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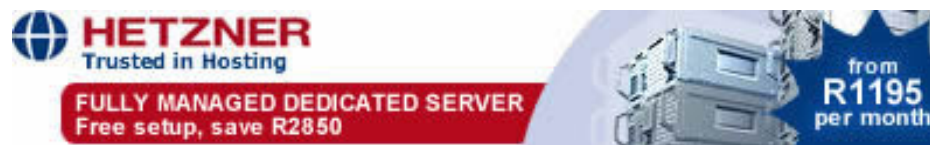
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Trojan Dropper 'fools users with infected Word file'

By ICTWorld, 8 November 2006

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Anti-virus experts at IT security solution provider, MicroWorld Technologies, advise computer users to apply caution when receiving Word files from unknown senders, or when downloading them from untrusted Web sites.

Infected documents may contain a Macro Trojan Dropper named MSWord.Lafool.v.

This malware is a Macro that uses Microsoft Word's own programming language to advance its infection routine, the company says. Unlike most other viruses, Macro Viruses do not infect programs instead they target documents and templates. However, MSWord.Lafool.v acts differently, by working as a Trojan Dropper that deposits an Information Stealing Trojan named PSW.LdPinch.bbg.

“One needs to view this variety side by side with the recent upsurge in Trojan Droppers that exploited MS office vulnerabilities, including flaws in Microsoft Word. It might be

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interesting to note that most such malware, spread with the help of vulnerability exploits, is password-stealing Trojans,” says Manoj Mansukhani, head: technology and marketing, at MicroWorld Technologies.

PSW.LdPinch.bbg is a data collecting Trojan with Backdoor capabilities. It can steal confidential data like FTP user names and passwords, MS wallet passwords, networking information, RAS dial-up settings, mail settings information and many more. In the hands of an intruder who targets confidential information of an organisation, this malware can be a highly effective tool for penetration and espionage, he adds.

“Knowledge is money, figuratively and literally,” says Govind Rammurthy, CEO, MicroWorld Technologies. “For a victim whose credit card information is stolen, it is as good as his loaded wallet being ripped off in broad daylight. For an organisation that loses its knowledge base and intellectual property, the damage could be well beyond some zeros vanishing in its bottom line.”

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