Yui Kee Computing Ltd.

Newsletter

May 2007

Contents

F-Secure Content Security for Windows Home Server

On May 15 at the 2007 Windows Hardware Engineering Conference in Los Angeles Microsoft announced F-Secure software will interoperate with Windows Home Server to protect consumers against computer viruses and other threats from the Internet and mobile networks.

Yet to be released, Microsoft's Windows Home Server is intended to help families easily centralise, share and protect their digital assets, such as photos, music and videos.

F-Secure provides protection for the precious and often irreplaceable content of the digital home on the Windows Home Server solution. F-Secure provides protection against virus and spyware attacks, guards against riskware and also includes scanning of hidden malicious software (rootkit protection). The F-Secure solution keeps itself automatically up-to-date with the latest protection against new threats and needs no user intervention. This ensures that home users can rely on Windows Home Server and can take full advantage of its data centralisation and protection capabilities.

"F-Secure has a strong track record of providing easy-to-use security technology that reliably protects consumers against rapidly evolving threats. We are pleased to work with F-Secure to help customers secure their digital memories and experiences," says Steven VanRoekel, director of Windows Server Solutions at Microsoft.

"This collaboration fits well in our product portfolio and we are proud to work with Microsoft to offer customers a solution to support Windows Home Server. We look forward to a continued strong cooperation with Microsoft," said Kimmo Alkio, CEO at F-Secure Corporation.

More Information

http://www.f-secure.com/f-secure/pressroom/news/fs_news_20070516_1_eng.html

The Economics of Bad Security Products

In the May 2007 issue of his Crypto-Gram security newsletter, Bruce Schneier uses American economist George Akerlof's Nobel Prize-winning idea about how asymmetrical information

damages markets to explain the number of mediocre or just plain bad security products available.

Essentially, it is not easy for buyers to test whether their purchases work, so cheap, useless products take over the market, driving out good products. The solution is a "signal", an unfakeable indicator of true quality. A similar idea is seen in evolutionary biology, where many species use expensive, potentially dangerous features (bright plumage, long tails, building an elaborate courtship bower etc.) as unfakeable signals of the successfulness of an individual during mate selection.

More Information

http://www.schneier.com/crypto-gram-0705.html#1

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Market_for_Lemons

http://www.students.yorku.ca/~siccardi/The%20market%20for%20lemons.pdf

Protect Microsoft Exchange 2007 with F-Secure

F-Secure Anti-Virus for Microsoft Exchange 7 ensures that all the users connected to Microsoft's email gateway can receive, open and send emails without worrying about viruses, worms or other types of malware. The optional anti-spam module increases the productivity by stopping the unwanted spam emails already at the gateway level.

"The basis of the development was a full compatibility with Microsoft Exchange 2007. The new 64-bit architecture itself means higher performance and cost-efficiency. F-Secure has designed the new version 7 solely and specifically to support these benefits. In addition the new solution includes F-Secure's award winning technologies in providing the highest level of protection against both existing and new, unknown threats. We truly believe that F-Secure Anti-Virus for Microsoft Exchange 7 is one of the best security packages for Microsoft Exchange 2007", says Ari Alakiuttu, Vice President, Products and Services at F-Secure Corporation.

The solution offers high protection against security threats on all storage and transport server roles of Exchange Server 2007, these being Edge, Hub and Mailbox/Public Folder servers. The 64-bit architecture and its benefits in memory handling increase the overall performance and cost-efficiency of the solution.

With F-Secure Anti-Virus for Microsoft Exchange 7, antivirus protection is proactive, efficient and always up-to-date. In addition to known viruses, the product recognizes new, unknown viruses based on typical features of viruses. IT management can also protect the network against rapidly spreading viruses, worms and Trojans by enabling e-mail filtering based on file types, names or key words.

The solution combines in a unique way ease of use with the powerful features needed in enterprise environments. Corporate customers who do not have large technical staffs available will appreciate the simple installation and administration together with an easy-to-use web user interface. The re-designed user interface (GUI) is even more intuitive and user-friendly than previously. Advanced users and large customers benefit from the powerful central management. The central management tool, F-Secure Policy Manager, is included in the price of the solution and can handle all sizes of customers from SMBs to large Corporations.

More Information

http://www.f-secure.com/enterprises/products/fsavmse.html

http://www.f-secure.com/f-secure/pressroom/news/fs_news_20070514_1_eng.html

Users Will Click on Anything

Didier Stevens ran an experiment using Google's Adwords to see how many people would click on an ad that claimed it would infect their PC. Over four hundred did in a six month period.

More Information

http://didierstevens.wordpress.com/2007/05/07/is-your-pc-virus-free-get-it-infected-here/

APWG Announces New Incident Reporting Format

Speaking at the AusCERT conference, Peter Cassidy, secretary general of the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG), has announced the Incident Object Description Exchange Format (IODEF) XML Schema will be recognised by the IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force) in July. Mr Cassidy said that a structured data model was necessary to ease reporting, "For example, a Korean CERT (Computer Emergency Response Team) reporting an incident can send it to a French Bank".

The APWG has been collecting data on phishing since 2003, and is currently seeing 2.5 million attack records and 13.5 thousand URLs added to their databse every month. The average time-to-live of a phishing site is currently four days, down from over a week when the APWG was formed, however Cassidy believes that can be improved to just one day.

More Information

http://www.networksasia.net/article.php?type=article&id_article=1128

http://www.antiphishing.org/

http://conference.auscert.org.au/conf2007/presenter.php?presenter_id=P_C

http://www.computerworld.com.au/index.php/id;667812965

http://conference.auscert.org.au/conf2007/

Hong Kong Passes Anti-Spam Law

First published: 26th May 2007

Hong Kong's law-making body, the Legislative Council (LegCo), passed the "Unsolicitied Electronic Messages (UEM) Bill" on Wednesday, 23rd May 2007. Writing in his newsletter, the Hon. Sin Chung Kai, LegCo member for the IT Functional Constituency, welcomed the Bill, predicting that it would reduce the number of nuisance e-messages by 80% once it came into operation.

However, Hon. Sin recognised that enforcement would be the biggest challenge, writing, "The government thus should do for the next is to evaluate the difficulties on the law enforcement" sic.

Allan Dyer, Chief Consultant of Yui Kee Computing and long-time proponent of tougher anti-spam laws commented, "This is a step in the right direction, but only a small step. The final Bill retained the biggest flaws of the draft: adopting an opt-out regime, and restricting the regulations to commercial messages. It also limits the Hong Kong link to messages originating or terminating in Hong Kong, spam relayed through Hong Kong will be unaffected."

Mr. Dyer also doubted Hon. Sin's prediction, "I would be ecstatic if the Bill reduces spam by 80%, but it is about as likely as an email from someone wanting to send me millions of dollars actually being true."

The law is expected to come into operation later this year.

29th May 2007

The UEM Ordinance will be published in the Gazette on 1st June, 2007 and implemented in two phases. The first phase, taking effect on 1st June, will make activities like using zombie botnets to send spam, address harvesting and dictionary attacks, falsifying headers and forging messages an offence.

Phase two will be implemented towards the end of 2007 and will introduce do-not-call registers for phone and fax, and require a functional unsubscribe facility.

More Information

http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr06-07/english/legco_rpt/l_rpt_0525.htm

http://www.antispam.gov.hk/english/spepress/p20070528-00000001.htm

http://www.antispam.gov.hk/english/email/email7.htm

http://www.antispam.gov.hk/english/main.htm

http://www.ofta.gov.hk/en/uem/main.html

Call for Papers AVAR 2007

10th Association of anti Virus Asia Researchers International Conference SEOUL Plaza Hotel, Korea November 29th & 30th, 2007

AVAR Conference is an annual event organized by the Association of anti Virus Asia Researchers since 1998.

This conference will be a great opportunity to meet people in anti-virus and security industry and learn new technology information and strategies on computer security.

This call for papers invites the submission of full papers and abstracts on topics that may include, but are not restricted to:

◆ Anti-Malware Technologies

◆ Malware trends, new techniques. rootkits, spyware, phishing, pharming, botnets, Trojans, spam, etc.

◆ Wireless security and mobile threats

◆ Vista security issue

◆ Anti-Cybercrime techniques

◆ Government security policies and laws

Speakers from government, defence, ISPs, CERTs, universities, the commercial sector, and anywhere the security of networked computers is involved are encouraged to submit.

AVAR also invites suggestions for particular speakers you would like to hear from at AVAR 2007. Please send speaker nominations, along with details of why you would like to hear the speaker to <avar2007@ahnlab.com>.

Authors wishing to give a presentation must provide the following information to the AVAR 2007 Organizing Committee no later than 13th July 2007. The abstract should be submitted by e-mail in Plain text, Rich text or Adobe PDF format.

- name and affiliation
- contact email and physical address
- a short biography of qualification and/or experience(100words)

- paper title
- abstract (maximum 200 words)

Final paper must be submitted no later than Friday 5th October 2007. Presentations must not exceed 40 minutes including 5 minutes for questions.

The official language of the conference is English and Korean. English or Korean will be the languages spoken by all presenters. Simultaneous translation for English, Korean will be provided to audience.

The speakers are exempted from the conference registration fee and are entitled to attend all sessions of the two-day conference, lunch on 29-30 November and banquet on 29th November.

If you have any questions regarding the conference and the submission, please contact the organisers at <avar2007@aavar.org>

More Information

http://www.aavar.org/

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