

NSA claims Russia hacked voting systems

Russia's military intelligence agency attempted to hack the computers of U.S. voting officials in the days before the 2016 presidential election, according to a leaked National Security Agency (NSA) report

ANATOMY OF SPEAR-PHISHING ATTACK

ADVERSARY SPACE



Hacker allegedly affiliated with Russia's *Main Intelligence Directorate*



Creates new email account using data from "cyber espionage operations" against targeted company

Crafts fake email

Email mimics *Google Alert*, relating to purported issue with targeted employee's account



3 Sends email

Employee enticed to click on malicious link within email



VICTIM SPACE

Operational infrastructure

5 Gathers credentials

Hacker-controlled website closely resembling Google webmail page



4 Clicks link and enters credentials
Victim also gives phone number and Google verification code if two-factor authentication (2FA) is enabled

NEUTRAL SPACE

6 Credentials give hacker opportunity to access

Targeted company systems



7 Steals data of interest

Seven email accounts at U.S. election software firm targeted – at least one likely compromised. Not known if hacking affected election results