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Fraudulent Westpac Website Suspended

[<web-link for this article>](#)

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) has alerted the public about a fraudulent website with the address "<http://www.hkys.hk/language/en-GB/westpac/index.htm>". The website looks like the official website of Westpac Banking Corporation (Westpac), but the bank has no connection with it. The site had been shut down at the time of writing.

The Police are investigating, anyone who has used the site for financial transactions or entered their personal information contact Westpac at 2842 9920 and any local Police Station or the Commercial Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

More Information

Fraudulent website: <http://www.hkys.hk/language/en-GB/westpac/index.htm>

Hong Kong Police Evaluates 1990's Technology for Front-Line Officers

[<web-link for this article>](#)

Police are starting a six-month trial using Personal Digital Assistants (PDA) to issue electronic fixed-penalty tickets for illegal parking.

Eight PDAs with portable printers will be deployed and officers will key data including the vehicle registration number, the contravention code and the location before printing out a fixed-penalty ticket. Data would be uploaded to servers at Police stations later. Police said the scheme will comply with data-protection principles.

Transport Advisory Committee Chariman, Mr Larry Kwok, said, "The E-Ticketing scheme aims to enhance front-line police officers' efficiency in traffic enforcement. We welcome the Government's plan to conduct the trial". He added that no amendment to the law would be necessary.

The announcement did not give details of the capabilities or model of PDA to be used, however the description of the workflow does not suggest it is very advanced. Manual data

entry can sometimes be error-prone, but modern features could improve on this. If the PDA had a camera, the officer could take a photo of the illegally parked vehicle showing the offence, and a second, close-up of the number plate as strong evidence. If the device had a capable processor, Automatic Numberplate Recognition (ANPR) software could enter the registration number to the ticketing software directly. A GPS device could supply accurate location and time data and embed it in the photos. With the addition of telecommunication capability, the PDA could report the offence to the Police station servers immediately. Fortunately, such devices already exist, they are often called "Smartphones".

More Information

[Police to trial e-tickets for illegal parking](#)

[TAC welcomes E-Ticketing trial](#)

[Parking e-tickets en route for cops](#)

Sophos Notifies Customers of Vulnerability in Anti-Virus engine for Microsoft Windows

[<web-link for this article>](#)

Graham Sutherland of Portcullis Computer Security Ltd recently identified and responsibly disclosed a vulnerability in Sophos Anti-Virus Engine (SAV Engine) running on Microsoft Windows platforms. The vulnerability could in theory have allowed a remote attacker to manipulate the SAV Engine, which could result in protection being disabled or bypassed by an attacker.

Sophos has, on 22 January, released an engine update that fixes the vulnerability and users with the default configuration will receive the update automatically. The vulnerability affected Endpoint Security and Control for Windows client included in the company's Endpoint/Enduser, PureMessage, and SharePoint products.

More Information

[Windows based Sophos Anti-Virus engine \(SAVi\) vulnerability fixed in the January update](#)

[Sophos Anti-Virus engine for Microsoft Windows - vulnerability notification](#)

Hong Kong Cybercrime Continues to Soar

[<web-link for this article>](#)

Technology crime in Hong Kong increased 70% from 3015 to 5133 cases in 2013, and resolution of those cases dropped to just 10%, compared to about 15% the previous year, and 43% for all crimes. The review echoes [last year's review](#), which saw a 30% rise in technology crime. Hong Kong Police Commissioner Andy Tsang Wai-hung again cited difficulties in investigation and jurisdiction issues.

The Police plan to upgrade its technology crime division to a Bureau led by a chief superintendent and increasing the staff from 100 to 175.

The total monetary losses were about HK\$863 million, most (HK\$760 million) being to email deception. Deputy commissioner for operations Stephen Lo Wai-chung said, "One of the most common ways companies fall victim to such scams is when staff fail to verify e-mails from supposedly regular business partners and follow scammers' instructions, making payments to scammers' bank accounts".

"Sextortion" cases rose sevenfold from 60 to 477 cases. The mostly male victims were enticed into stripping off on webcam while chatting with mostly female chat partners who were similarly engaged. The victims were then charged anything from \$100 to \$90,000 to stop the blackmailer posting the recorded images of the victim naked.

Hong Kong is a safe city, except online.

More Information

[Overall crime drops 4%](#)

[Cybercrime surges in Hong Kong fuelled by email scams and extortion](#)

[2013: Jump in e-mail fraud and cybercrime alarms police](#)

[2013: Hong Kong Cybercrime on the Rise](#)

Yui Kee Computing wishes everyone a Secure and Prosperous Year of the Horse

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