

Forged LinkedIn Password Notices - EDS Pension Payout Offer - If Leaving HP

You may get identical copies via LinkedIn and Yahoo; just delete the extras. All sent June 22.

1. Forged LinkedIn Password Notices. LinkedIn has been sending emails to members who have not changed their password since 2012. Criminals are now sending similar emails referring to the purchase of LinkedIn by Microsoft. As with most such scams, they threaten to suspend your account if you don't comply.

You should never click on a link in an email that is supposedly "from" a bank or credit card company, Amazon, a social network such as Facebook or LinkedIn, your broadband or email supplier, invoice attachments, court or IRS legal notices, etc. -- unless you are expecting that email and it contains details from that specific transaction that only you and the company would know.

Even if you hover over a link before clicking it, criminals set up domain names that are similar to an authentic domain -- for example, creating an official-sounding URL such as linkedinadmin.com or using the numeral "1" instead of the lower-case "l" in we11sfargo.

Instead, log in to the website directly using a URL that you know is correct -- i.e. www.linkedin.com . Then decide if you need to take whatever action was indicated in the email.

2. Strengthen Passwords. Don't re-use passwords on multiple online services. If one service is breached -- as LinkedIn, Myspace, and Tumbler were in 2012 -- criminals now use automated networks to test the old email/password combinations on other services.

Leading security blogger Brian Krebs explains here:

<http://krebsonsecurity.com/2016/06/password-re-user-get-to-get-busy/>

Much advice on passwords is outdated. Modern international criminals have access to botnets made up of thousands of remotely-controlled computers. Here's the most sensible article that I've found.

<http://krebsonsecurity.com/password-dos-and-donts/>

3. EDS Pensions. US EDS alumni should call Fidelity to:

- Check for a stray EDS pension account... and
- See if there is an **open lump-sum payout offer** on that account -- which you may want to take.

Many report that they received a flyer in the mail. However, Fidelity's old EDS records may not have your current postal address -- and members report that the flyer looks like junk mail and is easily discarded.

The offer applies if the "lump-sum present value of your accrued benefit as of Aug 1, 2016" is between \$5K to \$100K.

Deadline is a month away -- July 22, 2016 --

but there is paperwork and possible notarization required.

Details on the HPAAlumni site at: <http://www.hpalumni.org/eds>

This is being discussed on the "EDS Alumni" LinkedIn group. <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/60016>

When this issue came up last year, several folks found forgotten EDS pension accounts.

4. Know someone leaving HP? Send them this link to the famous "**ASAP Checklist**" -- advice from HPAA members on urgent things to do before losing HP access:<http://www.hpalumni.org/asap> (Membership not required.)

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