Cybercrime Disruption
Web Security
Internet Research
One of our most effective strategies so far has had a huge impact on phishing attacks. In March, the UK’s Global share of this pernicious activity fell below 2% for the first time. When we started in 2016 it was 5.4%.

This is seriously strategic innovation. And we think we can expand it both domestically and internationally to make a transformative difference on a grand scale.

Jeremy Fleming
Director of GCHQ
June 2019
About us

Netcraft is an internet services company based in the UK, which provides countermeasures against cyber-crime.

In 2020 we were one of only three companies to receive a Queen's Award for Enterprise in respect of both Innovation and International Trade.

Cybercrime Disruption

Netcraft has detected and blocked over 83 million phishing sites since 2005. Our feed is very widely distributed, protecting billions of people.

Suspected phishing sites are processed by a sophisticated automated classification system that relies on rules derived from the insight of Netcraft’s staff as well as machine learning techniques.

After discovering attacks targeting our customers, Netcraft can start an automated takedown process, removing attacks within hours. Our countermeasures cover 30% of all phishing attacks globally, on average taking down 100 attacks per hour, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

More pro-actively, Netcraft has a broad range of early detection methods, enabling us to identify and shut down phishing attacks before the link even reaches the intended victims.

Internet Research

Netcraft has been exploring the internet since 1995 and is a respected authority on the market share of web servers, operating systems, hosting providers, certificate authorities, and more.

We investigate how the internet is put together, identify patterns, and discover unusual behaviour. A diverse array of datasets are based on the Web Server Survey, providing valuable insight into the underpinnings of the web.

Web Security

Netcraft conducts manual web & mobile application penetration tests as well as automated network scans using our own in-house vulnerability scanning technology.

Our automated network scanning tool, Audited By Netcraft, is approved by the PCI council—which includes Visa, Mastercard, and American Express—to audit the security of computers processing sensitive cardholder data.
Clients are spread across the world, including the UK, US, mainland Europe, the Middle East, Asia Pacific, and Latin America.
Our customers

Netcraft was awarded The Queen’s Award for International Trade in April 2020 in recognition of how our business evolved from the internet infrastructure industry to a broader community of banks, financial services and other large enterprises in over fifty countries.

These customers include:

4 of the 10 largest companies in the world by market cap
12 of the 50 largest banks worldwide, including:
   6 of the 10 largest banks in Europe
   4 of the 10 largest banks in Africa
7 of the 8 constituents of the FTSE-350 Banking Index
Governments of countries totalling $3 trillion in GDP
2 of the most prominent cryptocurrency companies.

[Logos of various companies]
Been testing the @Netcraft toolbar, and it’s amazingly good at blocking phishing. They’re a threat intel provider, so this is a direct feed.

@SwiftOnSecurity

Netcraft received a Queen’s Award for Innovation in April 2020 to reflect its work disrupting cybercrime. The same services underpin the growth in exports reflected in the International Trade award, representing a force for good across the whole internet.
Defence against the Dark Arts

Phishing Site Classification

Since 2005, we have developed a sophisticated automated system to classify suspected phishing sites at scale.

This system is powered by both rule-based and machine learning techniques to classify page content, screenshots and pre-filter high-volume submissions.

Using our ‘Automated Victim’ to emulate a real victim’s interaction with the site—filling in forms with realistic values for credit card numbers, email addresses, passwords, etc.—we can discover and block all components of the attack, even those not evident from the initial landing page.

Breaking Badware

Exploiting our access to spam mail feeds, Netcraft performs bulk analysis of malware binaries to identify and take down the key infrastructure URLs supporting the attacks. We are able to identify and process binaries faster than other VirusTotal vendors in more than 70% of cases in a 90-day window.

Staying One Step Ahead

Fraudsters don’t stand still—Netcraft is continually monitoring and reacting to developments in the cybercrime ecosystem: watching for new techniques being employed to circumvent the detection, blocking, and disruption of attacks by Netcraft.

Cybercrime Disruption

Once an attack targeting one of our customers has been blocked, it enters our countermeasures system.

The process for removing these attacks from the internet is heavily automated, including sending emails, faxes, and submitting web forms to request removal. For the most difficult attacks, Netcraft staff use their ingenuity to take the site down.

Netcraft performs takedowns for three of the ten most phished companies on the internet and against around 30% of all phishing attacks, running at around 100 new takedowns per hour.

Evil JavaScript

JavaScript skimmers are used by criminals to steal a copy of customer card numbers that are entered on an infected shopping site. Once detected, Netcraft notifies unsuspecting shopkeepers as well as performing countermeasures against the fraudster’s infrastructure. We also detect, block, and take down non-consensual cryptocurrency miners, and other types of malicious JavaScript.
Cool stats on our latest investment Digital Ocean—taking web infrastructure market by storm The Meteoric Rise of Digital Ocean\(^1\)

Marc Andreessen (@pmarca)

\(^1\)https://trends.netcraft.com/www.digitalocean.com
Our network scanning system needs vigilant maintenance to ensure our customers get timely alerts for the latest vulnerabilities affecting their network. Our automated network scanning tool is authorised to conduct PCI ASV tests, auditing the security of networks that handle credit-card details.

Automated Network Scanning

Automated scanning for well-known vulnerabilities is often insufficient: for bespoke web applications a manual security test can reveal serious vulnerabilities that an automated tool cannot.

Penetration Testing

Automated scanning for well-known vulnerabilities is often insufficient: for bespoke web applications a manual security test can reveal serious vulnerabilities that an automated tool cannot.

Mobile apps are also important to thoroughly test—developers often leave deliberately-insecure development features in place in production. Disabling TLS certificate validation is one such error, which proves catastrophic for the security of the app’s communication.

Netcraft also performs code reviews of complex software, tests of internal cloud environments, physical devices, WiFi networks, and much more.
Collaborating with Netcraft on my final year project was an awesome experience. The invaluable guidance and resources provided allowed me to build a system with real-world impact and produce a prize-winning dissertation.

David Medzinskii, Bath University graduate
Working at Netcraft

Netcraft has a variety of roles available. Applications are welcomed from all, although applicants must be able to demonstrate or obtain the right to work in the United Kingdom.

Intellectually challenging work. We’re always trying to stay one step ahead.

Have your voice heard. We rely on all employees to come up with great ideas for improvements and new services.

Friendly, close-knit atmosphere. We work together closely across our different offices to achieve our goals.

Performance-based bonuses. Bonuses are awarded for gaining competence in different areas of the business, making sales, or otherwise impressing.

Free lunch. There is such a thing!

Student Placements

Students coming to work at Netcraft over a summer, or for longer on an industrial placement, work on real projects, with real customers, from the get go.

Good options for summer accommodation in Bath are widely available: both Bath Spa University and the University of Bath have rooms available to rent over the summer at advantageous prices for students at other UK universities.

Supervising Final Year Projects

Netcraft is pleased to collaborate with students who have previously spent a summer or industrial year at Netcraft on a final year project of mutual interest.

Having a real client helps focus a project, and Netcraft can provide help & support, a large range of relevant and up-to-date data feeds, domain-specific knowledge, as well as careful guidance. Previous projects have scored extremely highly.

Gap Years

We have a successful gap year programme for high-achieving students, across all roles including software development, law and business administration.

Interested?

Apply to cv@netcraft.com with a CV & cover letter. While there is no fixed deadline, applications are considered as they arrive.
The hacker mindset at its best, seeing a world of possibilities where an ordinary person would just follow instructions.

Tim O’Reilly
Software Development Roles

Come and join our talented and growing software development team. Projects can involve working with a range of our cybercrime detection and disruption services, as well as extending our network exploration and internet security services.

We’re looking for

• A broad knowledge of internet technology, including a keen interest in network security, data mining & machine learning, and web-based user interfaces.

• Attention to detail, and a desire to find things out empirically rather than relying on conjecture.

• Demonstrable programming ability and experience.

• Evidence of conspicuous achievement and a strong computing background, consistent with a first-class degree in Computer Science.

• Expressive verbal and written communications skills in English.

• Skills in languages other than English are also welcomed.

• A well-developed sense of precaution: someone who likes to plan for the future with suitable programming abstractions, automated test suites & version control.

• Prior experience with any of the following technologies: MySQL, Perl, Go, Python, PHP, git, Puppet, Amazon Web Services, Digital Ocean, JavaScript & TypeScript, HTML5, CSS, Java, Swift or Unix systems programming would be useful but not essential.

Initial Work

• Solving short term issues is a good way to discover information flows, routines, and infrastructure.

• Cybercrime disruption and incident response, constructing regular expressions, augmenting rule-based systems, and taking websites off the internet.

• Development work on both new and existing projects.

Focuses

Initial focuses could include:

• Automating the detection and disruption of cybercrime, scaling up to internet-scale, and applying machine learning where appropriate.

• Analysing binary malware and evil JavaScript.

• Creating and extending client-facing web interfaces.

• Security testing, maintaining our automated network scanning tools, and manual penetrating testing.

Then what?

Further options depend on your interests and abilities: you could work on further development projects, perform a security test, liaise with customers, carry out a sales campaign, or make your own suggestion.
My job title was Business Administrator but the company’s workflow is very event driven and I had to undertake many different tasks depending on what needed to be done that day.

This meant I spent a lot of time outside of a traditional administrative role, helping develop services, training and participating in removing various criminal attacks (e.g. phishing, malware, ransomware, advance fee frauds) from the internet. The part of the job that I enjoyed most was when I was able to improve internal systems.

Placement student
Accounts & Business Administration

For potential or current students in Accounts or Business Administration, Netcraft’s tailored programme provides an open and stimulating environment for you to explore your area of interest within the diverse business structure of our company.

Role

Business Administration and Accounts roles at Netcraft are a fantastic opportunity to get to know the inner workings of a modern business, and then to make a difference by contributing to our business growth. From customer management and incident response to tax planning, you will be taking an active role in the running of the company, and develop business awareness from Netcraft’s large and prestigious client base.

Focuses

Business development and Accounts roles can include some of the following focuses:

- Use of accounting software.
- Managing existing customer accounts.
- Reaching out to prospective clients both domestically and internationally.
- Tax planning.
- Recruitment.
- Events planning.
- Cybercrime incident response.

We’re looking for

- Excellent written & verbal communications skills.
- Confidence in your ability to liaise with customers around the globe.
- Determination, enthusiasm and competitive spirit.
- An understanding of the different needs of clients in foreign markets, and a desire to help develop Netcraft’s international presence.
- Self-motivation, being able to take the initiative, whilst also being happy working as part of a team.
- Capability and comfort with processing and using technical information in a variety of contexts, such as spreadsheets or pivot tables.
- Someone who is likeable and candid.
Modern languages workflow can include:

- Cybercrime incident response
- Anti-phishing work internationally
- Document and spoken translation
- Calls to foreign countries
- Business development across countries and continents

Legal roles can include:

- Combatting cybercrime
- GDPR
- Property leases
- Commercial contract law
- Intellectual property law
Modern Languages & Legal Roles

Law

For current and prospective Law students, Netcraft can offer an environment to develop the skills that will help you academically in your course, whilst simultaneously allowing you to engage with real-world applications of the theory.

Role

Working at Netcraft would involve legalistic work in various capacities, ranging from international cyber crime laws to property leases. In this role, you would be expected to be independent and thorough, investigating, analysing and summarising your findings to give informed and precise advice on the situation.

We’re looking for

- A broad sense of legal process, and a keen interest in honing this.
- Determination, enthusiasm and competitive spirit.
- The ability to apply abstracted principles onto concrete situations, being able to translate between theory and practice.
- A strong desire to learn more about the specifics of certain kinds of law.
- Self-motivation, being able to take the initiative, whilst also being happy working as part of a team.

Modern Languages

For any international business, communication across languages is integral. Netcraft gives you the opportunity to practice translation and work with specific customers in your target language, so you can apply your passion in a business environment.

Role

Netcraft will give you a chance to take your modern language skills to the next level, with applications in a wide variety of business settings. You could be communicating with potential clients over email, or telephone, translating texts for our websites or marketing documents, or working to remove illegal content hosted in a foreign territory.

We’re looking for

- Excellent written & verbal communications skills.
- Determination, enthusiasm and competitive spirit.
- Confidence in using your skill set, a desire to try to apply your modern languages both in writing and on telephone calls.
- Self-motivation, being able to take the initiative, whilst also being happy working as part of a team.
- A strong grasp of a non-English modern language, and an interest in practicing this in an unfamiliar area.
Bath offers all of the advantages of city life, without the disadvantages.

With sweeping, honey-stone Georgian crescents and terraces spread over a green and hilly bowl, it’s a strong contender for England’s most beautiful small city. The Daily Telegraph

The London office is in a newly refurbished building in Victoria. The prestigious building is within a conservation area and a short walk from Buckingham Palace.
Bath

Netcraft has three offices in central Bath, two in converted Georgian townhouses, and one in a modern office building with river and park views. Short, pleasant walks through the city centre separate them.

Bath is well-placed for both rail and car travel: J18 of the M4 is nearby, and Bath Spa station is a 15-minute walk from our offices. Bristol Airport is 45 minutes by road.

The whole City of Bath is a UNESCO World Heritage site thanks to its hot springs, Roman Baths, Georgian architecture, and its green setting. A wide range of restaurants, shops and entertainment are all within a short walk.

London

Netcraft has an office in Westminster, close to Buckingham Palace and Victoria Station. Nearby there are many shops and restaurants in the Victoria area, and three of London’s Royal Parks are within a short walk.

Victoria Station is served by the Victoria, District and Circle lines and has trains to Gatwick Airport. Imperial College is less than 20 minutes away.