

Re: A serious threat to our national security

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2008-08/msg03525.html>

- *From:* Guy Macon <<http://www.GuyMacon.com/>>
 - *Date:* Thu, 21 Aug 2008 16:16:27 +0000
-

AnimalMagic wrote:

Guy Macon <<http://www.GuyMacon.com/>> wrote:

James Arthur wrote:

That's Bill Gate's major innovation—his solution to the question "How can you make loads of money off a product that never breaks, and never wears out?"

His answer is a combination of making sure the thing you buy is defective, and or deficient, or of making it obsolete, and parcelling out improvements (and even fixes) as slowly as possible.

Hence changing Word and Excel's formats, changing the OS to break old applications, shipping bugs, security issues, etc.

It just hit me yesterday—I've oft noted the harm he's done selling lousy software, but I just realized...he breaks our tools. My superb DOS file compare, search routine, editor, directory utility, parallel port-operated interfaces, truly nifty ISA A/D board... broken.

The advance of civilization has been one of building tool upon tool, hand tools ==> machines ==> machine tools ==> better machines ==> better tools. Same for software. And he breaks ours.

Thanks Bill.

Re: A serious threat to our national security

I was just reading that right before Russia invaded Georgia, there was a cyberattack on Georgia's basic network infrastructure launched from the Botnets that Bill Gates created through the above policies. I can only conclude that Microsoft's ongoing refusal to make a version of windows that cannot be remotely controlled by criminals is now a serious threat to our national security

That's funny,

No it isn't. One researcher found that 80% of the traffic on the Internet was botnets:

[<http://www.honeynet.org/papers/bots/>].

Another estimates that around 25% of computers on the net are infected and are part of botnets:

[<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/6298641.stm>]

One botnet alone is sending 60 billion spam emails per day:

[<http://www.secureworks.com/research/threats/topbotnets/>]

Not even slightly funny

our entire network of thousands of PC across ten cities and spanning several companies, is all Windows, and we have secure networks.

Factual claims by anonymous Usenet posters are not evidence. We have no way of evaluating the claim.

In particular, we j=have no assurance that you have the ability to detect a botnet running on your network.

See _Botnets Don Invisibility Cloaks_ at

[http://www.darkreading.com/document.asp?doc_id=113849].

One researcher estimates that virus/malware scanners only detect about 75 percent of malware.

[http://www.darkreading.com/document.asp?doc_id=122116&WT.svl=news1_1]

Certainly secure Windows networks do exist -- I have one in my home lab. It isn't hard to do, either; just set up a hardware firewall (FreeSCO is good) a software firewall (Zone Alarm is good) and a malware scanner (Kaspersky is good), keep up with the updates, and don't download from untrusted sources, and Bob's your uncle.

The problem is that you have to take extra steps such as

Re: A serious threat to our national security

Re: A serious threat to our national security

described above to secure Windows. When grandma buys a new PC and runs it on a DSL line for a few years without updating it, it becomes part of a botnet. And there are a *lot* of grandmas out there.

Also see:

<http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST06-001.html>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Botnet>

Just so you know, I use Linux as well.

That's interesting. Not many Linux users have "X-Newsreader: Forte Agent 4.2/32.1118" in their headers. Some do, though; Forte Agent runs under WINE if you don't mind it crashing on close...

You WinHater FuckTards really make me sick.

Why would you become so emotionally involved over someone's OS preference?

So is Bill a businessman, or a thief?

You probably aren't aware that I am a libertarian. A transaction where a willing buyer buys something — even if that something is crap — from a willing seller can never be theft.

Remember, your answer tells us a lot about your character.

No it doesn't.

--

"Arguing with anonymous strangers on the Internet is a sucker's game because they almost always turn out to be — or to be indistinguishable from — self-righteous sixteen-year-olds possessing infinite amounts of free time."

—Neil Stephenson, *Cryptonomicon*

Guy Macon

<<http://www.GuyMacon.com/>>

Re: A serious threat to our national security

Re: A serious threat to our national security