host: sandbox.smtp.mailtrap.io
 - Port: 587
 - Username & Password: From Mailtrap settings
- Verified that test emails were successfully sent using Mailtrap's test button.

Step 3: Created Required Campaign Assets

- **Email Template:** Created a realistic phishing email named “Salary Update Notice” with a link to a fake HR portal.
- **Landing Page:** Designed a fake login page mimicking an HR portal named “HR Portal Fake Login”.
- **Groups:** Created a group with 3 dummy users (first name, last name, and email).
- **Sending Profile:** Configured to send via Mailtrap's SMTP.

Step 4: Ran a Test Campaign

- Launched the campaign using the created assets.
- Emails were successfully sent and visible in Mailtrap inbox.
- Clicking the link led to the landing page (although redirect URL was not set, which resulted in a blank page).

Note:

The analysis dashboard did **not track email opens or link clicks** due to:

- Mailtrap is a safe testing environment and doesn't execute external scripts like image tracking (used for open detection).
- The landing page had **no redirect URL**, resulting in a blank screen and no credential capture.

◆ Results

- **Emails Sent:** 3
- **Emails Opened:** 0 (due to Mailtrap limitations)
- **Links Clicked:** 0
- **Credentials Captured:** 0
- **Campaign Analysis:** Partial (emails sent, but no behavioral data due to testing limitations)