

microsoft.public.security.virus: Re: any particular reason my posts get deleted?

Re: any particular reason my posts get deleted?

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security.virus/2003-12/0196.html>

From: Phil Weldon (*notdisclosed_at_example.com*)

Date: 12/04/03

Date: Thu, 04 Dec 2003 00:14:59 GMT

I agree.

You would think that any filters used by MS would, at the least, pass words used in Microsoft publications; as in "Cumulative Security Update for Internet Explorer 6 SP1 (KB824145)".

Any system, even with just the minimum necessary virus protection, scans for quite a lot of signatures (and those signatures, necessarily, are more complicated than just the presence of a short string.) Therefore a filter that kicks a three character string is, if not dumb, a strong indication of elevators that don't reach the top floor.

Even more telling, the volume for microsoft.public.* newsgroups is not all that large. How many posts to microsoft.public.* arrive each day? Certainly fewer than $(10*1000) + (100*100) + (1000*10) + (10,000*1) = 40,000$. Assume an average body length of 100 bytes*30 lines = 3000 bytes per post (ignoring quotes from earlier in the thread.) That is a volume of less than 120 Mbytes for ALL posts to all of the microsoft.public.* hierarchy in a day. Allow 600,000,000 CPU cycles to process each post (200,000 cycles per byte.) Use ONE 2.4 GHz Xeon. That is 10,000 seconds, or less than two hours of CPU time at \$1.00 US. Hmm, doesn't seem to be that much of a resource sink... I'll bet that a couple machine equivalents could implement a bayesian filter across ALL of the posts to microsoft.public.* .

--

Phil Weldon, pweldonatmindjumpdotcom

For communication,

replace "at" with the 'at sign'

replace "mindjump" with "mindspring."

replace "dot" with "."

"Veronica Loell" lista@nakawe.se wrote in message

news:ezLUkleuDHA.2072@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...

> Bill Sanderson wrote / skrev:

>

> > "Veronica Loell" <lista@nakawe.se> wrote in message

> > news:%237ZhlebuDHA.1596@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...

> >

> >>If they simply combined it with whether there was an attachment the

> >>problem would be solved (as long as people dont send html-format emails

> >>of course ;-))

> >>

> >

Re: any particular reason my posts get deleted?

microsoft.public.security.virus: Re: any particular reason my posts get deleted?

> >
> > That's what I meant about the filters not being very smart. I really know
> > nothing about them but suspect that given the volume of data being filtered,
> > the likelihood of more sophisticated decision making such as you suggest
> > isn't very high. This surely isn't a thought that has escaped the myriad
> > minds at Microsoft that have been looking at this problem--they aren't dumb,
> > but what they have at hand which can handle the magnitude of data involve
> > may be.
> >
> >
>
> Well, the level of sophistication of determining whether something has an
> attachment is not exactly mindblowing. But I don't expect it to be
> implemented. Do you seriously believe that a myriad of minds at
> microsoft has thought about this problem? If they had, with the
> resources they have they could surely come up with something that at
> least works, one would hope...
>