E-mail security (spam and virus protection)

The university computing centre uses Sophos Central Email Security to defend against spam, phishing and virus emails.

Report spam and phishing emails

A small number of spam e-mails could still possibly get into your mailbox. If you want to report such e-mails, send them as an attachment to the address “is-spam@labs.sophos.com”. It is easy to send the e-mail as an attachment with most e-mail programs by starting a new e-mail and then dragging and dropping the spam e-mail into the window with the new e-mail. You should then see an attachment with the extension .eml.

A description of the procedure can be found in the Sophos Knowledge Base:
https://community.sophos.com/kb/en-us/23113

Central quarantine

Sophos Central Email Security holds back recognized spam/phishing emails in the quarantine area. You will receive a daily “digest message” by email to keep you informed. If a filtered email has been detected incorrectly, you can release it via the Sophos Self Service Portal at https://central.sophos.com/manage/self-service if necessary. **Please proceed with the necessary caution.

Instructions and further information on the Sophos Self Service Portal can be found at:
https://docs.sophos.com/central/SelfService/help/de-de/index.ht

Undelivered emails

Depending on the current threat situation, certain attachments may not be delivered to your mailbox. These include password-protected zip files. You will receive the email without the attachment and, if necessary and after careful checking, you can unlock the complete email via the Sophos Self Service Portal.

Protection against dangerous links

Manipulated links in emails pose a major threat. To provide you with the best possible protection, we use Sophos “Time of Click Protection”, which checks at the time of clicking on a link whether it is malicious. The original link is converted for this purpose. The URL then reads, for e.g.

https://eu-central-1.protection.sophos.com/ ?d=typo3.org

&u=aHR0cHM6Ly90eXBvMy5vcmcvc2VjdXJpdHkvYWR2aXNvcnkvdHlwbzMtZXh0LXNhLTIwMjMtMDA0
&i=NjMxMDUzN2Y3YTZlMTAxMDc5YjI0OGVk
&t=d3d2WmFjVWtuZEpHRlRaeVAvaklaajlmaG15K2RNRE11L3BQKzdpN0ZEYz0=
&h=57e969f343344d3986686abcf79e0dc1 &s=AVNPUEhUT0NFTkNSWVBUSVZ9U3b4-DQ5Jakn4-A04o-HYCPRTRfAX8vtJppV3Ly2nIjsax-adUQ1nuEnKhO8zss

The first parameter after the “?” contains the name of the destination server for you to check.

the server is: https://eu-central-1.protection.sophos.com and receives the following parameters:
d=typo3.org
u=aHR0cHM6Ly90eXBvMy5vcmcvc2VjdXJpdHkvYWR2aXNvcnkvdHlwbzMtZXh0LXNhLTIwMjMtMDA0 - base64 encoded URL

The original URL can be determined again in cleartext at any time using a base64 decoder (here as an example: https://www.base64decode.org/)

For the technically interested: The server eu-central-1.protection.sophos.com compares the original URL with entries in the Sophos SXL database. If it is a dangerous URL, a warning appears, otherwise the user is redirected to the original destination.

Permitted file attachments

The receipt of files that may contain executable program code may be rejected. In particular, outdated Microsoft Office documents such as *.doc and *.xls are not permitted. Please use the current file formats, i.e. *.docx or *.xlsx.

From:
https://hrz-admin-wiki.jade-hs.de/ - **HRZ-Admin-Wiki**

Permanent link:
https://hrz-admin-wiki.jade-hs.de/en/tp/email/protection

Last update: **2025/07/02 12:09**