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Editorial

Phishing or Hijacking? Forgers Hijacked DU Journal by Copying Content of Another Authenticate Journal

Mehdi Dadkhah[1], Tole Sutikno[2]
[1]Colleges of Computing and Information Society, Arab Open University, Dammam, Saudi Arabia
[2]Department of Electrical Engineering, Universitas Ahmad Dahlan, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Email: dadkhah80@gmail.com[1], tole@ee.uad.ac.id[2]

Hijacked journals are journals that are created by forgers and use same name and ISSN similar authenticate journals. These journals publish papers of authors by requesting publication charges without any peer review because they have financial goals. In many cases, forger select journals that have print version and create the fake website then cheat authors [1-3]. We found a new hijacked journal that name "DU Journal." Original DU journal is Thomson Reuters indexed and has *Arts & Humanities Citation Index*. This journal is established by *DU Verlag, Steinackerstrasse* in Switzerland. Journal's ISSN is monthly ISSN: 0012-6837 and available at this URL: *http://www.du-magazin.com*. Fake journal is placed in this URL *http://dujournal.eu.pn.*

DU journal is Scopus indexed, and we cannot find papers of evaluated URL (http://dujournal.eu.pn) in Scopus database. Also in Thomson Reuter's website we cannot find any link to website. By using a Whois databases, we detect that fake website is created in Jul 2007 by a hosting company and use *ns1.freehostingeu.com* as a name server, it means that website use free hosting service. Often Phisher and forgers use free hosting to be anonymous. Domain of the fake journal is a free domain too. In other words, forgers used free domain and hosting for fake journal. We can find similar hijacking technique for another hijacked journal that name "Ephemera Journal." Ephemera Journal is placed in this server and uses free hosting and domain such as DU journal. It is high probability that a person is a forger of these two journals.

In fake DU journal, two volumes are accessible, and some issues only have one paper. It seems that forgers are creating a website or are searching for victims to publish their papers in these volumes. In contact section of the website, there are three email addresses; *du.editor@swissmail.com*, *du.customer@swissmail.com* and *info@dujournal.eu.pn*. Forgers used *swissmail.com* server as official email addresses to convince authors that journal is belonged to Switzerland, and journal is authenticated while *swissmail.com* server, is free email service such as Google, Yahoo and other free email services, that is created by *mail.com* and any people can create email account in it.

In main page of the fake website, there is an image from a certificate, we searched this image and other images of this site in Google and found that these images are belonged to journal of Siberian federal university (http://journal.sfu-kras.ru/en). Hijackers used Siberian federal university Journal' website content and created faked DU journal. This type of hijacking is very similar to deceptive phishing attacks. In information security literature, phishing is a social engineering based attack where the attacker tries to steal victims' sensitive information by means of different techniques [4, 5]. In deceptive phishing attacks, phisher use content of other websites and create the fake website then redirect victims to the fake website by using of social engineering techniques.

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