

Re: SPAM is killing this newsgroup!

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- *From:* "pipedown" <pipedown@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 17 Apr 2008 11:50:23 -0700
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"JosephKK" <quiettechblue@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:uup404hg8p8mbdg3vuvvg8o2mqk1t9vmca9@xxxxxxxxxxx

On Sun, 6 Apr 2008 15:55:50 -0500, "Anthony Fremont"
<nobody@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

MM wrote:

Is there a way to protect this group? I wonder why some groups haven't been affected by spam yet while others are under attack..

/MM

In this particular case, I believe it's because a couple of regulars couldn't resist playing with kooks. That attracted attention of some computer savvy twats and then the SPAM came. You know the rest. It really sucks, doesn't it?

Nope. I think you have misread your history.

First came ARPAnet, then MILnet, NFSnet and a couple of others, then USENET and the rest of the precursors of internet. Next came WAIS, gopher, etc. Then Hypertext. Then HTTP, Mosaic, and WWW. Then the internet was opened to commercial access. In a few years email spam appeared. Then Google bought the usenet archives and went into the usenet provider business. Then the various free email accounts. Then the various ploys to stop robots from getting accounts. Then the spammers found google groups and understood each active group represented hundreds to thousands of possible viewers. Thus the spammers have found a way to make the most awesome distributed hypercomputer (composed of humans trying to get some more cash) help

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them defeat all the security methods of all the free account providers. Thus our current problems.

IMNSHO

I've been off UseNet for a while, when I left it was up to its knees in SPAM now its up to its eyebrows. Consensus from the real people still trying to use these groups is that its mostly Google Groups based SpamBots and maybe a few odd trolls.

The problem is that most are trying to fight the internet with the internet. We can't really beat the trolls, just starve them as much as possible but Google should have a solution. Note that there has always been a lot of good press about google (excepting the china incident) and now that their stock has softened they will be susceptible to bad press.

All we need is for some network news program to play a story about how spam is killing Usenet and how Google Groups in particular is a major source of the problem. I would expect, that a week after that story airs, there will be noticeable differences, IMO.

OTOH, if everyone dedicates themselves to complaining directly to Google, they will eventually notice the volume of complaints and react albeit more slowly than if the pressure came from the press.

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