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Group-IB uncovers ongoing large-scale scam targeting Middle East, Africa



Group-IB, a global threat hunting and adversary-centric cyber intelligence company, recently revealed a large-scale, ongoing scam targeting the Middle East and Africa (MEA) region.

Nearly 140 well-known brands from 16 countries across the region have been leveraged by scammers in fraudulent schemes designed to steal user personal and payment data. Additionally, at least eight of the brands exploited in this multi-stage scam were affiliated with Egypt.

As part of the scam, fake web pages are created by scammers. A typical victim receives a link to these via social media channels or messenger services, or sees them advertised on search engines.

This expands the scam surface, while the victim is redirected to other scam resources, including new giveaways, phishing websites, or websites that infect devices with malware. The total monthly audience of web resources used as a final stage of this scam totalled almost 500,000.

"It's not enough for organisations to employ a simple monitoring approach and blocking individual links, not with online fraud escalating at its current rate," said Ashraf Koheil, MEA Director of Business Development at Group-IB, "Prevention tools should capably and efficiently detect the entire infrastructure mounted by a scammer, and identify each of the elements involved."