

For Immediate Release

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ALPHASHIELD PROTECTS YOU AGAINST MSBLAST TROJAN

High Alert: Home users computers at risk with MSBlast scheduled DOS attacks

IDENTIFICATION: MS Blast / w32.blaster.com / Lovsan.worm / Win 32.Poza /

WHAT: A new flaw recently discovered by an expert in Windows programs noted that the flaw allows computers to be taken advantage of by this new and spreading virus, MSBlast. The virus is programmed to launch a time bomb attack against the windowsupdate.com website in an attempt to take the website offline.

WHEN: Discovered July 16th, 2003 but appeared in media on Aug 11th, 2003. **The attack plan is noted to begin this Saturday (August 16th, 2003) and scheduled to continue to December 31st, 2003.**

HOW: MSBlast is not infecting computers by regular methods such as through emails. It scans the Internet for vulnerable computers and then tries to enter the system through Port 135 "DCOM RPC" to create a buffer overflow. This worm attempts to download and run the executable file MSblast.exe. This file contains the worms' code once installed on the system.

EFFECTS: Once installed, the worm scans random IP ranges to search for more vulnerable computers in order to carry out a DOS (Denial of Service) attack against the Microsoft website. If the DOS attack is successful, it will prevent the user from applying a patch on their computer against this vulnerability. The vulnerability can also allow hackers to gain remote control of vulnerable computers.

HOW TO PREVENT MSBLAST WITH ALPHASHIELD:

1- If you have an AlphaShield: AlphaShield does not respond to any kind of port scan, thus making your computer undetectable or invisible to this worm. AlphaShield's IP Stealth Technology renders all current scanning and IP mapping tools inoperable from the perspective that the IP address associated to the computer is hidden or stealthed to the scanners. Since the computer can't be seen, it can't be port scanned. This feature of AlphaShield makes all 65,536 ports blocked or stealthed. If your computer was originally protected by an AlphaShield, your computer would not be affected by any Trojan worm operating like the MSBlast.

2- If you acquire an AlphaShield after infection: Even if the computer is infected by the worm, with AlphaShield's AlphaGAP Technology you have the highest level of security, which automatically disconnects you when not actively surfing the Internet. Therefore, AlphaShield will not allow the worm to launch attacks on windowsupdate.com, thus rendering this Trojan worm useless and ineffective.

About AlphaShield Inc.

AlphaShield is an award winning provider of Internet security and privacy solutions ensuring data integrity, Internet and network privacy protection for today's consumers. AlphaShield is committed to setting a new standard for security integrity by providing consumers who utilize "always on" broadband Internet access with an easy-to-use, completely secure Internet privacy protection device. Founded in June 2000, AlphaShield is headquartered in Burnaby, BC. For more information, please visit www.alphashield.com.