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## MyDoom Resurrected; Bagle Runs Out Of Names

By CXOtoday Staff

Mumbai, July 23, 2004



Its die another day for the notorious MyDoom virus -- the worm that had wreaked havoc on the Internet has returned with a vengeance with its new avatar called MyDoom.N released recently. The worm spreads through file sharing networks like Kazaa and also

through infected attachments.

Bagle, the now infamous Internet worm, after virtually running out of alphabets from A to Z with new variants, has now started appearing in double alphabets, like AA. The latest double-lettered variant is Bagle.AI.

According to Govind Ramamurthy, managing director of MicroWorld software services, Mumbai, these worms have a built-in SMTP engine (Small Mail Transfer Protocol), which allows the virus to send mails on its own. Also, the virus 'harvests' email ids from infected systems and mails itself to them.

Apparently, the mails carrying MyDoom-N appear as if they are automated mails. The worm opens a backdoor in the infected machine, allowing hackers to gain access. Subsequently, hackers and spammers can take remote control of the machine or use it to hack other machines and launch spam attacks. Even credit card information, banking passwords, etc. can be mailed to these hackers.

The Bagle worm forges sender addresses to confuse the recipient about the worm's origin. Its subject and message bodies give the impression that the attachment contains pictures,

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music or information about certain animals. This ploy seems to be targeted towards the more naïve users who may innocently open the attachment. This variant of Bagle can sometimes arrive inside a password-protected zip file and the password is given in the email itself thus fooling people into thinking that the email is genuine.

Govind recalls the battle that was fought a couple of months back between authors of Bagle and NetSky. Initially, the authors were content with writing insulting and profane insults to each other in the worm code. Later they started 'killing' each other from infected machines. The war was fought with great ardor and it would have been fun but for the fact that after killing the current resident from an infected computer, the incumbent would go about its business, mentioned previously.

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