

## Re: P2P software is security?

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.misc/2002-10/0914.html>

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**From:** Richard Steven Hack ([richardhack@SPAMHELLNOznet.com](mailto:richardhack@SPAMHELLNOznet.com))

**Date:** 07/04/02

From: [richardhack@SPAMHELLNOznet.com](mailto:richardhack@SPAMHELLNOznet.com) (Richard Steven Hack)

Date: Thu, 04 Jul 2002 02:22:26 GMT

On Wed, 3 Jul 2002 12:45:39 +0100, "Richard Atkinson" <[big@un.com](mailto:big@un.com)>

wrote:

>RE: Is P2P software secure?

>

>For MS-Windows products, if you follow their 'hardening' guidelines, you can

>secure your environment.

Until the next vulnerability is discovered, that is – which is maybe tomorrow...

>If you're considering Linux, then this is just as insecure as MS products

>straight out-of-the box,

Wrong. While UNIX/Linux have their vulnerabilities, they don't have the same ones Windows products have – and there are FAR more exploits for Windows products than UNIX/Linux.

> AND THEY'RE MEANT TO BE. If they weren't, with

>your dangerously low level of knowledge you couldn't have shared a file!

Well, of course P2P is about SHARING!

>"knox" <[lizing@21cn.com](mailto:lizing@21cn.com)> wrote in message

>news:3d1e4b12.1735284@news.cn99.com...

>> I have one P2P software installed on my computer(Win98SE). As I

>> downloaded files from the other users, It stored in a filefolder. But,

>> to my surprise, the file downloaded didn't encrypted and anybody can

>> open the filefold and view the file I downloaded.....

For "knox":

That is the way P2P operates. You download a file into a folder and you are presumed to be sharing that file, as well as any other files and folders you allow to be shared within the P2P system you're using.

Some people are dumb enough to share their entire hard drives because

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they specify C:\ as the folder to share.

>> *Another question, The P2P softwares is vulnerable to all kinds of  
>> net hacking?*

I have heard some rumors about worms around the KaZaa network, but I don't have any specific info on hacking exploits that work with the various P2P software. I'm sure it's possible, depending on what P2P software you use and more importantly what Windows software and Windows services you have running.

I suspect that if you use a good process monitor, a good antivirus, a good trojan detector (or Registry monitor), and don't run any Windows network sharing functions on your box, that you'd be okay.

Millions of people use these P2P networks and if it was as dangerous as some people think, they wouldn't.

**BUT:** Always scan any executable software you download with an AV!  
And make sure any data you download which is not supposed to be an executable (i.e., an MP3 or JPG) is NOT an executable.

The Master

Keeper of Jodie Foster and Winona Ryder – and others  
as we go along...

"Whatever does not kill me makes me stronger"  
– and YOU have not killed me!

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