

VISION Media Resource Guide

June 12-14, 2007

Internet Security Threat Report (Volume XI)

The Symantec Internet Security Threat Report provides a complete view of the Internet threat environment and is the only publicly available report of its kind that publishes not only an in-depth analysis of data and trends but also the methodologies used to arrive at its findings.

The report provides a six-month update of Internet threat activity; the current volume, Volume XI, covers the six-month period from July 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Highlights of Key Findings

- The current threat environment is characterized by an increase in data theft, data leakage, and the creation of malicious code that targets specific organizations for information that can be used for financial gain.
- Attackers are now refining their methods and consolidating their assets to create global networks that support coordinated criminal activity; this has resulted in an increasing interoperability between diverse threats and methods.
- Underground Economy Servers are being used by criminals and criminal organizations to sell stolen information, including government-issued identity numbers, credit cards, bank cards and personal identification numbers (PINs), user accounts, and email address lists.
- The United States had the highest proportion of malicious activity originating from its networks; however, Israel had the highest level of malicious activity when such activity was correlated with Internet population.

URL- <http://www.symantec.com/threatreport>

Symantec State of Spam Report

The monthly Symantec State of Spam Report highlights key statistics and current trends our anti-spam team is tracking around the world. Each new issue, which covers information for the month prior, is a great resource that provides global information for media developing spam stories.

Highlights of Key Findings for June 2007

Spam activity in May 2007 was overall consistent with trends observed in previous months. However, the decline in image spam first reported in the Symantec State of Spam report May 2007, does continue.

Highlights included:

- The trend of image spam's decline continued averaging at 16% for the month of May, down from 27% and 37% in the months of April and March respectively. At its peak in January 2007, Symantec estimated that image spam accounted for nearly 52% of all spam. With the recent decline in image spam, Symantec has observed an increase in spam which use links and embedded URLs to reference images contained in spam.
- Although the percentage of image spam has declined recently, overall spam levels remained consistent for the month of May at the SMTP layer and remained on average
- around 65%.
- Scams and fraud spam combined continues to rise from 9% in March to 13% in May.
- Additional insight is provided below on the following tactics:
 - Focus on spam which uses links and embedded URLs to reference images
 - 'Tis the season for Mother's Day spam
 - 419 spam continues to evolve
 - Spam spotlight: Regional spam trends for APJ

URL- http://www.symantec.com/enterprise/security_response/whitepapers.jsp

Quarterly IT Policy Compliance Research

The ITpolicycompliance.com web site is dedicated to promoting the development of research and information that will help IT security professionals meet the policy and regulatory compliance goals of their organizations.

Highlights of Key Findings

This quarter's IT Policy Compliance Group report outlines recommendations to help organizations improve sensitive data protection. These include:

- Taking time to identify the most sensitive business data
- Training employees and implementing technology to mitigate user errors, policy violations, and internet attacks
- Monitoring controls and procedures to ensure compliance
- Increasing the frequency of audits and measurements

URL- www.itpolicycompliance.com

Thought Leadership Site

The Thought Leadership website provides a forum for Symantec executives and experts to share their perspectives on current industry topics. This section includes executive speeches, bylined articles, reports, and industry white papers.

URL- <http://tus1fuswebdin01.ges.symantec.com/about/leadership/index.jsp>

IT Risk Management Report

Symantec's IT Risk Management Report is one of the many tools that falls under the umbrella of the INFORM program. This specific report analyzes the results from a year-long study that examines IT Risk, based on interviews with more than 500 IT executives and professionals around the world. The report is designed to help organizations understand the fundamental elements of IT Risk Management and provide best practices to begin managing those risks.

Highlights of Key Findings

- Organizations anticipate major information loss and compliance failures at surprisingly high frequencies:
- 66 % expect a major regulatory incident at least once every 5 years
- 58 % expect a major data loss at least once every 5 years
- 60 % expect a major IT incident at least once a year
- Organizations are more effective in implementing technology controls than process controls - shortcomings are in areas that can have a negative impact in overall IT Risk Management.
- Best-in-class organizations perceive higher risk levels but experience fewer IT incidents. They were more effective at implementing the entire range of controls.
- Misalignment of IT Risk perception within the IT organization between IT executives and their staff which is likely to lead to wasted resources as a result of over- or under-investment in controls.

URL- http://www.symantec.com/enterprise/theme.jsp?themeid=itrisk_report

Security Response Weblog

The Symantec Security Response Weblog has been created to provide a forum for the team to share ideas and commentary on emerging issues and trends.

URL- http://www.symantec.com/enterprise/security_response/weblog/

Symantec's Podcast Page

Keep up to date on the latest threat trends and best practices for helping companies secure, manage and store their most important asset: their information.

URL- <http://www.symantec.com/podcast/>

State of the Data Center Study

The State of the Data Center study is a two-part research series highlighting top trends and challenges for data center managers. Conducted in April 2007, the first part of this study included more than 500 respondents from enterprise-class companies in the North American, European and Asia Pacific markets.

Highlights of Key Findings

- IT professionals worldwide struggle with the increasing complexity of data center management while at the same time facing severe budget and personnel constraints.
- Respondents revealed that to ease management challenges, they are relying on several different technologies and initiatives including storage capacity management, virtualization and Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) frameworks.
- In addition to ITIL, the IT professionals polled cited that they are also planning to implement or have implemented the following initiatives:
 - storage allocation and resource management (according to 87 percent of respondents)
 - virtual server management (according to 80 percent of respondents)
 - storage capacity management (according to 68 percent of respondents)
 - business continuity and disaster recovery (according to 68 percent of respondents)
 - application availability (according to 64 percent of respondents)
- According to the majority of respondents, the growing volume of servers, applications and operating systems in today's data centers is contributing substantially to data center complexity.
- According to 80 percent of respondents, an increase in the number of management tools is somewhat or significantly challenging, signifying a need for consolidation and standardization.
- To master data center complexity, Symantec recommends that companies standardize on a single layer of infrastructure software that supports all major storage and server hardware platforms, to protect their information and applications, enhance data center service levels, improve storage and server utilization, and drive down operational cost.

URL- http://www.symantec.com/en/ca/about/news/release/article.jsp?prid=20070523_01