

Re: XP(home) firewall good?

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.firewalls/2004-05/0984.html>

From: Gerald Vogt (vogt_at_spamcop.net)

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Tom McCune schrieb:

> *Gerald Vogt <vogt@spamcop.net> wrote in news:66xpc.260660\$e17.22342*

> *@twister.nyroc.rr.com:*

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>>*That is certainly true as long as you want to install spyware, worms,
>>etc. And then again, as the user can turn off the firewall and program
>>running on your computer can do that, too. And there are tricks to
>>circumvent the outgoing "protection". So, properly shutting down all
>>unnecessary services that windows runs by default and the ICF will do
>>great. A browser that supports decent privacy settings helps, too, and
>>is much better than have one software trying to prevent the mess some
>>other software does.*

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> *Yes, outgoing firewall protection is not a cure all, but is a helpful extra
> layer of protection. Layered protection is wise. I provide other helpful
> (certainly the "paranoids" among us would like even more) recommendations at
> <http://www.mccune.cc/WindowsXP.htm>*

Well all commercial firewalls with that outgoing functions are very complex, not easy to configure, have bugs, vulnerabilities and exploits itself, with little added value that is not really necessary and can be circumvented. What is the "extra layer of protection" to the "extra layer of insecurity"? (That's one of the important lessons learned in security service design and security evaluations: simple effective measures are always better than highly complex stuff that nobody really understands and that only add more problems...)

Gerald