

The Evolving World of Spam Technology: An Overview

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Anti-Spam/Spy/Phish Technology Placement Issues

- Desktop (individual, SME, enterprise – in combination)
- Servers (SME, Enterprise)
- Gateways/Network/ Edges (Enterprise -ISP)
- Managed Services (SME/ Possibly Enterprise after evaluation of criticality)
- Individual /SME- ease of use and affordable
- Enterprise scaleable, centralized reporting and policy enforcement with less employee discretion – ROI/Risk evaluation
- Managed Services: Potential privacy/confidentiality issues – content filtering and sectoral /sensitive data

Malware Tech Trends...

- Phishing is up and becoming more automated
- E-mail/Directory harvesting is up grow your own
 - DNS attacks growing
 - Domain poisoning
 - DNS Hijacking
 - Wildcard DNS
 - New social engineering in spyware/virus delivery: "click here to close"... relying on look and feel

Types of Technologies/Solutions

- ♦ Filtering
- Blocking/Blacklist
- Challenge Response
- Rate Limiting
- Sender Authentication
- Whitelist/Reputation
- Two factor
- authentication
- Anti-spyware/virus

- Gating Factors/Targets:
- Capture rate > 90%
- ◆ False Positive <5%
- Learning capability
- Lower Complexity
- Ease of update
- Multi-layered defenses

Positive Technology Trends

- Trends towards proactive as well as reactive measures
- Integrated/suite solutions
- Defense across the entire infrastructure
- Protection before spam gets into the enterprise/user system
- ◆ Ease of use/update

Highlighted Technologies

- Host-based Intrusion Prevention Systems (HIPS)
 - Proactive, behavioral analysis, seeks potential malicious actions, may also catch abnormal program actions and measure against rules
- Two Factor Authentication something you are or have – password is something you know – Bingo card to Secure Key
- Sender Authentication Coordinates with ISPs and benefits senders and recipients, but needs to be scaleable and affordable.

Anti Spam / Filters

- Lexical analysis –phrases/words/Header/keyword
- Signature additive; effective for know spam
- Bayesian Algorithm of attributes probability of spam
 - Natural Language Processing context-based correlates text and categories of meanings
- Collaborative/Community group decision making and posting on spam
- Heuristics more proactive, rules of analysis
- ◆ Toolkit blend of the above

Conclusions

- Malware is under constant and quicker development
- Anti spam/spy/phish technology is evolving to be more:
 - Integrated
 - Effective
 - Easy to use/update
 - Proactive as well as reactive
- Defense in depth/multi layered defenses