

Re: Why hasn't Symantec addressed nastier Messenger spoofs

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.misc/2002-10/3501.html>

From:

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In comp.security.misc <d703a4b1.0210231936.3d127593@posting.google.com> Jim Kutz <jimkutz@earthlink.net> wrote:

- > A few [but not many] Internet providers say they use this type of
- > messaging to send messages such as "system going down in 5 minutes",
- > so they're not encouraging users to disable it. [The vast majority

Then they shouldn't be using it. This is useful on a LAN, where users are probably using file servers and even momentary interruptions can cause havoc, but an ISP's e-mail servers aren't sub-second-response-time critical. Basically, there's no reason for anything off the local LAN to ever be using Windows Messenger to send messages.

ISP pop-up blockers also won't work. They're just HTTP/HTTPS proxies, and Windows Messenger has nothing to do with HTTP/HTTPS or the Web browser.

- > My third question is, if Symantec does introduce a filter to warn or
- > disable concerning these popups, will it also be able to 'let
- > through' pop-ups from approved local apps or remote sites?

If you're directly connected to the cable modem, it can. If you're on a LAN and using a NATting router, there's nothing that distinguishes a Messenger packet from the outside world from a local one (this is UDP, remember, no connection and no response needed so forging the source address doesn't cause any protocol problems).

I haven't seen any of these (yet), but since I'm using Samba with the pop-up scripts disabled I'm not overly worried.

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Don't worry about where to land -- by the time you get to it, it
will be flat.

-- concering Orion landing procedures

- *Next message:* [Darryl Luff: "Re: Ethereal Capture Decoding"](#)
- *Previous message:* [Max7: "Network question"](#)

comp.security.misc: Re: Why hasn't Symantec addressed nastier Messenger spoofs

- *In reply to:* Jim Kutz: "Why hasn't Symantec addressed nastier Messenger spoofs"
- *Next in thread:* Walter Dnes: "Re: Why hasn't Sy