

FINRA Alerts Members About New Phishing Campaign

The US Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) has issued a notice **warning** member brokerage firms of a widespread phishing attack using surveys to harvest information. The non-profit self-regulatory organization said the phishing messages are being **sent from a fake FINRA domain** (@invest-frinra.org) and made to look like they were being sent by the regulator.

In the notice, FINRA warns firms of a phishing campaign using the fraudulent domain 'invest-finra[.]org' which has no connection to the regulator. FINRA recommends that anyone who clicked on the link or image embedded in the malicious email to immediately notify the appropriate individual in their firm and delete all emails coming from the false domain.

Remote Desktop Protocol Released by Center for Internet Security (CIS)

Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) has surged with the majority of office employees working remotely due to Covid-19. The Center for Internet Security (CIS) released **guidance** for organizations to protect and defend against cyber threats that can be exploited through RDP. The guidelines provided will enable organizations to gain a better understanding of what RDP is, how these attacks occur, and to become more proactive against an RDP-based attack. While recommendations have been provided, organizations need to ensure they practice and strengthen their basic cyber hygiene to stay vigilant against attackers.

Cyber Costs Set to Rise in 2021

In a survey conducted by Deloitte and Touche, LLP cybersecurity topped the list of expected budget increases for firms around the world. Big banks and other financial firms **predict the cost to security systems and services will climb in 2021**. Many firms, such as banks, brokers and insurers all have experienced increased spending on cybersecurity the past four years as more and more of their services move online. The global pandemic has also contributed to the increase in spending, forcing firms to improve security of systems as staff works from home and as more customers utilize more online products and services.

This monthly update is brought to you by the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center (FS-ISAC) in coordination with the Investment Industry Association of Canada (IIAC), the International Council of Securities Associations (ICSA), the Financial Services Institute (FSI), the Insured Retirement Institute (IRI), the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) and the SPARK Institute.

The information provided in this monthly newsletter highlights cybersecurity topics and emerging threats to the securities industry globally. It is intended to increase the cybersecurity awareness of an organization's end-users and to help them interact in a more secure manner. This newsletter is not intended to replace the benefits of joining FS-ISAC. Learn more at [fsisac.com](https://www.fsisac.com).