

Business Email Compromise (BEC) Quick Facts

23,775*

Number of Business Email Compromise (BEC) frauds in 2019

\$1,776,549,688

Financial Loss

50%

Percentage of global cybercrime losses in 2019 accounted by BEC

\$100 M

cost of an attack

What is Business Email Compromise?

Attackers employ social engineering and domain spoof tactics to compromise a legitimate business email account and execute fraudulent activities. With origins in CEO or executive impersonation, BEC has now expanded in scope to include personal emails and external vendor email.



How to Recognize a BEC Attack?

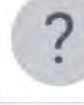
BEC attacks are very targeted and well executed, making it difficult to differentiate these from legitimate emails. Here are some red flags to look for:


Hello,
I am writing to inform you that the payment for last month hasn't been made. Please make the payment urgently to avoid legal actions taken against your company.

Regards,
 Andrew Craig
 Vendor XYZ

[Payment-Invoice ID:2B15712910.pdf](#)

"Urgent" or "Immediate" vendor payment request

 Andrew Craig
 <andrew.craig@vendor-xyz-email.com>

 Andrew Craig
 <andrew.craig@vendorxyz.com>

Vendor payment request from a new email or with new bank account/routing number

Good afternoon,

As Monday is a national holiday, we will require the payment to be made the latest by end of day, today.

Please follow the instructions in the link below:

[Make Secure Payment](#)

Request for payments before the weekend or holidays

Hello,

URGENT—Please make the wire transfer today otherwise services will be stopped immediately. The bank details are as follows:

Account Number: 86752406
Sort Code: 23-85-28

Request for payment to a wire transfer or personal account


Hi Chris, I am out of office today and there's a installment pending today for Vendor XYZ.

Please transfer £48,680 urgently to the account in the invoice attached.

Best,
 Helen

[invoice-vendorxyz-70312945102.pdf](#)

Request for out-of-the-ordinary payment amounts

 Owen Barnard
 <owen.barnard@company.com>

FW: URGENT – Please make this payment

Hi Emily,
 This payment was due last week?! Please make the payment ASAP.
[The Payment Link](#)

Regards,
 Owen Barnard
 CEO, Company X

Email from a spoofed C-level executive email address directing credit card payments and money transfers



All of these emails target the people or the human layer - something that most anti-phishing tools ignore.

Recognizing and preventing BEC attacks requires creation of a baseline for communication patterns and conversation styles to identify anomalies and a *strong* security awareness education program in place.

Learn How to Stop BEC Attacks with Tessian.

With Tessian's Human Layer Security platform, you can detect sophisticated and targeted BEC attacks in realtime and ensure that your employees learn to recognize such attacks with our non-disruptive and in-the-moment alerts.

[VIEW TESSIAN DEFENDER →](#)