### The End of the Financial Year

Cyber criminals rely on current events to make scams even more convincing, and tax season is no exception.

Tax season is scam season!



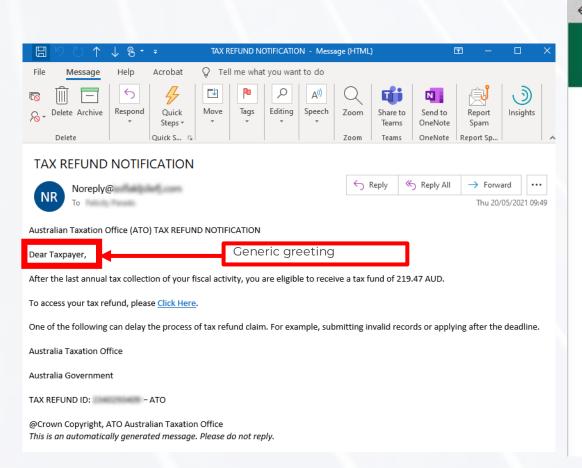
#### Common EOFY Scams

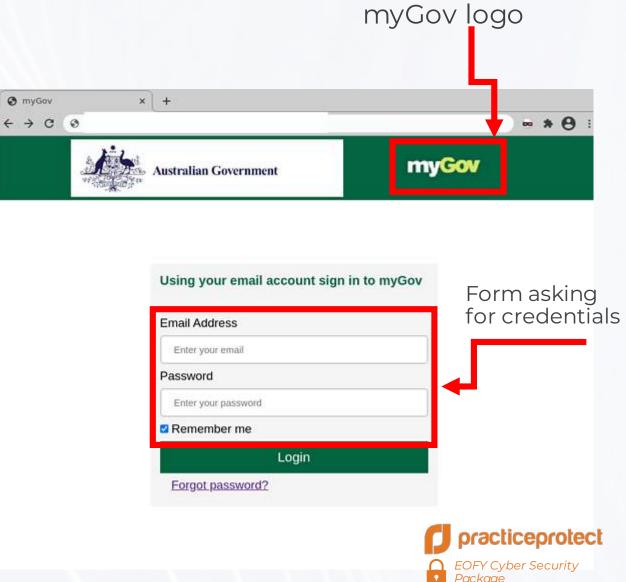
- False tax refund payments
- Fake Invoices
- Voice Mail Scams
- COVID-19 Scams



(Accountingtoday.com, April 2021).

## False Tax Refund Phishing Emails

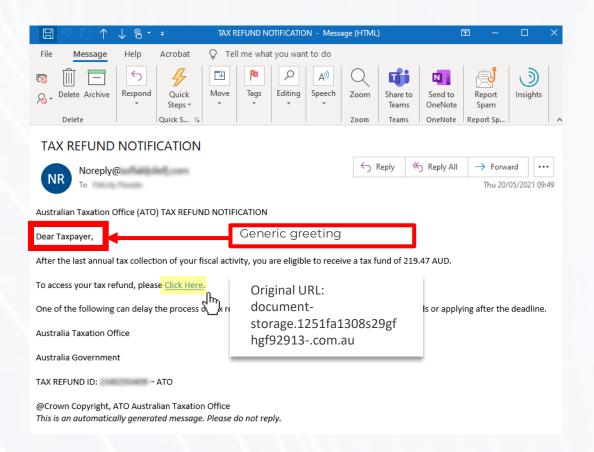




### False Tax Refund Phishing Emails

#### **Safety Checklist Reminders:**

- The ATO will NEVER contact you via email
- Who is it from? Check the sender's email and domain
- Where are you being directed to? Hover over the link (do not click it!) to check
- Generic greeting / no first name used in email
- Inclusion of branding elements
   like myGov's logo and colour palette to make
   the phishing page appear authentic
- False urgency





# False Tax Refund Phishing Emails

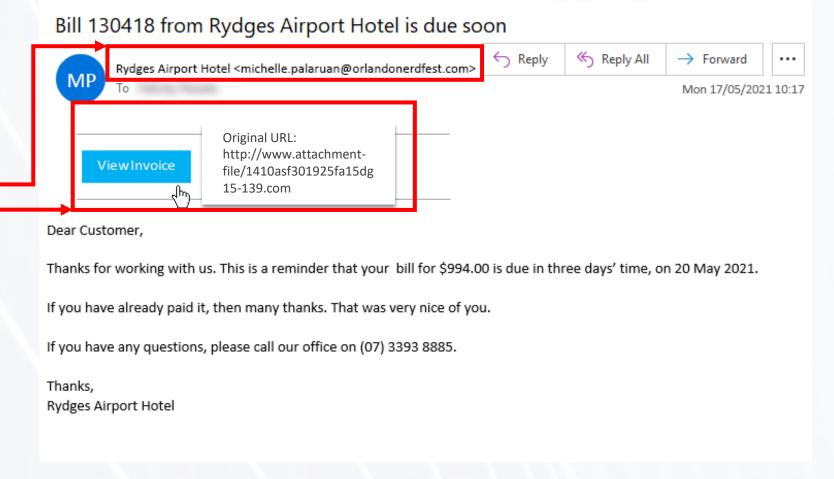
**Phishing Emails** Fmail address isn't from mygov.com.au Credit Note from myGov SNC0216404 This message was identified as junk. We'll delete it after 6 days. It's not junk myGov <refund-nz8m6c@pamx1.hotmail.com.gmwebsite.com> Sat 24/04/2021 09:26 Generic Dear myGov user, greeting As a result of examination we have made adjustments to your income tax return for the tax year 2020/21. Therefore, you are eligible to receive a refund of: \$181.79 AUD. To protect you from identity theft, we need to verify your identity before we process the return and issue Original URL: http://secure-Please complete the identity verification process below to avoid delays in processing. doc12a081250j3085612sl Asks you to 'complete se=?.format.com Secure Form the identity verification mportant info: Your refund should be issued within 21 days of the received date. However, processing process' and leads to a may take longer under certain circumstances. suspicious URL Regards, © The myGov Team Reply Forward



#### Fake Invoice Scams

#### Safety Checklist Reminders:

- Who is it from? Check the sender's email and domain
- Are you expecting an invoice from this company?
- Where are you being directed to? Hover over the link (do not click it!) to check





# Voice Mail Scams (Remember, the ATO will NEVER leave you voice mails or threaten you with arrest!)

- These scams are effective on people who might not have English as their first language (incorrect grammar, etc)
- Scammers also bank on the 'scare tactic' making people do what they demand
- For people who don't normally deal with the ATO or aren't familiar with communications from the ATO, this could seem legitimate at first listen.

"Your account does not leave the tax avoidation.

Paperworks sent to registered address have also returned back unsigned and undelivered.

For this, the petition needs to get filed, including your warrant for arrest. Now before the case is sent for execution and to receive legal notification.

For more information, call 03 9028 5794 and press 1.

I repeat, press 1.

Sense of urgency

This issue is very time-sensitive."\*

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<sup>\*</sup>Transcript from an actual voice mail one of our team members received

#### COVID-19 Scams

- There has been an increase in COVID-19 scams as cyber criminals attempt to leverage current events for their own purposes.
- As always, do not click links or give any personal information that these scam emails are asking for.



Dear Recipient,

My colleague have contacted you earlier but there was no response from you.

There were three COVID-19 confirmed cases in your area earlier this week and one of the patients has listed you as one of her physical contacts within the last 14 days.

In line with the contact tracing modalities and within the laws on which we operate at the Department of Health, we strongly advice that you submit yourself for COVID-19 testing.

The necessary details of your appointment with the Department of Health are contained in the attached document.

Read through the guidelines properly and ensure that you submit yourself for testing as failure to do so will result in arrest and prosecution.

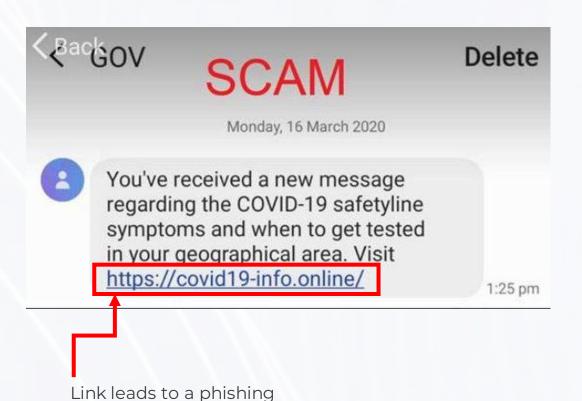
If you have any questions concerning this email, feel free to contact me anytime.

Regards.

Greg Hunt MP

S. Carlton

Department of Health GPO Box 9848 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia



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site asking for personally identifying information