Cybercriminals invade Facebook

Video: www.philstar.com

MANILA, Philippines -- An internet security firm today warned users of social networking site Facebook of several "threats" while they are online.

Macky Cruz, Trend Micro technical marketing specialist, said these threats on the FB accounts have been widespread, ranging from simple defacing of the walls to credit card number theft and fraudulent transactions.

She cited that cyber-criminals come up with some advertisement tactics just to get some vital information from the users.

"Take for instance the video of a daughter being maltreated by her father. When you click on the link, it opens to a survey for you to take before you can view the supposed video. But after filing out the survey, you will never see the video because there really isn't one. No such video exists," Cruz said.

She said cyber criminals also take advantage of the details or pieces of information FB users put on their profiles.

"These cybercriminals can easily infiltrate these users account with the attack tools or BOT tools and malware program," Cruz said while stressing that high-level hacker has yet to invade Philippines.

Hackers in the country only deface government websites just for show, Cruz said.

"They start as hackers but eventually work their way up to be cybercriminals. It's from fame to profit so to speak," she added.

To date, there are about 26 million FB users in the country.

Here are some helpful tips Cruz imparted to repel some attacks and viruses from invading your account:

*install internet security software

*Keep updating operating system and tools

*create a strong password for your account (different passwords for each account)

*check privacy settings, being aware of what to post

*being mindful of actions online.