

“MICROSOFT” SCAM

By: SUE DETERS

It looks like Microsoft, sounds like Microsoft, but is it really Microsoft? Recently many users have been receiving a rather scary pop-up on their computers from what appears to be Microsoft warning them that their machine has been compromised and they are infected with a virus. The pop-up has audio and shouts at the user to “Contact Technical Support!” at the 800 number listed below. It is so nice of the scammers to offer a toll free number so they can steal from you!

So what happens if you do contact them? Typically, they will connect to your machine and run some “diagnostic” tools to show you that you are infected. Then they will inform you that for a certain dollar amount they will clean your system for you. It is a SCAM! Do not pay them anything and contact your IT professional immediately.

To help prevent this from happening to you, there are a few simple guidelines to follow. Keep your Anti-virus software up to date and install Malware detection software. Perform regular scans on your machine. Don’t ever allow a stranger to connect to your machine and don’t give your credit card information out freely. Remember, Microsoft will NOT initiate a call to you, they prefer that you call them.



As always, remember to practice safe computing!

If you have any questions about this or any other technology issue, please contact your Account Manager or [Sue Deters](mailto:Sue.Deters@connerash.com), IT Manager, at (314) 205-2510 or via email at sdeters@connerash.com.