

## **Tweet for cash!**

This scam takes many forms. "Make money on Twitter!" and "Tweet for profit" are two common come-ons security analysts say they've seen lately. The claim is that anyone can work from home and make large sums of money (Up to \$10,000 a month!) simply by "tweeting." Sounds too good to be true, and, of course, it is. The age-old work-from-home email scam has now migrated to Twitter, according to Ryan Barnett, director of application security research at Breach Security, a Web application security firm.

Breach, which recently published its Web Hacking Incidents Database report, has seen an explosion in this scheme in recent months as the economy has forced cash-strapped folks to do whatever they can for some income. Those who fall for it are asked for their credit card number in order to pay a \$1.95 shipping fee to get their "Twitter Cash Starter Kit."

"The end user ends up forking out money to do this work and they pay money to some rogue company," said Barnett. "But once you've paid for the CD, they now have your credit card number and they can just keep charging that card each month."

Many who have been taken by this ruse claim they later find out the Starter Kit had a 7-day free trial, and the company then charged a monthly "fee," typically around \$50, unbeknownst to the victim, who often has to cancel the credit card in order to stop the fraudulent charges.