

Press release



www.card-security.ch: Police launch a new website for the start of the holidays to improve security for debit and credit cards

Whether skimming, phishing, cash trapping or theft: Card fraud has many faces. Fraudsters generally take advantage of the inattention of their victims. For this reason the Swiss police have teamed up with financial institutions to develop a new website dealing with the issue of card security. www.card-security.ch is scheduled to go online in time for the start of the summer holidays. The website offers practical tips how people can protect themselves from card fraud and what to do if they have been scammed.

Zurich, 1 July 2015 – In 2014, according to police criminal statistics, more than 4200 offences were reported involving debit and credit cards from Swiss providers. Just a few years ago skimming was the name of the game, but today criminals are using a number of different methods. They are constantly thinking up new tricks and so repeatedly manage to get around the security precautions in place.

Raising awareness

With its new website www.card-security.ch the Swiss police want to make people more aware of card security. "It is up to cardholders to ensure safe usage of their own account, debit or credit card", comments Rolf Nägeli, head of the Prevention department of Zurich City Police. "We are constantly amazed at how easily criminals manage to get the card details of their victims." This is the very aspect the website wants to prevent. Its aim is to raise awareness for the safe usage of account, debit and credit cards. The focus here is on the issues of "card protection", "card misuse" and "types of fraud". Practical tips and specific examples also help people to use their cards safely and prevent misuse. Visitors to the site also learn what to do if they have been scammed.

www.card-security.ch has been developed in close cooperation between the police and various financial institutions. The site is aimed at all holders of account, debit and credit cards from a Swiss provider.

Appealing to personal responsibility

In Switzerland the police and financial institutions have demonstrated a very committed approach to card misuse for many years. Enormous progress has been made in terms of technology and innovations. Cash dispensers and payment terminals in Switzerland are considered to be extremely safe. However, fraudsters still manage to get hold of money, cards and PIN numbers of their victims. "One major security risk is the cardholders themselves", comments Rolf Nägeli. For this reason, it is essential for cardholders to be aware of the risks and to take responsibility for their cards. Simple security tips help avoid card misuse. "The most important thing is to always conceal your PIN when entering it and to make sure no-one is watching you when withdrawing money or paying by card." Cardholders should also check their account statements regularly and report any discrepancies to their financial institution.

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Images

Images are available from this link:

www.card-security.ch/en/media#images