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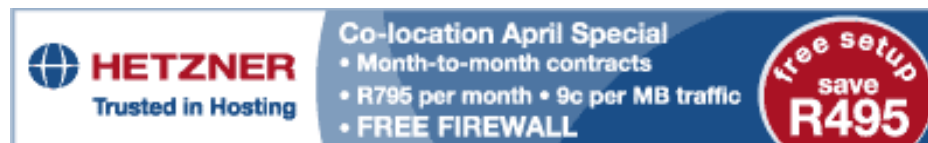
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## Mail written in Russian spreads Scano worm

By ICTWorld, 31 May 2006



Security experts at MicroWorld Technologies claim that a worm named 'Worm.Win32.Scانو.e' spreads via e-mails written in Russian carrying an attachment in 'HTA' format.

The malicious component of this Worm is a Windows PE .EXE file. Once inside the victim's computer, it goes about stealing e-mail addresses from a user's address book, and starts sending itself as attachments to the e-mail-IDs found. The subject and body of the mail vary as it is chosen randomly from a list.

"The earlier versions of Scانو and similar types used to spread via injecting script worms through Internet Explorer vulnerabilities," says Arti Taru, assistant manager, R&D, MicroWorld Technologies.

"But this one takes the e-mail route and can claim large numbers of victims, as it nicks e-mail 'HTA' attachment, I see no reason why he should be apprehensive about opening it!"

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At the next level, Scano.e logs on to various pre-decided Web sites and downloads more dangerous Trojans and Backdoors without the knowledge of the user. Such backdoors can even turn a computer into a remote-controlled bot, via IRC channels.

“The modus operandi of many new breeds of malware, is to find a foothold in your computer in the first place, using a small piece of malware code.

“Then it moves on to downloading more harmful stuff from specific Web sites. Some of them can upgrade to a higher degree of threat, while some others can mutate to become a different breed altogether with the newly acquired components,” explains Govind Rammurthy, CEO, MicroWorld Technologies.

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