# CYBER GUIDANCE ISSUE 0290

## FAKE CHATGPT CHROME EXTENSION

## DATE ISSUED: 13th March 2023

| IMPACT | LOW | MEDIUM | HIGH |
|---|---|---|---|

| EASE OF EXPLOIT | HARD | MEDIUM | EASY |
|---|---|---|---|

## OVERVIEW

Cybercriminals are always coming up with new ways to distribute malware, and this time it's by creating a fake ChatGPT-branded Chrome browser extension that has the ability to hijack Facebook business accounts and create rogue administrator accounts.

## BREAKDOWN

Guardio Labs researcher Nati Tal discovered a "Quick access to ChatGPT" Chrome browser extension that claims to grant users a shortcut to access the chatbot. ChatGPT is a language model driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI) that generates data from general written commands. The fake browser extension was promoted on Facebook and sets to work harvesting cookies and Facebook account data once it is installed. The hijacked Facebook accounts would then be used to advertise the malware to expand its reach and lure in other potential victims. The extension received 2,000 installations per day from March 3, 2023 until it was taken down from the Chrome Web store on March 9, 2023. Although this specific extension has been removed from circulation , it is a timely reminder that it is imperative to be cautious and to stay vigilant in regard to fake apps and browser extensions, which may be an impersonation scam. According to numerous researchers, the popularity of Artificial Intelligence driven tools has attracted the attention of threat actors who can then use OpenAI technologies for malicious purposes.

## REMEDIATION STEPS

- Regularly update and patch your web browser to the latest version.
- Install applications and web browser extensions from official web stores. It pays to check the reputation of the developer of any apps or extensions and read other customer reviews before downloading for additional information.
- Utilise VPN to create secure network connections while browsing the Internet.
- Refer to Some Tips on How to Protect Yourself on Social Media to find more tips about safe browsing on social media.

## REFERENCES & RESOURCES

The Hacker News        https://thehackernews.com/2023/03/fake-chatgpt-chrome-extension-hijacking.html
Check Point Research   https://research.checkpoint.com/2023/opwnai-cybercriminals-starting-to-use-chatgpt/
Trend Micro            https://news.trendmicro.com/2023/03/09/fake-chatgpt-app-website/