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## Users warned over Valentine's malware

**13/02/2007**

Computer users are advised to be wary of Valentine emails carrying worms and other malware.

According to IT security developer MicroWorld, a worm-bearing message is travelling to inboxes around the world with subject lines such as Magic of Flowers, A Hug & Roses, The Mood for Love and Moonlit Waterfall.

Once the attachment is downloaded, the victim's computer becomes part of a large network and is bombarded by spam and phishing attacks while the user remains unaware of any problems.

'Love will never go out of fashion in the world of malware proliferation,' said Govind Rammurthy, chief executive of the security company.

The expert added that the months of January and February are especially prone to messages carrying worms and other malware, especially around New Year's Day and Valentine's Day.

Entitled Win32.Zhelatin.U, the malware has botnet capabilities and messages are sent bearing names including Rachel and Emily.

MicroWorld advises companies to guard against such attacks by scanning messages at the email gateway before they reach the mail server.

Internet Security Systems also recommends that users should reduce their chances of falling victim to such attacks by ensuring all desktop protection software is up to date as well as security upgrades and patches.

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