Interview - Teilnehmer 1:

I: Wie war so dein Eindruck von den Warnungen? Waren sie sofort auffällig?

B: Generell cool. Die waren halt erstmal so ein bisschen woanders, was es so ein bisschen unübersichtlich gemacht hat, gefühlt.

I: Genau, also das war ja so, um ein bisschen Variation reinzubringen, um dann mit dem Eye-Tracking zu schauen, wie sich die Blickpfade verhalten.

B: Ja, verstehe. Also diese Animation hilft da glaube ich enorm. Es zieht auf jeden Fall die Aufmerksamkeit auf sich, das fand ich cool. Effektiv geht es ja denk ich mal auch wahrscheinlich darum, so verschiedene Möglichkeiten auch zu testen, was funktioniert und was nicht.

Was ich generell hilfreich fände ist es zu wissen, schon bevor ich die E-Mail anklicke, dass die Email potentiell suspicious ist. Weil, gut, ich weiß nicht, ob ich jetzt hier schnell genug wäre, irgendwas zu tun im Zweifel, weil die Animation kommt natürlich auch recht fix und hier wäre ich daran gehindert zum Glück. Aber es ist so ein bisschen so, okay, ich schaue es mir erst an und dann sagt mir das E-Mail-Programm was, was es ja vorher schon wusste. Also so aus Sicht von Employee denke ich mir dann, okay, warum habe ich quasi meine Zeit mit der E-Mail verschwendet.

(Teilnehmer klickt sich durch Warnungen, stößt auf generic banner, seite)

Genau, die hier fand ich tatsächlich so ein bisschen unauffällig, weil du halt theoretisch hier den Body hast. Das ist wie so diese, wenn man keinen Adblocker hat, diese Ads am Rand.

I: Interessant, das hätte ich tatsächlich nicht erwartet, dass die nicht auffällt.

B: Genau, weil sich halt auch nicht viel verändert. Also wenn ich jetzt hier hin fokussiere, dann ist es halt wirklich nur in der Peripherie.

I: Wäre wahrscheinlich besser, wenn dann der Text auch zur Seite geschoben wird.

(beziehend auf generic banner, oben)

B: Genau, wie es ja bei dem hier zum Beispiel auch passiert, dass sich alles bewegt. Bei dem hier glaube ich war es ja auch so genau, dass es so reingeht.

I: Und dann... okay, vieles haben wir jetzt eigentlich schon abgedeckt. Also gab es Warnhinweise, die du als besonders hilfreich empfunden hast?

B: Also ich fand den, den ich eigentlich gar nicht gesehen hätte, wenn du es mir nicht gesagt hättest, aber den fand ich super, weil er quasi nochmal das Actionable verhindert. (bezieht sich auf link hover Warnung)

I: Es ist auch hier der einzige Warnhinweis, der erstmal eine Interaktion braucht und dann getriggert wird.

B: Genau. Find ich generell cool.

Bei dem, warte mal, welcher war das jetzt? Irgendeinen fand ich so semi-hilfreich.

Ich glaube der. (generic banner, oben) Genau, das ist er. Also da irgendeine Info, warum, fände ich halt, hilfreich.

I: Genau, dann können wir auch zur nächsten Frage. Es passt ganz gut. Jeder Warnhinweis hatte 2 Versionen (einfach/detailliert). Welche Version bevorzugst du und warum?

B: Also ich persönlich finde Details immer besser. Man muss halt irgendwie, glaube ich, so ein bisschen einen Zwischenweg finden. Also wenn man mal guckt, der ist natürlich riesig. (greeting warnung, detailliert). Wenn ich mir jetzt quasi praktisch einen Einsatz überlege, das hängt jetzt wahrscheinlich dann in jeder meiner E-Mails. Dann ist halt so ein Riesending vielleicht ein bisschen krass. Aber es ist halt trotzdem gut des zu haben.

Also ich glaube, bei denen, die so ein Actionable verhindern, ist auf jeden Fall wichtig, dass man da eine klare Kommunikation hat. (link hover warnung) Weil sonst denke ich mir halt nur so, okay, ja, toll, schön für dich und klicke halt trotzdem drauf, wenn ich nicht noch einen Grund bekomme, warum ich es nicht machen soll.

Aber generell, glaube ich, finde ich mehr theoretisch schon besser.

(beziehend auf signature warnung, detailliert) Genau, auch bei dem da, da ist es mir aufgefallen. Da fand ich das sehr cool in der anderen, die dann auch sagt, wie die normale ist. Denn das ist halt ein Unterschied, der wäre mir auf keinen Fall aufgefallen, also ohne das Ding.

I: Genau, dann nochmal zur Gestaltung der Warnhinweise. Wie beurteilst du die Gestaltung der Warnhinweise (z.B. Farbe, Platzierung, Animationen)? Haben diese deine Aufmerksamkeit beeinflusst? Z.B. die Slide-In Animation?

B: Ja, finde ich gut. Das Einzige, was mir da aufgefallen ist, was vielleicht cool wäre, zumindest bei denen, die sich auf etwas Konkretes beziehen, ist, dass du auch tatsächlich einen Link hast zu dem Element. Weil sonst musst du es halt erstmal lesen und dann wird das schon klar. Aber halt, dass du sowas wie so ein Text-Highlighting hast, im Sinne von hier irgendwie eine Box drum und dann. I don't know, wie man das schlau lösen könnte oder ob das sinnvoll ist. Sonst ist es, glaube ich, cool, weil es halt erstmal so ein Attention Grab ist.

(beziehend auf link hover Warnung) Oder es könnte, ja gut, das ist vielleicht auch ein bisschen over the top. Aber wenn ich jetzt hier quasi da draufgehe und versuche zu klicken, da ist dann pulsiert es im Sinne von, hey, siehst du mich erstmal? Aber das ist vielleicht ein bisschen übertrieben.

- I: Und die Farbe?
- B: Rot ist natürlich immer anstrengend.
- I: Aber gut um die urgency direkt zu erkennen, oder?
- B: Ja, man muss halt immer so ein bisschen abwägen. Es ist ein bisschen schwierig zu lesen, das muss ich schon sagen.
- I: Wie beurteilst du interaktive Elemente in Warnhinweisen (Beispiel Warnung Anrede)?
- B: Sagen wir es so, hättest du es mir nicht gesagt, wäre es mir nicht klar gewesen, das man da drauf klicken kann. Ich finde es cool, dass du diesen Proof quasi hast. Mir müsste als Nutzer aber sehr klar sein, dass das hier dann legit ist. Weil sonst habe ich halt eine neue Quelle von Dingen, wo ich draufklicken soll. Deshalb glaube ich, hätte ich hier nicht freiwillig draufgeklickt.
- I: Gab es Informationen in den Warnungen auf die früher nicht geachtet hast?
- B: Genau, also hatte ich ja, glaube ich, auch schon gesagt. Anrede wäre mir nicht aufgefallen. Der Footer (Signature) wäre mir auch nicht aufgefallen.
- I: So allgemein, also sagen wir mal, du hast eine Mail im Postfach, die vom Client nicht als Phishing geflaggt ist, aber du hast trotzdem den Verdacht, dass sie Phishing ist. Auf was für Details achtest du dann?

B: Genau, also für mich ist so Hauptding E-Mail-Adresse. Dann Actionables, also wenn irgendwie Links oder sonst was drin sind. Wenn nicht, ist es mir halt auch mehr oder minder egal, außer ich soll halt antworten. Und sonst, wenn ich halt unsicher bin, dann ignoriere ich es halt.

Interview - Teilnehmer 2:

- I: Wie hast du generell die Warnungen so wahrgenommen? Waren sie sofort auffällig?
- B: Also generell sehr hilfreich, sage ich mal. Und auch sehr auffällig.
- I: Was genau fandest du jetzt hilfreich? Kannst du das vielleicht nochmal spezifizieren?
- B: Du musst nicht mehr ganz so aufpassen. Natürlich passt man trotzdem noch auf, aber das ist so schon eine sehr gute Hilfestellung.
- I: Und gab es Elemente in den Warnungen, die dir irgendwie besonders aufgefallen sind?
- B: Nee, eigentlich nicht. Also einfach, dass das halt rot ist, generell. Rot ist einfach so eine Signalfarbe, die direkt hervorsticht. Außerdem fand ich das gelbe Warndreieck sehr auffällig.
- I: Gab es Warnungen, die du besonders effektiv fandest und Warnungen, die du weniger effektiv fandest?
- B: Was ich sehr, sehr gut fand, war hier die mit der falschen Signatur. Das fand ich sehr gut, weil das auch, sag ich mal, schwer zu erkennen ist. Was ich wiederum nicht so gut fand, war die Warnung, die von oben reinkommt. Ich mag es nicht, wenn sich der Text verschiebt, während ich etwas lese.
- I: Und dann ist dir vielleicht aufgefallen, also bei jedem Warnhinweis gab es zwei Versionen. Einmal hier so eine einfache Version und einmal so eine komplexere Version, auch mit Begründung. Welche davon fandest du besser? Lieber einfach oder doch lieber komplex mit mehr Begründung?
- B: Die Anzeichen bei Phishing sind immer relativ eindeutig, meiner Meinung nach. Deswegen brauche ich da keine Erklärung, wieso das Phishing ist. Aber es ist per se nicht schlecht für Leute, die es nicht verstehen. Und dann wissen sie, worauf sie in Zukunft achten müssen, das ist schon ganz praktisch. Ein bisschen der Lerneffekt halt.
- I: Und dann zur Gestaltung der Warnungen. Wie fandest du generell das Design, also Farbe, Animation? Haben diese deine Aufmerksamkeit beeinflusst?
- B: Ja, also es ist halt, wenn das Textfeld so reinfährt, dann shifted man seine Augen automatisch dahin. Und dann siehst du halt auch, weil es so eine große rote Box ist, dass es halt so eine Warnung ist.
- I: Hast du irgendwelche Verbesserungsvorschläge für die Banner?
- B: Ja, nee, also das Einzige, was man machen könnte, noch als zusätzliche Alternative ist, dass man es einfach so rauskommen lässt aus dem Bildschirm. Also nicht, dass es von der Seite rauskommt, sondern einfach so die Opacity, dass sie stärker wird.
- I: Also gab es Informationen in den Warnungen, auf die du früher nicht geachtet hattest?
- B: Ich glaube, zum Beispiel das mit der Signatur. Das habe ich neue gesehen in dieser Studie. Und da wurde es auch kurz und knackig erklärt, warum das so ist.

Interview - Teilnehmer 3:

- I: Also, du hast es schon gemerkt, in der Studie geht es um diese Warnungen.
- B: Ja.
- I: Also wie fandest du die Warnungen generell? Waren sie sofort auffällig?
- B: Also an sich die Warnung fand ich schon ganz gut.
- I: Kannst du das vielleicht spezifizieren?
- B: Am besten fand ich z.B. die Warnung, die direkt auf den Link drauf waren. Weil mal angenommen, ich hätte es nicht geschnallt, dann hätte ich auf den Link geklickt. Und die Warnung unterbindet halt genau das. Und wenn die Warnung halt nur oben steht, ohne etwas zu tun... Ja, du siehst es schon direkt, aber ich würde dann trotzdem wissen wollen, wo das Problem ist, eine Begründung.
- I: Und gab es Elemente in den Warnungen, die dir besonders aufgefallen sind?
- B: Ich glaube, besonders aufgefallen... Ich meine einfach die Farbe Rot hätte ich gesagt, weil das springt direkt einem ins Auge. Und das Einfliegen und so als Bewegung, das wird zwar schnell vom Auge aufgenommen, aber wirkt natürlich etwas "billig"? Ja, die zwei Sachen eigentlich.
- I: Und wie bewertest du jetzt die Effektivität der einzelnen Warnung? Hattest du ja schon angeschnitten, aber wir können vielleicht nochmal die einzelnen Warnungen durchgehen.
- B: Also die sind alle effektiv damit darauf hinzuweisen, sage ich mal. Die Frage ist halt nur, ob es wichtig ist, ob die genau die Stelle hervorgehoben wird oder nicht. Ich hätte gesagt schon, weil das ist dann auch gut für Leute, die sich nicht auskennen. Dann lernen sie, wenn sie selber irgendwelche Mails bekommen dann wissen... "Okay. Dass werde ich mir noch mal genauer ansehen und schauen und sicher gehen."
- I: Ja, auf jeden Fall. Dann es war ja so, dass wir immer zwei Versionen hatten, einmal einfach und einmal komplexer. Welche davon würdest du bevorzugen und warum?
- B: Also ich persönlich würde sagen die einfache, weil ich mich halt schon ein bisschen mit sowas auskenne. Also ich habe ja schon einen "Riecher" für sowas. Ich kann jetzt nicht genau sagen, wie das für Leute ist, die von sowas oft angegriffen werden oder sogar darauf reinfallen. Ich glaube, die brauchen wahrscheinlich bisschen mehr Unterstützung, um auch überzeugt davon zu sein, dass das nicht doch in irgendeiner Form real wäre oder so, ja?
- I: Und hast du Verbesserungsvorschläge für die Gestaltung der Warnhinweise? Was Farbe, Animation, Animation, Farbe, Animation und Schrift und so weiter angeht?
- B: Die erfüllen schon ihren Zweck. Das einzige, was man vielleicht sagen könnte, ist, dass sie Sachen moderner ausschauen sollen. Das ganze sieht momentan ein bisschen wie Windows XP aus. Aber ansonsten? Habe ich dem euch nichts weiter auszusetzen, vielleicht noch, dass der Alert schneller einfliegt
- I: Gab es Informationen in den Warnungen auf die du früher nicht geachtet hattest?
- B: Also das einzige was ich jetzt gesagt hätte wäre halt beim hier die Warnung beim Absender (bezieht sich auf Signatur). Sowas habe ich eigentlich immer ignoriert aber jetzt würde ich das schon double checken.

Interview - Teilnehmer 4:

Bevor das Interview beginnt, wird der Teilnehmer über die Studie debriefed und es werden nochmal alle Warnungen durchgezeigt.

I: Wie hast du die Warnungen generell wahrgenommen?

B: Insgesamt waren sie gut und einfach hilfreich. Besonders hier (beim false negative), wo es keine Warnungen gab, habe ich nicht darauf geachtet.

I: Gab es Elemente in den Warnungen, die dir besonders aufgefallen sind?

B: Ja, das Design fand ich ein bisschen ungewöhnlich, weil die Warnungen erst später erscheinen. Sie wären effektiver, wenn sie direkt sichtbar wären. Weil oftmals überfliegt man Emails und entscheidet direkt was man damit macht.

B: Die Warnungen, die oben über dem Text liegen, sind mir weniger aufgefallen. Das hat halt so ein ähnliches Muster wie diese Werbebanner, die man von diversen Webseiten kennt.

B: Dann das fand ich sehr gut mit dem Link. Dass man nicht draufklicken kann, erstmal. Ich habe mir das jetzt nicht alles durchgelesen (beziehend auf den Warnungstext). Den langen Text würde ich nicht brauchen, mir reicht eine einfache Warnung. Hier ist natürlich die Frage, was die Zielgruppe ist, also ein Informatiker weiß wahrscheinlich schon eher, was Sache ist und braucht eher keine Begründung. So eine Begründung ist wahrscheinlich sinnvoll für Leute die halt nicht technisch versiert sind.

B: Die Bewegungen sind übrigens gut, weil sie die Aufmerksamkeit erhöhen. Es ist wichtig, dass die Warnungen nicht als Teil der Mail wahrgenommen werden.

I: Welche Version der Warnungen bevorzugst du, die detaillierte oder die weniger detaillierte?

B: Bei den Links bevorzuge ich die einfache Version, da ich mich damit auskenne. Bei der Begrüßungsformel fand ich jedoch die detaillierte Version besser, weil ich sie noch nicht kannte.

I: Hast du Verbesserungsvorschläge für die Gestaltung der Warnhinweise?

B: Die Warnungen könnten moderner aussehen, sie wirken etwas veraltet. Sie könnten auch schneller erscheinen, ohne lange Wartezeiten. Aber generell finde ich Animationen sinnvoll, muss halt nur schneller gehen. Und farbtechnisch ists halt schwierig, wenn jetzt dieses CloudTech Logo auch rot wäre. Dann könnte man ja denken, dass der Banner zur Mail bzw. zum Firmenlogo wäre. Ist schwierig, hier müsste man einen anderen Weg finden.

I: Gab es Informationen in den Warnungen, auf die du früher nicht geachtet hast?

B: Ja, die Informationen zur Signatur. Jetzt achte ich mehr darauf, was sehr hilfreich sein kann, um Phishing zu erkennen, besonders in einer Firma mit vielen automatisierten Mails.

Interview - Teilnehmer 5:

Bevor das Interview beginnt, wird der Teilnehmer über die Studie debriefed und es werden nochmal alle Warnungen durchgezeigt.

I: How did you generally perceive the warnings?

- B: The warnings were overall good and helpful. The contrast colors of the warnings caught my attention well, not just because of the color but also due to the length of the messages which were clear and descriptive.
- B: The little yellow warning triangle was also catchy because of the color contrast. The warnings helped with my decisions. Without them, my decisions would probably have been the same, but the alerts definitely helped me recognize faster that it is a phishing email.
- I: Can you talk more about the effectiveness of the warnings? Maybe go through each of them?
- B: I really liked the signature warnings. That could be something that might not catch the user's attention at all. I like it more than the greeting warning, as for the greeting, you might be a person that has a different kind of of greeting for every message you send. The Signature tho, stays the same.
- B: It would be better if the warnings appeared immediately upon opening the email instead of having a delay. This warning (hover warning) is perfect, as it stops the user from clicking on a potential dangerous link.
- I: What about the design aspects of the warnings such as animations, colors, fonts etc.?
- B: Moving warnings are more noticeable than constant ones that just stay on the screen. But if you put moving warnings on all phishing mails, it might be overwhelming and tire the eyes and mind. A balance is necessary. The idea is good, the execution too, but the design could be improved so that it is still secure without being overwhelming. Maybe being too flashy, could lead to desensitization over time.
- I: Do you have suggestions for improving the design of the warning messages?
- B: The warnings could look more modern and appear faster. A delay effect was implemented so that the warnings are not perceived as part of the email, which makes sense, but they could appear quicker.
- B: This is a really long warning message (referring to greeting warning, detailed). This is kind almost as large as the email itself. Not good I think? Oh and those are clickable, yeah. I would definitely avoid clicking these, as these could also be part of the phishing mail. But I get the idea behind it and that it might be helpful for less savy people. The idea is fine, the way it is executed can be enhanced.
- I: How would you rate the different warnings in terms of their level of detail?
- B: Personally, I prefer simpler warnings because I am already somewhat familiar with the subject. However, people who are more susceptible to phishing might need more detailed explanations to be convinced that something is not legitimate.
- I: Are there specific pieces of information in the warnings that you hadn't paid attention to before?
- B: Information about the senders and signatures was new to me. I used to ignore these often, but now I look more closely. This could be especially useful for detecting phishing in a company that uses many automated emails.
- I: How do you usually handle emails once there's a suspicion of phishing? Or what specifically do you look at once there's a suspicion?
- B: I definitely first look at the sender. Also other things such as, typos, grammar etc.

Interview - Teilnehmer 6:

- I: First, how did you generally perceive the warnings? Were they immediately noticeable?
- B: Yes, they were immediately noticeable because they were sketchy and ironic, which made them stand out. They all are so blatantly obvious.
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that particularly stood out to you?
- B: I liked that they covered the links. That was very effective.
- I: What role did the warnings play in your decisions? Did you notice a difference when a warning was seen?
- B: I can't really say. I haven't thought about it enough to judge. Spontaneously, I'd say yes of course but I suppose that's kinda expected.
- I: Moving on to the effectiveness of each warning, how do you rate their effectiveness? Which did you find the most effective?
- B: I believe the one covering the link was the most effective because it immediately prevented interaction. Those that just flew in and had standard text might be the weakest. The ones providing more explanation would be in the middle.
- I: You mentioned liking simpler warnings. Would the clickable aspect appeal to you or...?
- B: I might be too uncertain in the moment. Theoretically, you could assume that the embedded links are part of the phishing, which makes it suboptimal.
- I: And about the design—colors, animations, icons—did that affect your attention?
- B: Yes, but it's tricky because the weirder the warning, the more effective it seems to be, yet scammers now also use weird warnings. It's hard to find a balance.
- I: Any improvement suggestions that come to mind?
- B: Red as a signal color works, and I like the animation because it suggests that it's external to the email.
- I: Regarding your personal habits with phishing awareness, were there new pieces of information in the warnings that you hadn't paid attention to before?
- B: No new information caught my attention, not really.
- I: Typically, when you suspect phishing but your email client hasn't flagged it, what details do you check?
- B: I look at whether pictures load, the origin of the email, how often I've received it, and if any images are realistic. Also, how the email is structured or if there are mistakes with salutations, like when you get a "Hello" followed by a misplaced title, which instantly signals a scam.
- I: That was quicker than I thought. I'll stop the recording now.

Interview - Teilnehmer 7:

- I: How did you generally perceive the warnings? Were they immediately noticeable?
- B: Maybe because of my previous experience as a working student, I'm already quite informed about phishing emails. Honestly, I didn't pay attention to the warnings much during this task.
- I: Can you explain why you think that was?
- B: I'm not sure if the warnings were part of the deception or not.
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that particularly stood out to you?
- B: Not really, just that they were red. Red is a signal color for warnings. The yellow warning triangle that says 'Warning' and the large text field were the main things.
- I: About the effectiveness of the warnings—did you find some warnings more effective than others?
- B: Yes, now in retrospect I found the warnings very effective, for example with these or with the bank. Or the large banners which were very large and drew attention.
- I: We had two versions for each warning, one with more details and one with less. Which one would you prefer?
- B: I prefer the one with more details because it clearly explains why the warning is there.
- I: About the design in general, how did you find the color and animations?
- B: The use of red color definitely makes it very noticeable. And, for example, here the warning just stands by itself, which I think is better. When I did the task, I didn't even realize there was a warning there, and yes?
- B: And here it's also good because there's a comparison to the previous signature.
- B: No, maybe also here you could make a short one. Like as an addition to it.
- I: How do you find clickable elements in phishing warnings?
- B: Yes, definitely good.
- I: Has the study changed your awareness of phishing in any way? Anything new for you?
- B: There was something new. The greeting and signature had not occurred to me before.
- I: Do you have any suggestions for improving the design, colors, and animations?
- B: The design of the clickable banner can be improved so that it is more clear that it is safe to click. Yes, maybe that can be improved a bit. Otherwise, here at the bank (banner warning), I would say these large banners and the small one together would be better.
- B: Otherwise, I will take a quick look through them.
- B: They should come in immediately and not after a second of delay.
- B: And here I think it would also be cool if the banner stays on. (link hover)
- I: How do you usually deal with suspicious emails?

B: Especially looking at the sender address. And other little unusual things.

Interview - Teilnehmer 8:

- I: How did you generally perceive the warnings? Did they immediately stand out to you?
- B: Yes. I felt threatened about them and they made me worried about maybe catching a virus or something.
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that stood out to you in particular?
- B: Of course the word "phishing". That was definitely a red flag for me. Also the warnings about the greeting, that was quite interesting.
- I: Did the warnings play a significant role in your decisions?
- B: Yes, totally.
- I: And now some questions about the effectiveness of the warnings. How do you assess the effectiveness of each warning? You can click through them and maybe give me some sort of ranking.
- B: These ones (generic banner, top and side) I am kinda familiar with. They are simple and give good reason to be careful.
- B: This one (link hover) is very nice, because it stops me from clicking it. I like the more detailed version of this more.
- B: This is fine (signature, simple) but I don't know actually. This is quite unusual and a detailed signature is not always part of an email, soo..
- B: This one (signature, detailed) is better, because it provides an actual comparison for better understanding.
- I: So which one did you find the most helpful?
- B: This one (greeting, detailed) was the best because it provides lots of details.
- I: So it seems like you like it when there is more detail in the warnings, right?
- B: Yes.
- I: And now about the design. What do you think about the design, meaning colors, animations, fonts etc.? Did they have an impact on your attention?
- B: They definitely stand out and make me think, oh there is something going on here. Perfect color.
- I: And your opinion on the sliding in animation?
- B: I love animations. I definitely really like it in this case too. They also help me with catching my attention. I must say that I don't like the delay. For example if I am in hurry and quickly click through the mails, I might not see the warning at all.
- I: What do you think about interactables, such as these clickable buttons in the warnings?

- B: They definitely make sense and I think there are very good because this provides me with context on the warning.
- I: Any general suggestions for improving the design?
- B: I don't think there is any issue with the design, besides the delayed slide in animation.
- I: Was there anything new with the warnings, that you didn't pay attention to before?
- B: This animation thing is new to me. Also new to me is that the warnings provide lots of details. That I didn't see before.

Interview - Teilnehmer 9:

- I: How did you generally perceive the warnings? Did they immediately stand out to you?
- B: Yes.
- I: Can you elaborate on that? What exactly did stand out to you?
- B: It catched my attention instantly, especially the link hover warning. The others too. The red is just very catchy. One thing I have to say is about these (generic banner, side), this one is like those advertisements on websites, and one might ignore that automatically because of that.
- B: What was helpful and stood out to me was warnings that referred to other emails and gave a comparison.
- I: Did the warnings play a significant role in your decisions?
- B: Yes mostly.
- I: And now some questions about the effectiveness of the warnings. How do you assess the effectiveness of each warning? You can click through them and maybe give me some sort of ranking.
- B: These ones (generic banner, side) I don't prefer, as I explained before, it might just go unnoticed.
- B: This one (generic banner, top), I am used to this one more and I like it more.
- B: This one (link hover, simple) is quite beneficial, as it actively hinders me from clicking the link.
- B: This one (link hover, detailled), same here, just with more detail, which is better.
- B: This is fine (signature, simple) as it is in the email body. I immediately know what part of the email is problematic.
- B: This one (signature, detailed) is better, because it provides an actual comparison for better understanding.
- B: I liked these ones (greeting). I have never seen such warnings before and would definitely pay more attention to that in the future.
- I: So which one did you find the most helpful?
- B: Overall I would say that the link hover warnings were the best for me personally.

- B: Also the greeting and signature ones with comparisions where nice.
- I: So it seems like you like it when there is more detail in the warnings, right?
- B: Yes. But as a suggestion for the big one (greeting, detailed) I would prefer if there would be a button to kind of expand the alert, so that it is not this big by default. Kind of like an arrow where you click on.
- I: And now about the design. What do you think about the design, meaning colors, animations, fonts etc.? Did they have an impact on your attention?
- B: They do. They are like advertisements that aim to catch the users attention. Red is a good color too.
- I: And your opinion on the sliding in animation?
- B: They are nice and catchy.
- I: Any general suggestions for improving the design?
- B: Instead of having something like green and red, maybe something different like a popout warning or something that opens on top of the email. Also I think the font could be a bit more readable. It's the white on red what makes it difficult to read at times.
- I: Was there anything new with the warnings, that you didn't pay attention to before?
- B: I have never really paid attention to the greeting or signature so that is new to me.

Interview - Teilnehmer 10:

- I: How did you perceive the warnings when you first saw them? Did they immediately stand out to you?
- B: Yes, especially links usually don't stand out on their own, so I typically look at the address they come from. In this case, the emails looked trustworthy, so I had to rely solely on the warnings.
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that particularly stood out?
- B: Yes, specifically the warnings about the wording. Phishing emails often have slightly different wording, so that's a part I take very seriously, along with the links, because they can be indicators of spoofing attacks.
- I: It sounds like the warnings play a significant role in your decision-making. Can you discuss the effectiveness of each warning?
- B: The most effective aspect of the warnings is how they visually pop up. Before even reading the content, it makes me cautious. For example, the signature and the content itself make me more inclined to view it as a phishing attack. I prefer warnings that show immediately when I open the email, rather than those that require me to hover over them.
- I: Could you rank the effectiveness of the warnings?

- B: The best ones prevent me from clicking on the link right away. These provide more information and reassurance about authenticity, which I find very helpful. Generally I find those ones with more information and comparison very good.
- I: What do you think about clickable buttons in the warnings? Are they helpful?
- B: The clickable ones make sense because they provide additional information and enhance the feeling of authenticity.
- I: Regarding the design of the warnings, do animations or colors impact your perception?
- B: Definitely. The color red stands out against a white background, which helps. If the warnings were green, they might look like any other pop-up feature, so the color plays a major role.
- I: Any suggestions for improvements
- B: Perhaps making links unclickable could be better. Also faster animations would be more preferable.
- I: Were there any new pieces of information in the warnings that caught your attention?
- B: The greetings in the emails stood out because I don't usually pay attention to them, assuming they vary with each sender. Learning that companies often use the same type of greeting was insightful.
- I: How do you handle emails when you suspect phishing, but your email client hasn't flagged them as such?
- B: If it's not flagged, but I'm suspicious, I'll check if I recognize the sender. If not, I'll go directly to the relevant website instead of clicking any links, or I'll delete the email and mark it as spam.

Interview - Teilnehmer 11:

- I: How did you perceive the warnings when you first saw them? Did they immediately stand out to you?
- B: Yes, they did generally stood out to me immediately. Only one particular one did not. This one here (Banner, side).
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that particularly stood out?
- B: Yes, the comparisions were really good and stood out. Also the color red. Red is related to negative or important things. Also same for the yellow warning sign.
- I: Did the warnings play a significant role in your decisions?
- B: Yeah definitely.
- I: Could you rank the effectiveness of the warnings?
- B: I really liked this one (Link hover, detailed). Maybe also this one here (Greeting, detailed)
- B: This one (Signature, detailed), I don't know, it could be useful? Not sure tho.
- I: Did you like the more detailed or the shorter version of the warnings more?

- B: I preferred the longer ones, because it teaches me for the next on how to recognize phishing attempts.
- I: What do you think about clickable buttons in the warnings? Are they helpful?
- B: The clickable ones make sense yes. I liked it.
- I: Regarding the design of the warnings, do animations or colors impact your perception?
- B: Definitely. The color red is really good. Not sure about the font color, maybe it could be black instead of white for better readability? The animations were nice, they could maybe appear immediately or maybe a different kind of animation so that it appears from the center of the email and not from the side?
- I: Were there any new pieces of information in the warnings that caught your attention?
- B: Yes, the warnings about the greeting and signature were new to me.
- I: How do you handle emails when you suspect phishing, but your email client hasn't flagged them as such?
- B: If it's not flagged, but I'm suspicious, I'll check if I recognize the sender.

Interview - Teilnehmer 12:

- I: So, first some general questions. How did you perceive the warnings? Did they stand out to you?
- B: These ones did not stand out; they came from the corner. (referring to banner, side)
- I: I see. And the other ones?
- B: The ones from the top? Yeah, they didn't stand out either. But I don't rely solely on the warning; I take it as a signpost, then I try to go through the email. Sometimes the emails had information that seemed too specific to be fake, so I was hesitant to trust them.
- I: Were there any particular elements in the warnings that caught your eye?
- B: The red color, yeah.
- I: And do the warnings play a significant role in your decision-making?
- B: Yes, they are significant. However, it's not like they determine my decision entirely, but I do take them into account if I notice a warning signal.
- I: How do you assess the effectiveness of each warning? Can you rank them from most to least effective?
- B: For me, the most effective warnings are those that show some indication in the email inbox list itself. Most of the time, I won't even open these emails, even if they were from a known company, because when you're working, you often already know what emails you'll receive, so you don't need to read them all. But I see that those types of warnings were not part of this study.
- I: So what would make a warning effective for you in the inbox?

- B: I would like to see something like a red exclamation mark right in the inbox. Most of the time, I won't open the emails because I would have already been informed about them by my superiors or subordinates.
- I: What about once you've opened an email? Which feature helps you the most then?
- B: Once I've opened an email, the best feature is something like this one that helps prevent me from clicking on a link accidentally.
- I: And were there two versions of each warning, one more detailed and one less so? Which one did you prefer?
- B: I think the detailed one is too much? Maybe splitting it into two parts would work better, with the warning at the top and other details, like flagged images, at the bottom.
- I: How do you evaluate the design of the warnings, like the color and animations?
- B: The part that stands out for me is the red background. But not when it's just a little warning sign from the corner. I've missed those because they were too small and out of my line of sight, especially on a phone.
- I: Did you like the animation of the warnings?
- B: I didn't like the delay. If it doesn't pop up immediately, by that time, I would have moved on to the next email. I just missed it.
- I: Any suggestions for improving the design?
- B: My top suggestion would be to put something noticeable right in the inbox itself. After that, removing the delay would be crucial.
- I: Any final thoughts on new pieces of information or how you handle emails when there's a suspicion of phishing but no warning?
- B: Well, mostly I don't even open my emails unless necessary. Google usually filters suspicious ones to the spam folder. When I do click on them, I mainly look at the language used in the body of the email. But that's only if I decide to open the email.

Interview - Teilnehmer 13:

- I: How did you perceive the warnings? Did they stand out to you immediately?
- B: For sure. They stood out not only because they were in a pop-up bubble and it was kind of blinking, but also it's red. So, it's very eye-grabbing. Some of the warnings I thought were much better than other types. For instance, the warning that showed up when you hover the mouse over the link—I feel like someone could accidentally end up clicking on it before reading the full warning. But others were pretty informative, especially one that gives you a reference to go back and check for differences in how to spot phishing emails.
- I: The link warning actually won't let you accidentally click the link. It appears immediately upon hovering over it.
- B: Ah I see, that's great then!

- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that stood out to you?
- B: Yes, this one (signature, detailed) definitely stood out the most to me, particularly how during the signature it says that the designation is different. Often, when you read the mail, you don't see the designation because you know the person and where it's coming from. So, you don't focus on these small details, but the fact that the warning indicated that the signature is different really stood out because people often overlook that.
- I: I assume the warnings play a significant role in your decisions too?
- B: For sure, they did.
- I: About the effectiveness of each warning, maybe we can do kind of a ranking from top to bottom?
- B: This one was right here. How many other ones? All of them are phishing emails, right?
- I: Yes, we have like four different types of warnings with one variation each.
- B: So this one immediately doesn't show up, but takes some time. I would say rank this one first because it gives me a reference to verify. These two because they indicate the pattern that I need to notice often in case of phishing attempts.
- I: And about the design of the warnings, how did you like the animations, the colors, the fonts?
- B: The color obviously was a good choice because red is very eye-grabbing, similar to why we have traffic lights as red. It reaches you immediately. The warning with this color forces people to stop and read because if you still go ahead and click on the link, whatever happens to you—whether you lose your data or your money—it's on you. So this warning was a really good idea to make you stop, read this first, and then make your decision
- I: And were there any new pieces of information in the warnings which you hadn't paid attention to before?
- B: Definitely. Usually, I have not seen such tailored warnings in phishing emails, which recognize a specific pattern and tell you why it's a phishing attempt. That is very new to me.
- I: Lastly, what's your usual behavior when you receive an email and you suspect it to be phishing, but your email client does not flag it?
- B: Of course, the sender's and the receiver's email because if the sender's email is from a known domain, otherwise it would be from some random domains. So, those are the things I've often observed. If it's a very vague email and they want me to do something specific, I get immediately skeptical. I also put in the domain name in Google to see if there have been victims of such scams or phishing attempts before. If I'm still unsure of it, I just delete it. If it's an important mail and someone really needs to reach out to me to get something done, they would send the same mail again.
- B: I think this is a really nice study. I enjoyed being part of this study because it shows that people are actually coming up with plugins like this to improve security and safety.

Interview - Teilnehmer 14:

- I: Wie ist Ihre Meinung zu diesen Warnhinweisen? Meinen Sie, dass diese direkt auffällig sind oder nicht?
- B: Ja, wenn die Warnhinweise mit roter Schrift oder rotem Untergrund kommen, sind sie sehr auffällig und hilfreich. Die, die nicht so gut funktioniert haben, sind besonders die, die am Rand platziert sind und weniger hervorstechen.
- I: Können Sie durch die Warnungen durchklicken und dann jede Warnung einzeln bewerten? So eine Art Ranking, welche am besten und welche am schlechtesten ist?
- B: Bei einigen Warnungen werden mehr Details geliefert, warum etwas ein Phishing-Versuch sein könnte. Bei anderen steht nur, dass es vielleicht ein Phishing-Versuch ist, was ich etwas schwach finde. Mehr Hinweise wären hilfreich, etwa auf Tippfehler oder ähnliches. Diejenigen Warnungen, die statisch erscheinen und nicht sofort ins Auge fallen, sind weniger effektiv. Ich würde sie größer machen, sie fallen zwar auf, aber nicht so stark wie die anderen.
- I: Also, welche Warnung halten Sie für am effektivsten?
- B: Die Warnungen, die direkt an der Stelle erscheinen, wo das Problem vermutet wird, sind sehr effektiv. Sie ziehen die Aufmerksamkeit sofort auf sich, besonders wenn sie plötzlich eingeblendet werden.
- I: Und was halten Sie von den Warnungen, die erscheinen, wenn man mit der Maus über einen Link geht? Ist das hilfreich?
- B: Ja, das ist sehr hilfreich. Es verhindert, dass man versehentlich auf den Link klickt. Die Warnung erscheint genau in dem Moment, was gut ist, obwohl man immer noch darauf klicken könnte.
- I: Bevorzugen Sie detailliertere Versionen der Warnungen oder die einfachen Versionen?
- B: Normalerweise bevorzuge ich die kompakten Versionen, weil ich schnell fertig sein möchte und keine langen Erklärungen lesen will. Aber abhängig vom Kontext könnten detailliertere Versionen hilfreicher sein.
- I: Wie sehen Sie die Gestaltung der Warnhinweise? Sind die Animationen, die das Erscheinen der Warnungen begleiten, hilfreich?
- B: Ja, Animationen sind definitiv hilfreich. Sie ziehen die Aufmerksamkeit an, weil das Auge Bewegungen folgt. Das könnte besonders nützlich sein, da die meisten Warnungen einfache Schwarz-Weiß-Textnachrichten sind.
- B: Die Nachrichten könnten grafisch ansprechender gestaltet werden, um zu signalisieren, dass etwas Besonderes vorliegt. Erinnern Sie sich an die Büroklammer von Microsoft? So etwas in der Art z.B.
- I: Gab es Informationen in den Warnungen, die Sie vorher nicht beachtet haben?
- B: Ja, es gab neue Arten von Risiken, die mir zwar bekannt waren, aber jetzt schaue ich genauer hin. Wenn zum Beispiel die Anrede seltsam ist oder die E-Mail-Adresse zweifelhaft erscheint, ignoriere ich solche Nachrichten sofort.

Interview - Teilnehmer 15:

- I: How did you perceive the warnings? Did they stand out to you immediately?
- B: Yes they do stand out, because they are red and really visible. Especially when they are on the top they really draw my attention.
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that stood out to you?
- B: Yes, the warning on top was the most standing out one.
- I: I assume the warnings play a significant role in your decisions too?
- B: Yeah.
- I: About the effectiveness of each warning, maybe we can do kind of a ranking from top to bottom?
- B: This one (banner, top) is an eight.
- B: This here (banner, side) is more like a six or seven. Just because it's smaller and less noticeable for me.
- B: This one (signature, detailed) is a 10, as it gives a comparison, and explains why the email is unsafe.
- B: This (signature, simple) is an 8, just because it has less details. Still noticeable tho.
- B: This (greeting, detailed) is a 10.
- B: This (greeting, simple) is a 8.
- B: This (link hover, simple) is a 6. I didn't even notice this one exists, but I guess if you try to click on it its good?
- B: This (link hover, detail) is an 8. Same here, just with more details I guess?
- I: So It looks like you would prefer the versions with more details?
- I: And about the design of the warnings, how did you like the animations, the colors, the fonts?
- B: I think the color red is a good choice. But sometimes I found it a bit too strong? But that's just a personal preference. Then I also think the size of the warning could be a bit bigger
- I: And what do you think about the animations?
- B: Oh, yeah I liked that.
- I: And what do you think about interactive elements in warnings, for example the clickable buttons in the greeting warning?
- B: I mean I think its important and it makes sense. But I was thinking, if I see this kind of information or alert, I would be more cautious about clicking on things in the email, if you know what I mean? But I guess it might be useful for people to check.
- I: And were there any new pieces of information in the warnings which you hadn't paid attention to before?

B: Yes, I didn't notice these (signature, greeting) for example before. Those were definitely new for me.

Interview - Teilnehmer 16:

- I: How did you perceive the warnings? Did they stand out to you immediately?
- B: Yes generally they did stand out, but I didn't notice that one, where you need to hover over link.
- I: Were there any elements in the warnings that stood out to you?
- B: I mean the red was really popping.
- I: About the effectiveness of each warning, maybe we can do kind of a ranking from top to bottom?
- B: This one (greeting, detail) is a long one. I didn't really focus on like reading it or clicking these. But it's still very eye catching.
- I: So you are basically saying, that you see the warning and you don't really need any more information?
- B: Yes.
- B: This here (banner, top) is nice. It's basically the first thing you see.
- B: This here (banner, side) is fine too.
- I: Did you immediately notice this one in the first run?
- B: Yeah I did. Obviously the ones on top are more prominent and catch your attention immediately but this works too.
- B: This one (signature, detailed) is really nice. I really liked the comparison between like the real one and the fake one. Without this warning I would not have looked at the warning at all.
- B: This (signature, simple) is the same as before, but I really would prefer the other version.
- B: This (link hover, detail) is nice. I didn't notice this in the first run.
- B: This (link hover, simple) is the same I guess? Just with less information.
- B: I would personally prefer warnings that are already there, like on the side or on the top or something. But at least this is preventing?
- B: This (greeting, detailed) is very cool. I like the comparisions.
- B: This (greeting, simple) one, I prefer the one before.
- I: So It looks like you would prefer the versions with more details?
- B: Yeah, definitely. I like the learning effect of these warnings.
- I: And about the design of the warnings, how did you like the animations, the colors, the fonts? You already mentioned that the red is really popping and a good choice. What about the other aspects?
- B: The animations don't really make a difference for me. There could also just be no animations. I honestly didn't even notice them?

- I: And what do you think about interactive elements in warnings, for example the clickable buttons in the greeting warning?
- B: I wouldn't like to click on those buttons if I would get such a warning. I don't really know if I can trust it.
- I: Any other suggestions for improvement of the design?
- B: Maybe make the font bold or underline? Just to make it more highlighted.
- I: And were there any new pieces of information in the warnings which you hadn't paid attention to before?
- B: Yeah the signature and greeting ones where new to me.