

# UNDERSTANDING & PREVENTING FRAUD

Regions Treasury Management  
CONNIE PAYNE, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT ONLINE SOLUTIONS



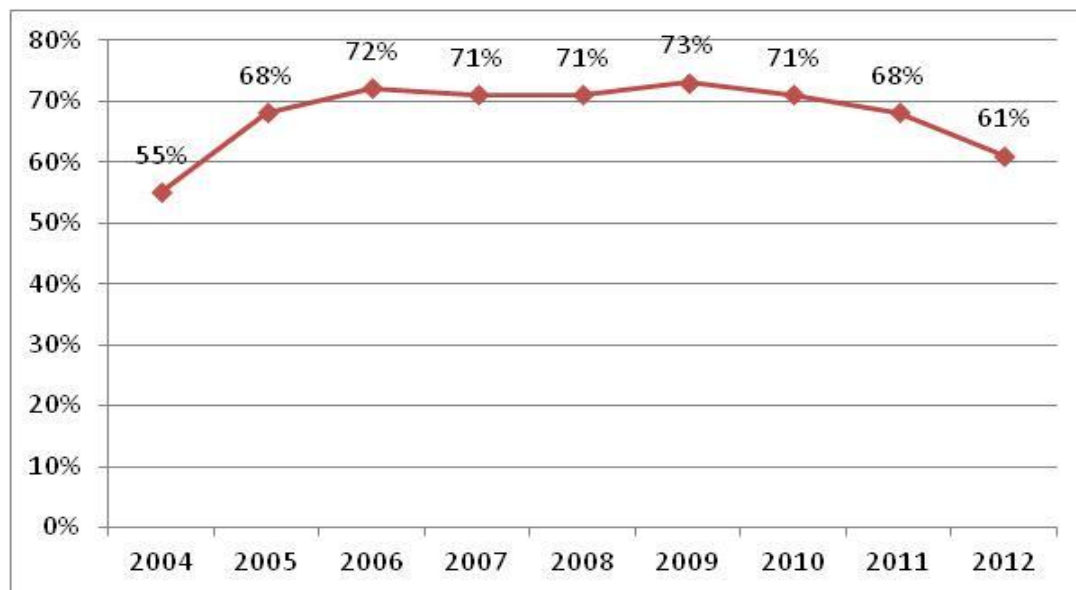
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# Fraud is a Prevailing Threat

## *Percent of Organizations Subject to Attempted and/or Actual Payments Fraud*



**Nearly  
two-thirds of  
organizations  
have been  
victims of  
fraud**

- › 50% of organizations with less than \$1 billion in annual revenue experienced payments fraud
- › 67% of organizations with over \$1 billion in annual revenue experienced payments fraud

# Losses Impact the Bottom Line

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- › Organizations in the U.S. lose about 5% of their revenue to fraud
- › Checks are the most vulnerable payment type to fraud attacks
- › Many fraud incidents within a small business involve employees
- › The average fraud scheme goes undetected for 18 months

Typical loss due to  
fraud -- \$20,300

# Education is Key to Prevention



# Bookkeeping Fraud can Greatly Impact Small Businesses

- › Perpetrated by a trusted employee
- › Arises when full authority has been given to issue and reconcile payments which is especially common in small businesses
- › May also be associated with investment schemes, sales schemes or identity theft



## Red Flags:

- ✓ Living beyond their means
- ✓ Financial difficulties
- ✓ Unusually close association with vendors or customers
- ✓ Excessive control issues

# Preventing Bookkeeping Fraud

Never Sign Blank Checks

Establish Dual Control for Check Issuance & Account Reconciliation

Ensure all Employees are Aware and Adhere to Internal Controls & Financial Reporting

Restrict Employee Access to Accounting Systems & Online Functions; Audit Periodically

Implement an Approval process for New Vendors

# Payments Best Practices

- › Reconcile accounts in a timely manner.
- › Convert paper payments to electronic.
- › Securely store check stock, deposit slips and bank statements then destroy securely.
- › Place stop payment on any check that has left your possession.
- › Utilize Positive Pay services for checks and ACH.





# Cyber Attack Target: Business Accounts

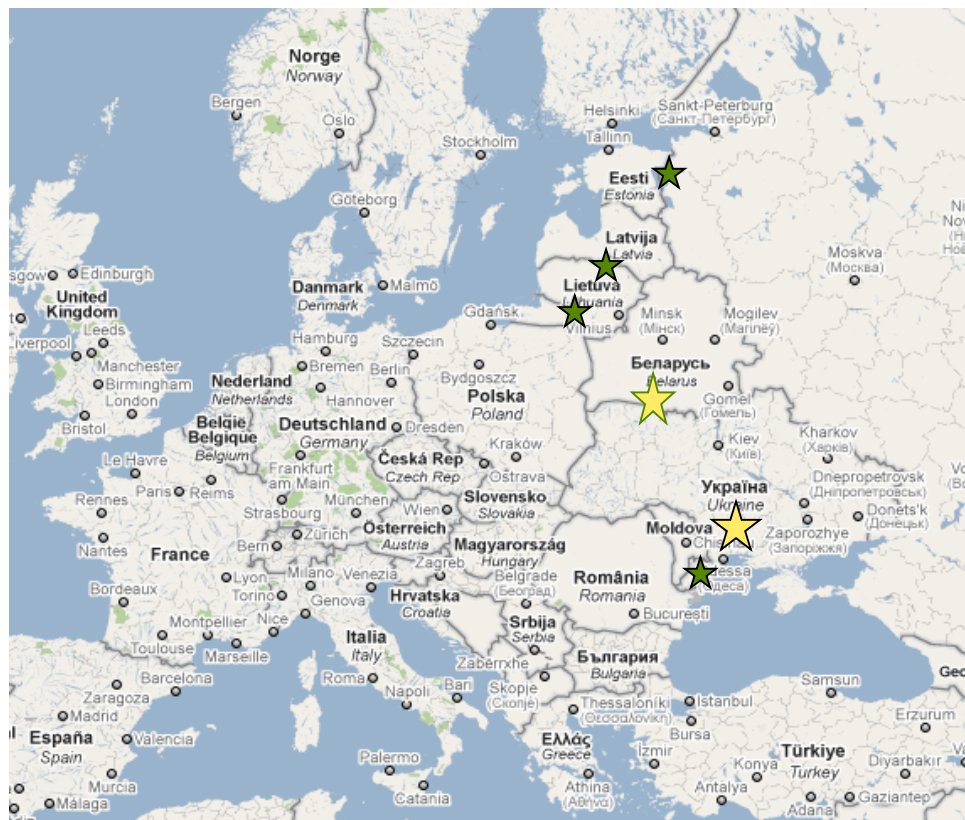
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- High dollar balances in checking accounts
- Money can be moved quickly
  - Real-time using Wire Transfer
  - Near real-time using ACH
- Commercial computers represent a target-rich environment for other corporate information



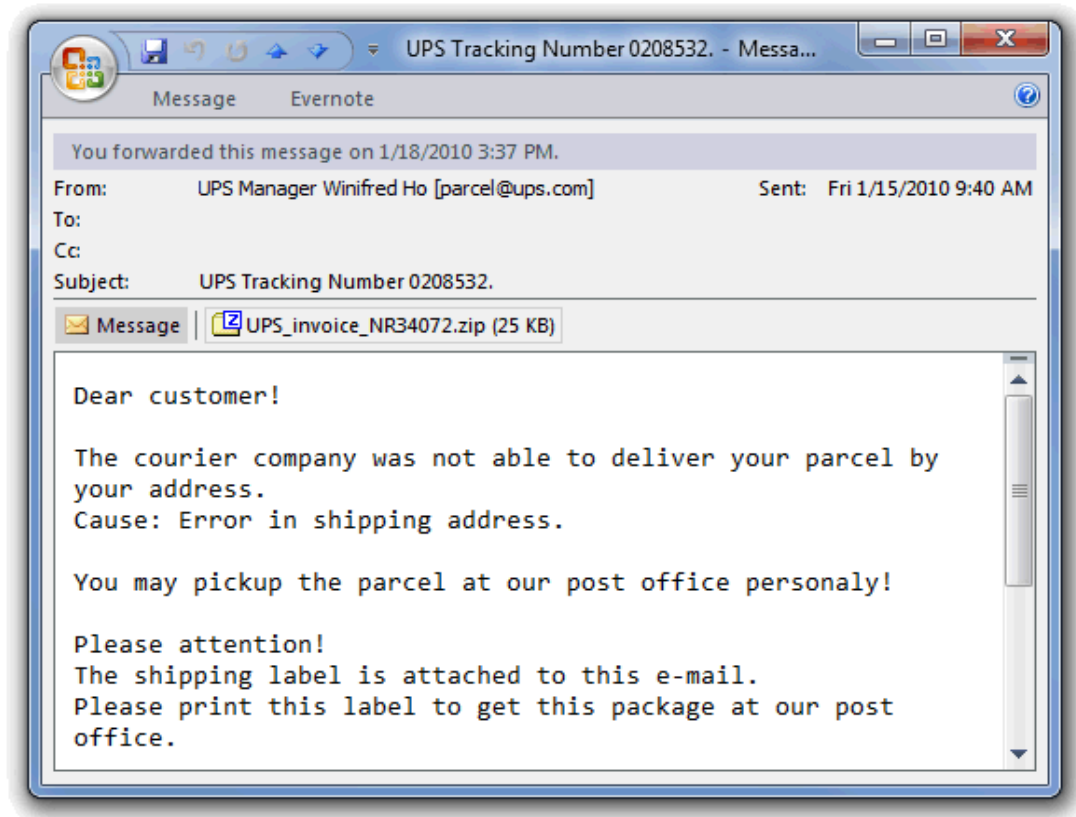
# Where Are the Fraudsters?

- Ringleaders and Malware authors are in Russia and Ukraine
- Software is for sale on the Darknet (underground internet)
- Command and Control servers along with botnet servers are for rent
  - These are used to disperse the malware
- The actual thief may be in the house or office next door

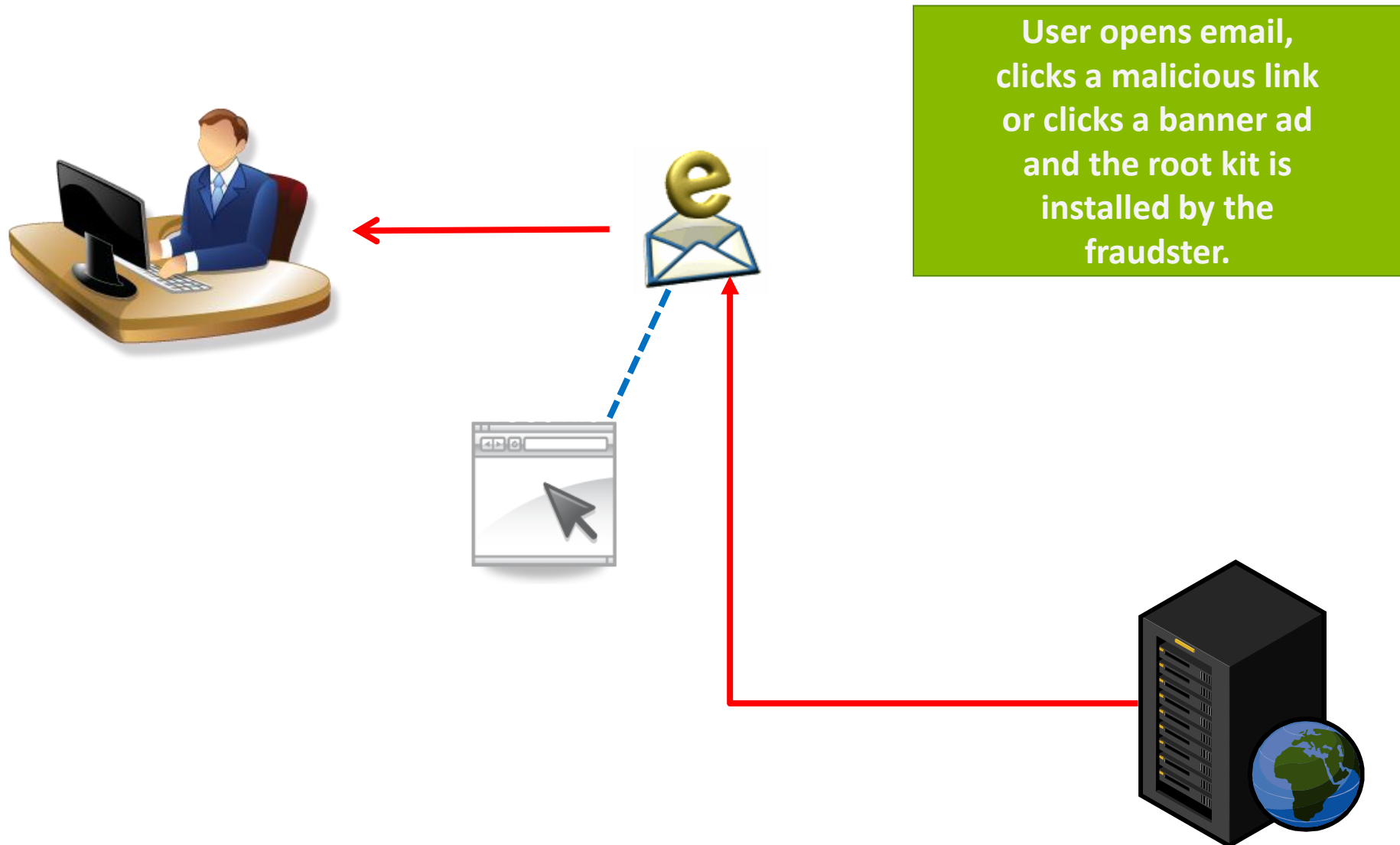


# Methods of Attack

- Phishing emails with malicious links or attachments
- Banner ads on prominent surf engines and news sites
- Social networking sites (your friends may not be your friends)
- Probing for un-patched, vulnerable machines and attacking directly

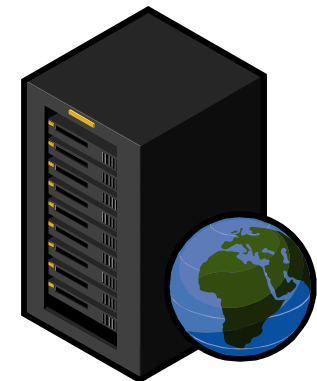


# Methods of Attack



# Methods of Attack

- Root kit installs itself deep within the client's operating system.
- Root kit "phones home" across the internet to a Command and Control server. It tells the Command and Control server "I am here. Send me the rest of the malware payload."



# Methods of Attack



**Malware disables anti-virus software. (The indicator in the system tray isn't necessarily affected, so the user doesn't know that anti-virus has been disabled.)**



# Methods of Attack



Software (malware) is running in the background as a service. It waits for the user to connect to iTreasury, or any online banking service. As soon as that happens, an instant message is sent out to the criminal, alerting him that the user is online.

iTreasury

ⓘ If you need assistance with iTreasury, please call Regions Commercial Client Services directly at 1-800-787-3905. Support hours have been extended until 6:00 p.m. Central.

October 28, 2010

Please sign in: [Forgot Password](#)

Required fields are denoted with an \*

Organization ID: \*

User ID: \*

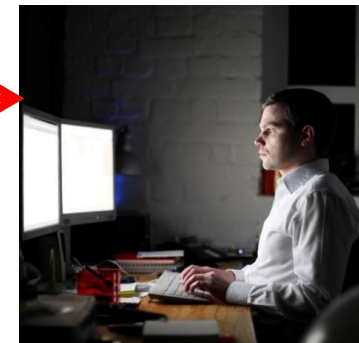
Password: \*

Passcode: \*

[Confirm Passcode](#)

 **REGIONS**

Member FDIC



# Methods of Attack



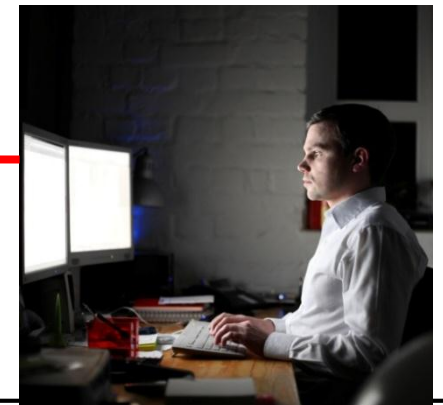
User enters logon credentials and token pin and malware executes a “man in the browser” attack

- Code is injected onto the user’s web page with a message such as “iTreasury is down” or “OnePass is down;” “please try again in 15 minutes”

iTreasury

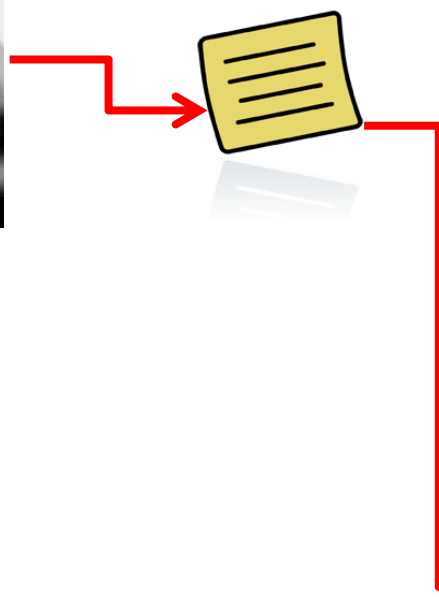
! If you need assistance with iTreasury, please call Regions Commercial Client Services directly at 1-800-787-3905. Support hours have been extended until 6:00 p.m. Central.

***iTreasury is currently down; please try again in 15 minutes.***

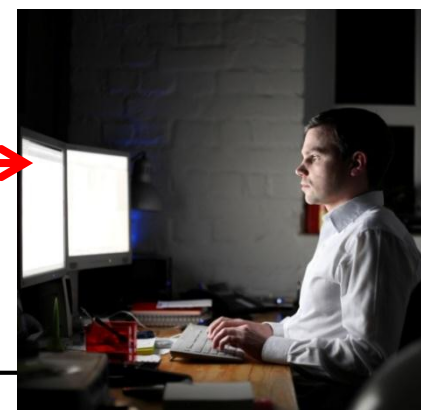




# Methods of Attack



Meanwhile, key logging software in the malware has captured the logon credentials which are sent via Instant Messaging to the bad guy.



# Methods of Attack

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Passcode: \*

**REGIONS**

Member FDIC

The criminal now logs on to the financial service.

He now has the ability to do everything that the user is entitled to do.

[Transaction List](#) | [Single Wire](#) | [Batch Wire](#) | [Wire Repair](#) | [Wire History](#)

Add Single Wire: Add Wire

Non-Repelitive Internal

Amount: \*

Currency: USD

Value Date: \*

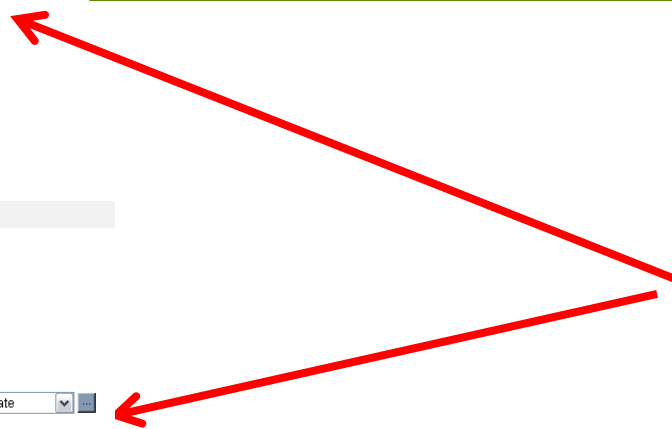
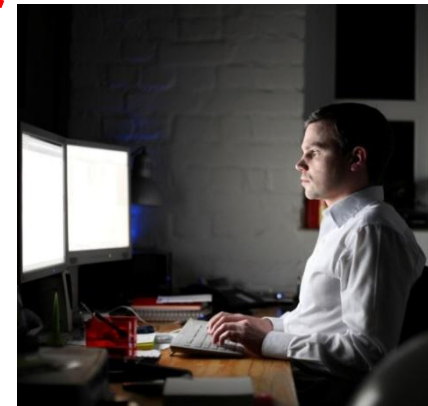
Debit Account: \*

Beneficiary Account: \*

Beneficiary Name:

INF:

Revision: 5.2



# Methods of Attack



For any financial service requiring a token for ACH and Wire Transfer release, the criminal can create the transaction and wait for another opportunity to release the transaction.

IF the client is using dual authorization and the approver is NOT infected, then there won't be fraud.

Also, with the introduction of Regions OnePass and Regions Out of Band Authentication, Regions is help prevent this type of fraud.



Wire transfers must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CST.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Wire #	Status	Application	Line ID	Value Date	Batch No.	Item Count	Customer Account No.	Amount	Bene Name	Host Ref. No.	Payment Network Ref. No.
<input type="checkbox"/>	814243	ENTERED	NRB		03/29/2010			0081634102	\$9,900.00	The Mule		
<input type="checkbox"/>	814244	ENTERED	NUS		03/29/2010			0081634102	\$9,500.00	The Mule		

TOP

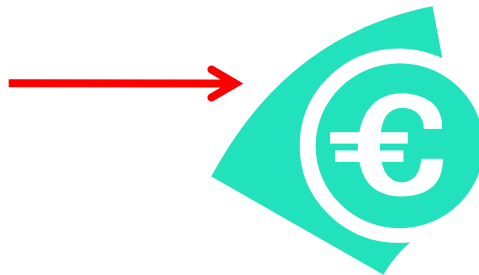
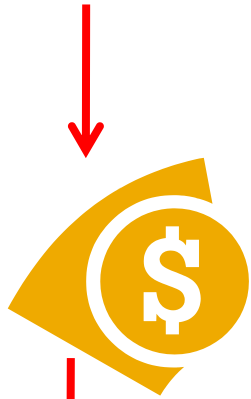
[Help](#) [Release](#) [Revise](#) [Delete](#) [Refresh](#) [Detail Report](#) [Totals Report](#) [Summary Report](#)

# Methods of Attack

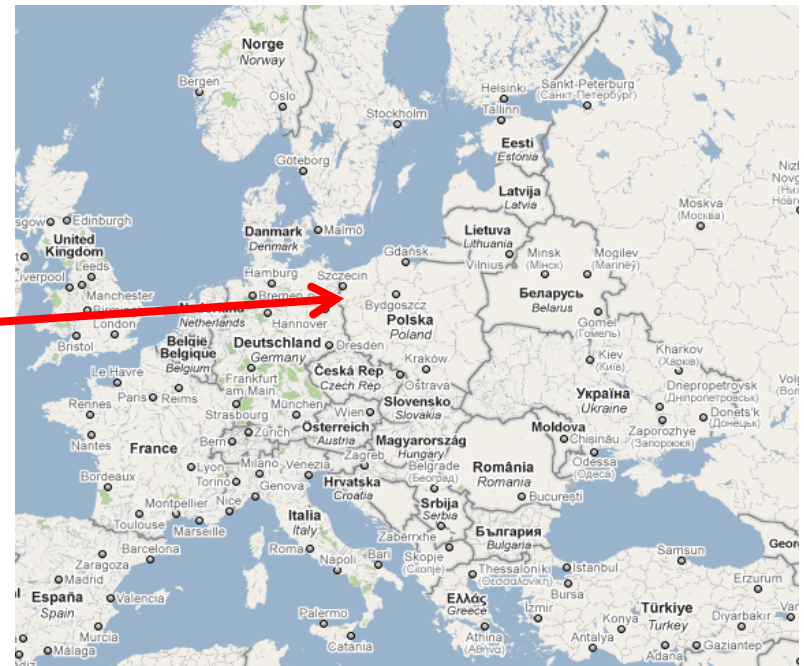
Wire transfers must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. CST.

Wire #	Status	Application	Line ID	Value Date	Batch No.	Item Count	Customer Account No.	Amount	Bene Name	Host Ref. No.	Payment Network Ref. No.
814243	ENTERED	NRB		03/29/2010			0081634102	\$8,000.00	The Mule		
814244	ENTERED	NUS		03/29/2010			0081634102	\$2,600.00	The Mule		

TOP  
Help Release Revisa Delete Refresh Detail Report Totals Report Summary Report



Money is usually sent to mules, who are recruited to accept Wire Transfers and/or ACH payments. The mules then withdraw the funds and wire the money outside the U.S.



# Internet Banking Best Practices

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- Dual Control for transaction initiation
  - Wire and ACH
  - E-mail Alerts for Approvals
- Daily reconciliation
- Secure environment
  - Dedicated PC and/or limit web surfing
  - Firewall, Anti-virus, Anti-malware, Anti-spyware
- Use strong passwords and protect them
- Don't click on links in suspicious e-mails

## Additional Resources

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Fraud Prevention Best Practices for payments, online and bookkeeper fraud can be found at [regions.com/stopfraud](http://regions.com/stopfraud)

Other resources:

- Internet Crime Complaint Center  
[www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov)
- Safe Checks Fraud Bulletin  
<http://www.safechecks.com/services/fraudbulletin.html>

Surveys and Other Sources Cited:

*2013 AFP Payments Fraud and Control Survey*  
*Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (acfe.com)*