

Modern IT-threats: Causes and Means of Neutralization

Eugene Kaspersky
Head of Anti-Virus Research
newvirus@kaspersky.com



Threat Classifications

- **Malware (worms, Trojans, viruses)**
 - Unauthorized data access
 - Hardware/software misuse
- **Spam (unwanted e-mail flooding)**
 - Risk of loosing valuable e-mails
 - Time (money) waste
 - Cheating and fraud
- **Global/Local Internet Attacks**
 - Network outage/visible slow-down
 - System crashes (client/server equipment)



Threat Classifications

- **Why malware?**
 - Teenage hooligans @computers
 - A way of self-affirmation
 - Anonymity
- **Why Spam?**
 - Spam is an easy legal business
 - Spam is anonymous
 - Spam is accepted
- **Global/Local Internet Attacks**
 - The best means of self-affirmation
 - The side-effect after “Flash Worms”
 - The worst thing to happen



Malware

[1/2]

1. Behavior diversity

- Infector/destructor/stealer/spy-ware
- Porno-dialers, clickers, downloaders
- “Risk-ware” (FTP, IRC, proxy)

2. Environmental diversity

- OS (Windows, Linux, Office, Palm)
- Network apps (e-mail, SQL, games, pagers)
- Non-network apps (HLP, archivers)



Malware

[2/2]

3. Attack methods diversity

- Security breaches (buffer overflow)
- Documented features (shared resources)
- Human factor (social engineering)

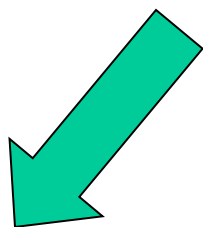
4. Spreading speed

- “Pure infectors” (removable media)
- Network malware (e-mail, LAN, WAN)
- “Flash worms”



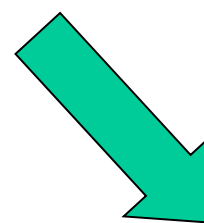
Malware: Summary

- “Behavior x Environment x Infection x Speed” matrix: a huge number of combinations
- “Flash worms” worldwide infection in minutes



Anti-virus:

- Multi-purpose experts
- Attacks unpredictable
- Reaction: humans against machines



Malware:

- Guaranteed reception of malware within a given time frame
- Y200?: malware=50%



Spam

1. Types diversity

- Advertising (products & services)
- Fraud
- Promotion

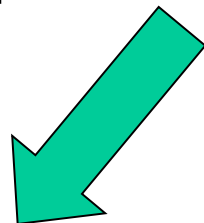
2. Implementation diversity

- Text messages, web links, attachments
- Graphic messages
- Multiple languages
- Countermeasures against anti-spam



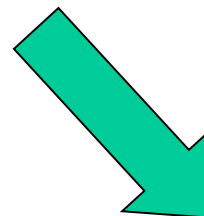
Spam: Summary

- Diversity of types / implementation combinations
- Prompt reaction to new anti-spam technologies



Anti-spam:

- Multilingual support
- Immediate reaction
- Impossible forecast



Spam:

- Spam grows in number
- Spam grows in tricks
- Y200?: spam=50% email



Global Internet Attacks

[1/2]

1. Implementation diversity

- Massive planned DDoS attack
- Malware mass-mailing
- Abnormal behavior of infected systems

2. Consequence diversity

- Traffic slow-down / channels jam
- Software/Hardware failure



Global Internet Attacks

[2/2]

3. No way to protect against it

- Protected PCs will suffer from Internet failure
- Protected regions will suffer from unprotected regions
- 100% WWW protection is touching a rainbow

4. Side-effect diversity

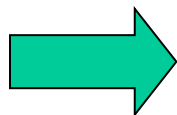
- Home users – 100%
- Governmental establishments – 0%
- Others – in between



Behind the Threats

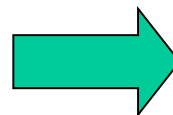
REASON

Human factor
(virus-writers,
hackers, users,
spammers)



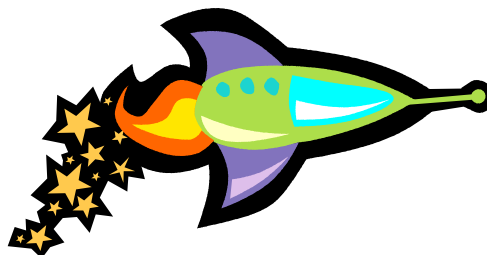
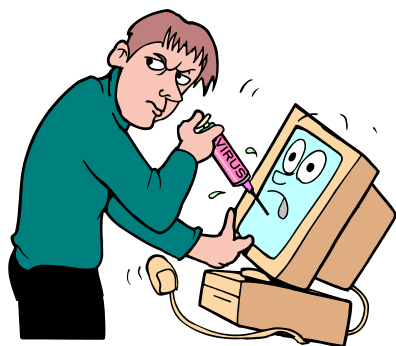
DELIVERY MEANS

Environment
(networks,
software,
hardware)



CONSEQUENCES

Affected Victims
(home users,
enterprises)



[slide 2](#)



Protection

1. Active defense

- Anti-virus, anti-hacker, anti-spam
- More attention to corporate security
- IT-security budgets increase

2. Passive defense

- Transition to less popular SW (Linux, The Bat!)
- Limited access (or disconnection) to the Internet



**We will protect you against all
threats until we are no longer
able to.**

**Then we will start fixing their
causes.**



Fixing the Problem

- 1. Fixing the environment (SW/HW vendors, IPSs)**
 - More security in products & services
 - Less redundant functionality – less vulnerability
 - More attention to Internet security needs
- 2. Fixing the “human factor”**
 - Strong rules in public networks
 - Obligatory authorization
 - “Net-Police” / e-Interpol
 - Education and certification



F.A.Q.

Q.: Will it kill the anti-virus industry?

A.: No. There will be kamikazes and romantic, brainless hooligans regardless.

Q.: Should governments supervise the future network?

A.: Probably. However, more conceivable and less painful scenarios are also available.



Thank you
Спасибо
Danke schön
Dank ye vel
Merci
Gracias
Grazie
Shyeh shyeh
Arigato
Dhaniawad
Todah rabbah
Dankon
Shukran

Questions Please!