A Survey of the 2016 Threat Landscape

**Bigger, Faster, More Diverse**

For more details about 2016 threat trends—and what you can do to protect your people, data, and brand—download our full Q4 Threat Summary and Year in Review.

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- **Exploit kits (EKs)**, which make it easy to exploit software and system flaws in attacks, once ruled the threat landscape. But router vulnerabilities rather than mobile exploits.

- Hundreds of thousands of mobile devices were potentially exposed to attacks that redirected users to malicious websites through the DNSChanger EK. And this EK relied only on router vulnerabilities.

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### Email

- **CEO-to-CFO spoofing as a percent of total BEC among Fortune 1000 customers**
  - January: 89%
  - February: 69.6%
  - March: 30X
  - April: 6.7X
  - May: 1%
  - June: 1%
  - July: 1%
  - August: 1%
  - September: 1%
  - October: 1%
  - November: 1%
  - December: 1%

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### Social

- Social media is emerging as another key threat vector.
  - Facebook and Twitter grew 20%.
  - Spam accounts doubled.
  - During the same period.

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### Mobile

- Ransomware appeared more than 30X Q4 delivered ransomware.
  - As a category, ransomware variants multiplied 30 times.
  - The number of new ransomware variants is growing quickly.

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### Business Email Compromise (BEC)

- BEC attacks rely on convincing victims that the email is coming from an executive. Here's a breakdown of the techniques they use.

  - **Business email compromise (BEC)**, in which fraudsters posing as a company executive trick victims into wiring money or sending sensitive corporate information, is evolving.

  - **Business email compromise (BEC)** evolves with new tactics and rank-and-file workers.

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### Recap

- Social media phishing increased 500%.
- Exploit kit activity imploded.
- Business email compromise evolves with new tactics and rank-and-file workers.

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### Graphic Elements

- **Email infographic**
  - Shows various statistics and trends related to email security.

- **Social media infographic**
  - Illustrates the growth of social media threats.

- **Mobile infographic**
  - Highlights the evolution of mobile threats.

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