



*Issued 1/3/17*

## **Criminals Phish Credit Card Numbers with "Twitter Verification" Scam**

Criminals are using the promise of verified accounts on social media to lure users into a credit card phishing scheme.

According to research by Proofpoint, attackers are placing legitimate ads targeting brand managers and influencers with a link to a phishing site purporting to offer account verification.

A key element of this scam is the use of Twitter-sponsored advertisements, which appear in user feeds without any interaction, need to follow, or direct messaging requirement. After clicking the link, users find themselves taken to a domain titled twitterhelp[.]info.

David Kennerley, director of Threat Research at Webroot, told SC that fake ads are an industry-wide issue, not just associated to Twitter, whether the rogue ads are for phishing purposes or exploit kit drive-by. "From a security perspective, employee education is again vital and from a technical side, ad-blocking software is now a must."