

## Re: MSN Messenger

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.misc/2002-01/0106.html>

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**From:** David Fox ([dfox138@hotmail.com](mailto:dfox138@hotmail.com))

**Date:** 01/05/02

From: "David Fox" <[dfox138@hotmail.com](mailto:dfox138@hotmail.com)>

Date: Sat, 05 Jan 2002 21:39:54 GMT

Thanks, Doug.

"Doug Ransom" <[dransomxxx@yahoo.com](mailto:dransomxxx@yahoo.com)> wrote in message  
news:MbHZ7.172\$e4.92671@news0.telusplanet.net...

>

>

>> *Doug;*

>>

>> *I don't quite understand your point. Are you saying that there is*

>> *encryption within MSN Messenger? Would you please elaborate it?*

>

> *No, the original comment indicated data goes out unencrypted and*

> *unauthenticated. I am saying the product is kind of bogus if that be the*

> *case. I have barely used messenger and I don't know if data is actually*

> *unencrypted. I doubt the data is encrypted. I saw nothing to indicate*

> *that*

> *it is, and it doesn't seem to recognize x.509 certificates.*

>

>

>

>>

>> *Thanks,*

>>

>>

>> "Doug Ransom" <[dransomxxx@yahoo.com](mailto:dransomxxx@yahoo.com)> wrote in message

>> news:o6yZ7.19751\$e4.7383446@news0.telusplanet.net...

>>>

>>>

>>> --

>>> *mailto:[Doug\\_Ransom@telus.net](mailto:Doug_Ransom@telus.net)*

>>> "David Fox" <[dfox138@hotmail.com](mailto:dfox138@hotmail.com)> wrote in message

>>> news:14uZ7.4608\$h2c.3332@news2.bloor.is...

>>>> *What types of security risk and/or vulnerabilities could one company*

> *be*

>>>> *exposed when it "endorses/sanctions" MSN Messenger as a*

*communications*

>>> *means*

comp.security.misc: Re: MSN Messenger

> > > > *with \*business partners\*? Any input are appreciated.*  
> > > >  
> > > > *As I understand, MSN Messenger requires users using Hotmail  
accounts,*  
> > > *which*  
> > > > *in turn may use .net or Microsoft Passport. In this regards, same  
as*  
> > > *other*  
> > > > *authentication scheme, once the users' id and password is known,*  
.....  
> > > >  
> > > > *Secondly, the "chat" is not encrypted, then it leads to  
> confidentiality*  
> > > > *issue.*  
> > >  
> > > *That is totally bogus. You would think a private/public key pair  
could*  
> *be*  
> > > *associated with messenger or perhaps a shared secret per contact for  
> > encryption.*  
> > >  
> > > >  
> > > > *Thirdly, if file transfered is enabled in the future, the files may  
> not*  
> > *be*  
> > > > *encrypted unless PGP or other programs used.*  
> > > >  
> > > > *Thank you in advance.*  
> > > >  
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  - ***In reply to:*** [Doug Ransom: "Re: MSN Messenger"](#)
  - ***Next in thread:*** [nickd@nospam.demon.co.uk: "Re: MSN Messenger"](#)
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