

Pop Video Spam

Staffordshire Community Services are warning consumers to be on their guard against certain spam emails currently circulating.

Emails claiming to offer new music videos from a number of pop stars have been identified as containing malware. They purport to offer links to music videos, and include subject lines such as 'awesome new video' and 'cool video is out'.

Artists referred to in the emails include Kelly Clarkson, Rihanna, Foo Fighters, R Kelly, Velvet Revolver, Beyoncé and The Eagles.

Links contained in the emails point to a webpage containing a malicious script and a Trojan horse designed to compromise the user's PC. The emails are the latest attempt by fraudsters to infect user's PC's by tempting them to click on links within emails. Previous scams have involved bogus 'greetings card' notifications and bogus invoices.

Officers advise email users to delete such emails immediately and under no circumstances should they click on any links contained within them. They remind users that up-to-date antivirus, antispyware and firewall software is an absolute prerequisite for any Internet user, but only commonsense and caution can provide complete protection.

They also remind users that the best way to avoid scam emails is to avoid spam altogether. They encourage all email users to take note of Staffordshire Community Services top 10 tips to avoid spam.

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