



# Training Employees to Recognise & Avoid Advanced Threats

Joe Ferrara, President & CEO, Wombat Security Technologies

Rashmi Knowles, Chief Security Architect EMEA, RSA The Security Division of EMC

Session ID: STAR-302

Session Classification: General Interest

**RSA**CONFERENCE  
EUROPE 2012

# Agenda

- Social Engineering
- The human element of cyber security
- New approaches to training
- How is EMC training employees?
- Evaluation of results



# Social Engineering Scenarios

- In-person, email, smartphone, fixed phone, social networking, snail mail
- The entry point for broad attacks
- Phishing attacks are over 50% of security incidents <sup>(1)</sup>



(1)US CERT percentage of 2011 reported incidents



# Increasingly Sophisticated Attacks

- Spear-phishing targets specific groups or specific individuals
- Leverages information about your organization or group
- Uses information specifically about you
- Social phishing 4 to 5 times more effective

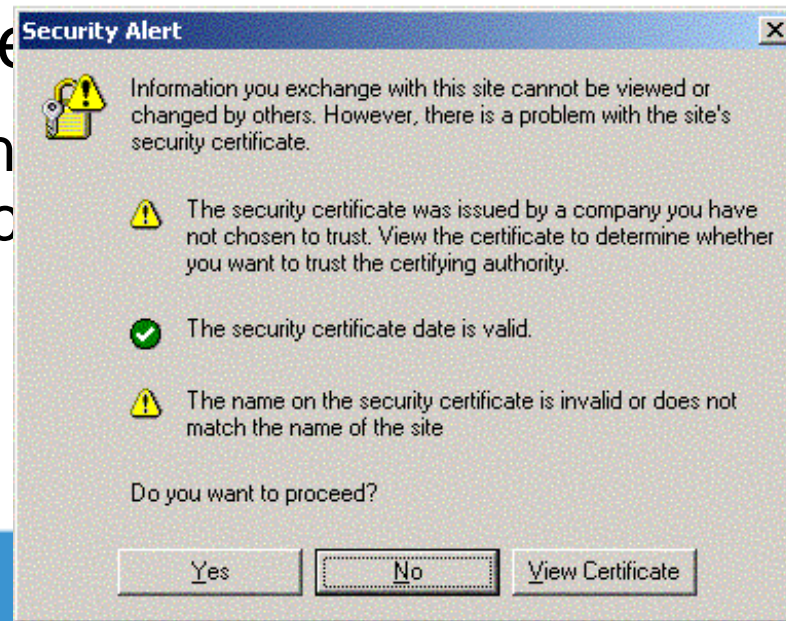
**Bob Smith is retiring next week, [click here](#) to say whether you can attend his retirement party**

**Email subpoena from the US District Court in San Diego with your name, company and phone number, and your lawyers name, company & phone number...**



# Technology Alone Won't Work

- Tempting to just buy software or hardware that promises to solve these problems, however
  - Attackers are very resourceful, constantly looking to circumvent defenses
  - Security controls lag behind technology adoption
  - Technology alone can't motivate people
- Recent breaches are a major issue
  - Spear phishing, other social engineering, working malware,



# Humans are the Weakest Link



- 82% of large organizations had staff driven incidents<sup>(1)</sup>
- 47% had employees lose or leak confidential information<sup>(1)</sup>
- 86% of companies cite humans as their greatest vulnerability<sup>(2)</sup>

Overlooking the human element is most common mistake in computer security

1 PWC Information Security Breaches Survey (April 2012)

2 Deloitte Global Security Survey (Feb 2009)



# Training has a Big Role to Play

- Lack of understanding
- Wide range of scenarios
- Required knowledge is vast & growing
- Practical strategies not easy to articulate
- Security is a secondary task
- Delivery methods must be compelling

**“Root cause is often a failure to invest in educating staff about security risks”**

**PWC Information Security Breaches Survey (April 2012)**





# Why has Traditional Training Failed?

- It's boring!...out of context, and too long
- Limited user interaction or motivation
- Security team competency is not education
- Limited measurement, feedback and continuous improvement





# A New Training Approach

## Risk: Bluetooth Hacking

If you aren't careful, a hacker can use Bluetooth to steal information from your phone.



## Risk: Bluetooth Hacking

Turning off your phone's Bluetooth "discoverable" mode protects you from most Bluetooth hacking



**Determine how risky the displayed activity is:**

**!** Bob uses bluetooth on the subway...



Low Risk

High Risk

**Good job!** With discoverable mode off, you reduce your risk of having your phone hacked.



Low Risk

High Risk

Bite-sized training & interventions

Present concepts and procedures together

Story-based environment

Learn by doing

Create teachable moments

Provide immediate feedback

Use conversational content

Collect valuable data

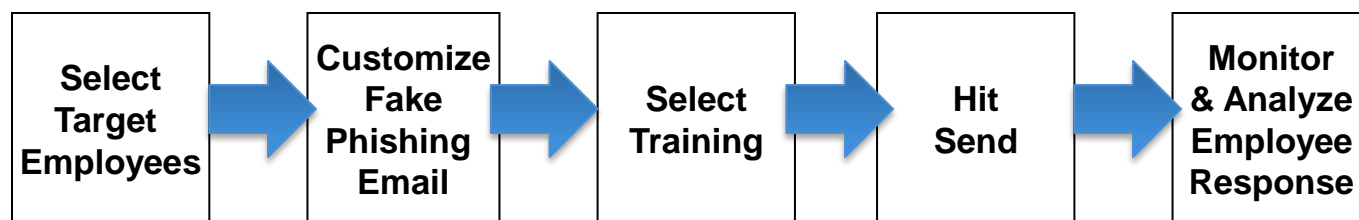


# Essential Tools for Effective Training

- Training via simulated attacks
- Interactive software & gaming
- Learning by doing
- Training in context & story telling

# Training via Simulated Attacks

- Training as part of daily routine
- Just-in-time training for those that fall for attack
- Creates a unique “teachable moment”
- Significantly increases training penetration
- Provides detailed reporting & metrics

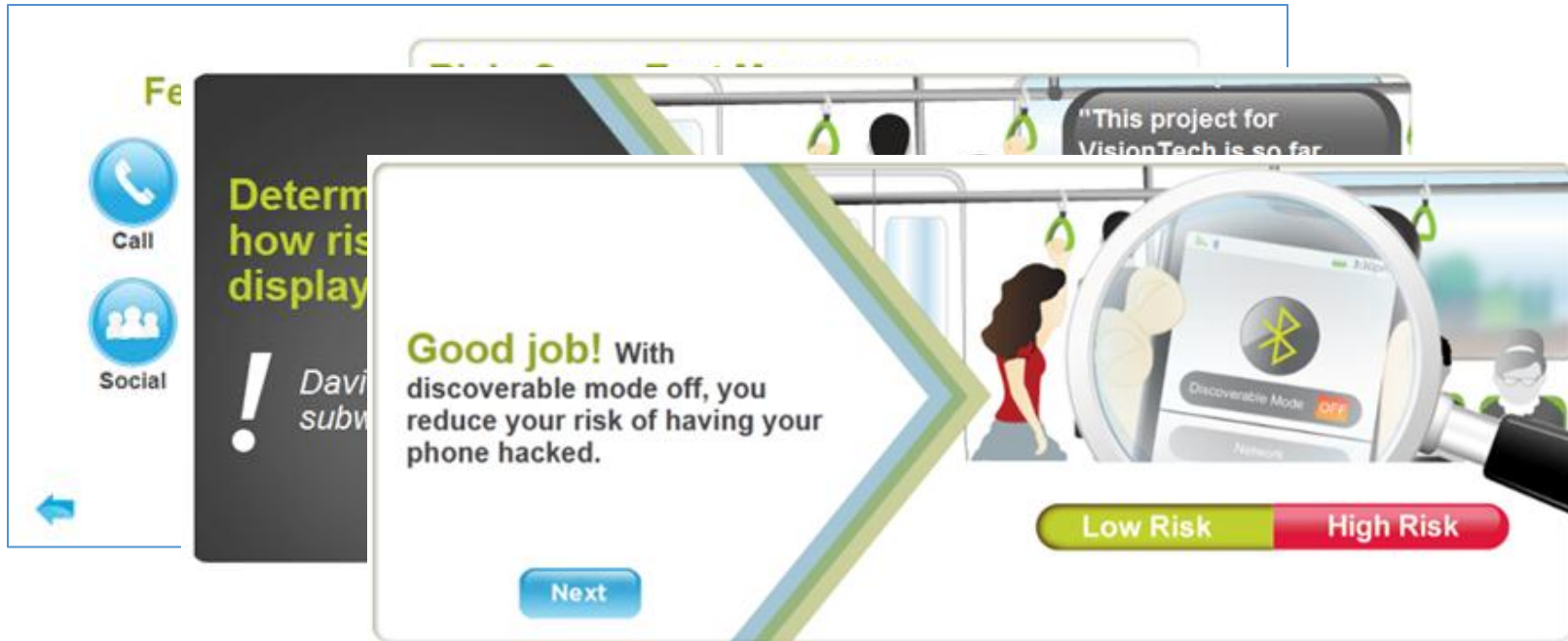


# Training via Micro-Games

- Training doesn't have to be boring or take long
- Micro game format, play for short time
- Two-thirds of Americans played a video game in past six months
- Not just young people or males
  - Average game player 35 years old
  - 25% of people over 50 play games
  - 40% of casual gamers are women



# Learning by Doing is Critical



- Teach people to better appreciate the risks
- Create mock situations
- Force them to make decisions
- Provide them with feedback



# From Simple to Realistic Scenarios



Click on the safer app.





# Creating scenarios & Telling stories

- Stories enhance learning
- Characters engage users
- Scenarios provide context
- Enable unique teachable moments
- Provide longer-term retention







# How EMC is Training Employees to Recognise and Mitigate Advanced Threats

**Rashmi Knowles CISSP**  
**RSA, The Security Division of**  
**EMC**

Session ID: STAR-302

Session Classification: General Interest

**RSA**CONFERENCE  
EUROPE 2012

# Understanding EMC's Culture and Human Psychology

....the key to effective security awareness

## Engaging

Aligned with my interests and goals

Friendly competition

Sharing information

Inviting comment on ideas & issues

Technical & intellectual challenges

Competitive geeks rule!

We ignore the unimportant stuff until we have  
no choice.

**EMC<sup>2</sup>**

Our aim is to get through required training as quickly as possible before we....

...return to battle the daily spam stream

## Off putting

Focused on GSO's self-interests

Stern memo's

Finger wagging

Blind compliance

Lengthy training courses

Obstacles e.g. extra clicks



# Overview of FirstLine Program

Key Accomplishments:

Website



EMC Social Media



CBT & IL Training



Posters



Phishing Tests



Multimedia



Emails



Threat Briefings



- Multimedia and game based training against APT's and phishing; regular newsletters
- Presented Threat Briefings
- Trained all new hires
- Proactively phished 500+ employees (average failure rate 15%)
- Series of 4 security awareness posters distributed to offices in 21 countries





## SUCCULENT PHISH RECIPE

- 1 single-purpose attacker
- A generous scoop of internet research
- 20 phishing emails designed just for you
- 5 people to open it
- 1 person to click through

We know you are internet-savvy,  
but all it takes is one inadvertent click to let them in.

To report an incident, call 877-800-6339 or email [FirstLine@emc.com](mailto:FirstLine@emc.com)  
For more cyber security tips, visit <http://channelemc.corp.emc.com/FirstLine>



EMC<sup>2</sup>



## SOME IMPERSONATORS ARE EASY TO SPOT. OTHERS ARE NOT.

You may be internet-savvy, but all it takes is one inadvertent click to let a virus in, compromise your computer, your personal information or EMC systems:

- Never trust a link without verifying its destination.
- Inspect links carefully before clicking.
- Open a web browser and type the URL instead.



To report an incident, call 877-800-6339 or email [FirstLine@emc.com](mailto:FirstLine@emc.com)  
For more cyber-security tips visit <http://channelemc.corp.emc.com/FirstLine>



EMC<sup>2</sup>

Insert presenter logo here  
on live master. See hidden  
slide 4 for directions





## STRENGTHEN YOUR PASSWORD

Here are some ways to strengthen your password:

FIRST LETTER OF EACH WORD IN A FAVORITE PHRASE, SONG, ETC. "JUST ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL"

Sample password:

J@B1tW79!

USE CAPITAL LETTERS

USE SYMBOLS IN PLACE OF LETTERS

USE A LOWERCASE

REPLACE A LETTER WITH A NUMBER

TRY RANDOM NUMBERS AND SYMBOLS



For more cyber security tips, visit <http://channelemc.corp.emc.com/FirstLine>

EMC<sup>2</sup>

# I SEEK WHAT YOU LEAK.



## DATA LEAKAGE

If you work with EMC Confidential information, you are our "First Line" of defense against information leaks. Please do your part to protect EMC's Confidential Data.

- Lock your computer using Control-Alt-Delete.
- Don't print confidential documents unless you need to.
- Shred all hard copy Confidential: Restricted and Confidential: Personal Information.
- Use locked blue bins to dispose of hard copy Confidential information.



Learn more at <http://channelemc.corp.emc.com/FirstLine>  
Questions? Email [FirstLine@emc.com](mailto:FirstLine@emc.com)



EMC<sup>2</sup>

Insert presenter logo here on live master. See hidden slide 4 for directions

RSACONFERENCE  
EUROPE 2012



# Mandatory Information Security Training Requirements

Current training covers six topics in 60 minutes

Threats	Internet Use
Malicious websites, phishing, Malware, Social engineering, social networking	Appropriate use, downloading content, use of administrator accounts, corporate owned machines vs unmanaged devices
Securing Devices	Email , Instant Messaging, Telephone
Appropriate use, installation of software, accepting patch installation prompts, maintaining appropriate security software, using mobile devices	Opening unknown attachments, verifying links and claims in emails, verifying identity in person/on the telephone
Confidential Information	Physical Security
Handling confidential information including personal information, when to encrypt	Securing your workstation, mobile devices while traveling





# EMC Employee Awareness - Train & Test


WATCH THE VIDEO

EMC FirstLine  
**THINK**  
BEFORE YOU CLICK

Watch the Video

People are the new perimeter

EMC QUARTERLY



00:07:15 / 00:14:09

Learn How Spot an Untrustworthy URL

Which of these are NOT fake URLs for "AnyBank"?

Anti-Phishing Phyllis™




wombat security technologies

\*Lessons from Wombat Security Technologies Anti-Phishing Phil and Phyllis training modules

RSA EMC²

1. <http://www.anybank-login.com/user>
2. <https://www.anybank.com/login>
3. <http://www.143.168.72/anybank.com/login>
4. <http://www3.anybank.com/login>
5. <http://www.anybank.com.bankme.login.uk/>
6. <http://www.anybank.secure-login.com/user>



EMC²

Insert presenter logo here  
on live master. See hidden  
slide 4 for directions

RSACONFERENCE  
EUROPE 2012





# Gaming Scenario

Round: 3 Score: 1400 Lives: 3 1:25

email 1 of 3 round 3 of 3 1:14 time remaining 681 points

<http://member.bankofthewest-online.com/>

From: Wombank  
To: Phyllis  
CC:  
Subject: Account Breach  
Attachments: PhyllisAccount.pdf

**wombank**

Dear Phyllis,

We have recently received reports of compromised accounts from some of our customers. In some instances, account numbers appear to have been switched. To assess the scope of the issue, we are asking all of our customers to verify their account information. We have attached the information we have on file regarding your account. Please review this information, and then call us at your earliest convenience to verify that your account information is correct.

We have set up an account verification hotline at 1-800-555-5601.

We apologize for this inconvenience.

Wombank Customer Service

100 Wombat Way Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
800-555-1234

**Contacts**

- wombank
- WOMBATON.com
- womboyage
- womzai
- Friends of Phyllis

To Reject T or ← or → For Teach

**Disarm**  
Phishing Trap

**Ignore**  
Harmless



# EMC's Human Firewall Certification

- Mandatory training completed
  - Information security policy
  - Privacy awareness
- Tests
  - Passed a phishing test
  - Passed a clear desk test
- Attended a threat briefing session



# Training Dashboard Mockup

Hello! John Stevens

## Achievements

 **Gold Badge**  
Smartphone Top Score Challenge

 **Silver Badge**  
Safe Social Networks Training

 **Gold Badge**  
GSO Email Security Challenge

[more>>](#)

## Challenges

## End Date

GSO Phishing Challenge  
You could win an Ipad!

04/25/2012

GSO Email security Challenge

07/01/2012

Smartphones Top Score Challenge

05/31/2012

Safe URLs Challenge

10/10/2012

[more>>](#)

## Compliance Status





## Scorecard

Department

▼ Accounting

## GSO Phishing Challenge ▼

 Phebe Waterfield	3500
 Cathy Hollowbrik	3000
Suzan Cerullo	2500
Bob Meyer	2500
Steve Jacobs	2200
Michael Behm	2000

GSO

## Training Modules



### Wombat Security Email Training

Learn how to avoid phishing emails and other email scams



### Wombat Security Safe Social Networks Training

Learn how to use your social networking sites safely



### Wombat Security Password Training

Learn how to create and manage strong passwords



### Wombat Security Smartphone Training

Learn how to use your smartphones in ways that protects you and your employer

[more>>](#)

## Recent Activity



**Brian just earned a gold badge from Wombat Security Smartphone Training**

3 days ago in [Wombat Security Smartphone Training](#)

by [Brian Osterman](#)



**Phebe just correctly identified 35 Phishing URL's and is leading the GSO Phishing Challenge. Think you can beat her, click here to try**

8 days ago in [GSO Phishing Challenge](#)

by [Robin Norris](#)



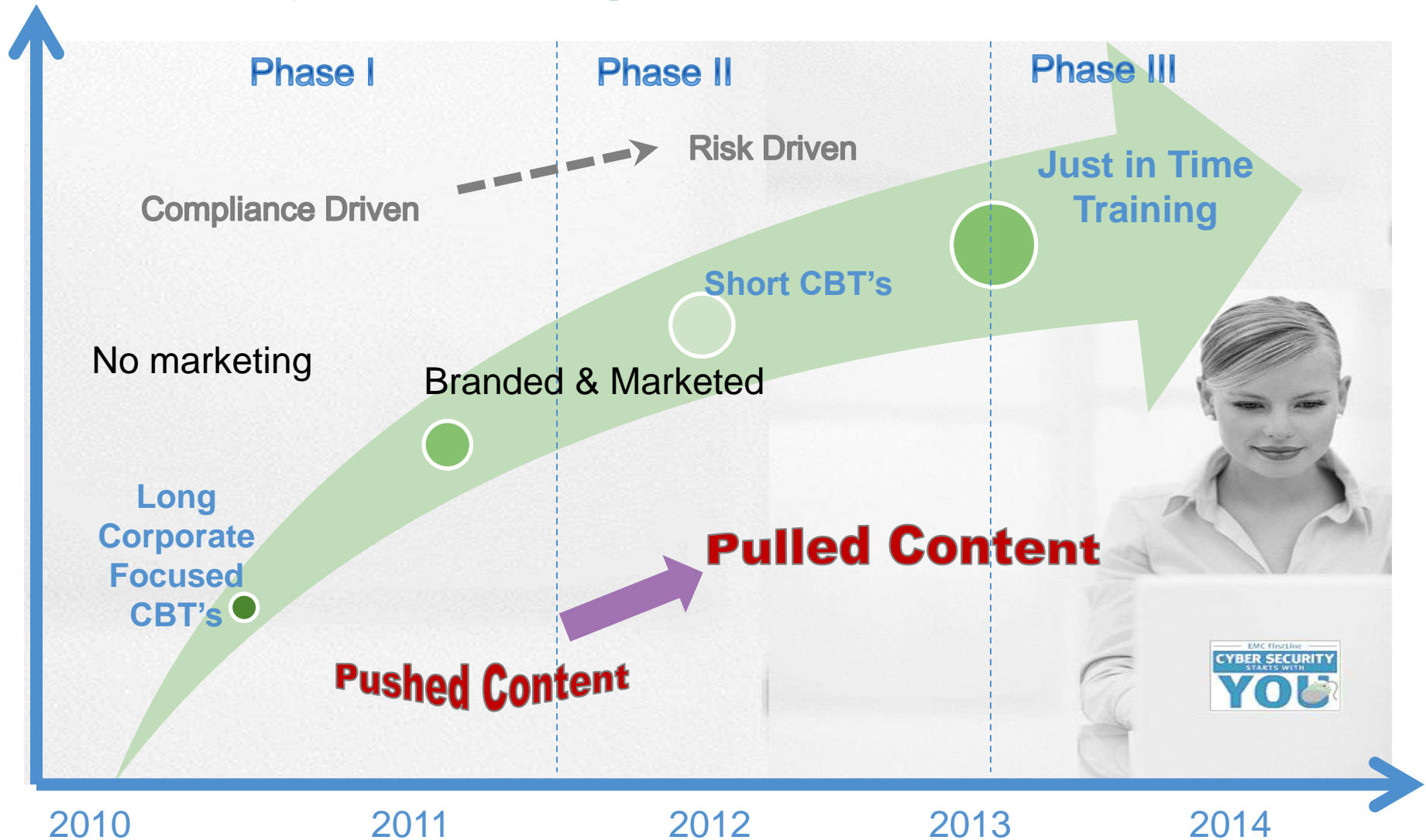
**Time is running out! You only have seven days to complete the March Smartphone Training Assignment**

8 days ago in [Wombat Security Smartphone Training](#)

by [Phebe Waterfield](#)



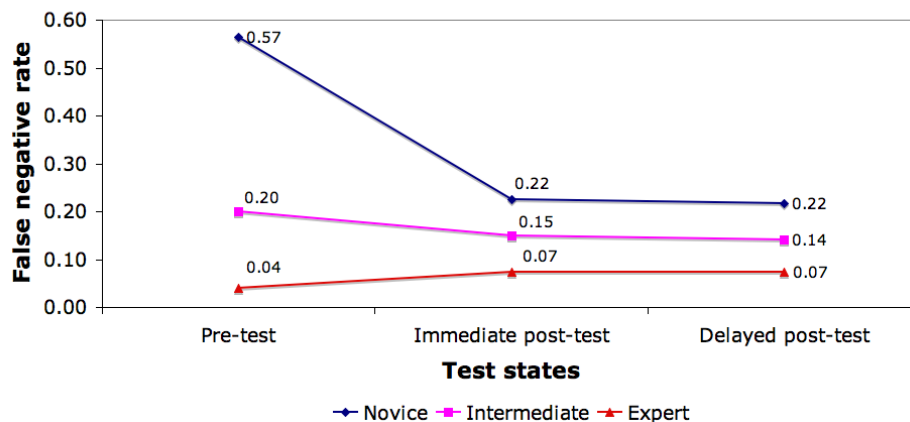
# Security Training Roadmap



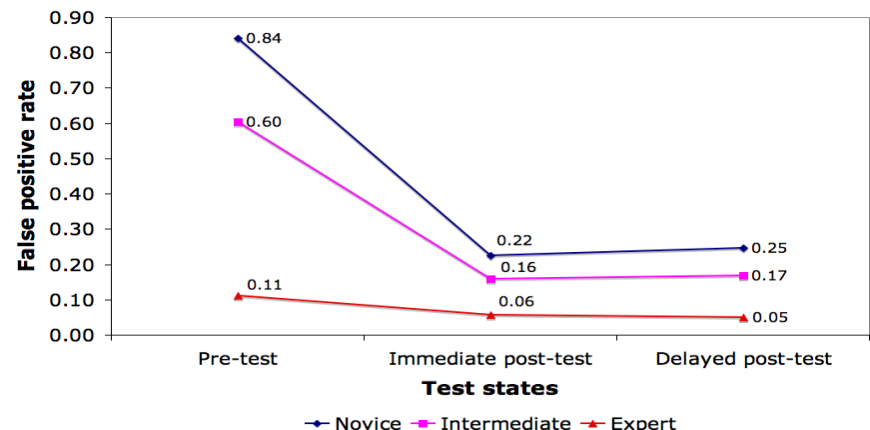
# Evaluation of Game-based Training

- Peer-reviewed study validating results
- Tested security game with ~4500 users
  - Huge improvement in identifying phishing URLs
  - Also dramatically lowered false positives
- 50% decrease in susceptibility after training

Label a phishing site as legitimate



Label a legitimate site as phishing



# Key Tools for Effective Training

- Tool #1 Training via simulated attacks
- Tool #2 Interactive software & gaming
- Tool #3 Learn by doing techniques
- Tool #4 Train in context
- Tool #5 Tell a story



# Summary

- Humans don't have to be your weakest link
- A security awareness program reduces your risk
- Yes, security awareness training can work
  - Phishing failure rate below 5% post training
- Training must be engaging, efficient & measurable
- Leverage learning science for the best results
- Knowledgeable users are your best defense







# Thank You