

Re: Big security problem

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.security/2004-11/0507.html>

From: Shenan Stanley (*news_helper_at_hushmail.com*)

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security big problem wrote:

- > *I have a really big problem...someone it's entering my e-mail account*
- > *and my MSN. When I use MSN someone write instead of me...*
- > *I have also received an e-mail from an hotmail address:*
- > *'anonymouspet@hotmail.com', but apparently that address does not*
- > *exists... Please help me because it is a very clear violation of my*
- > *privacy....*

someone wrote:

- > *Shenan ! The answer you gave is quite insulting.*
- > *Ever thought about the fact that not everyone control the English*
- > *language as you do ?*
- >
- > *And did you ever tried to use another language beside your own ?*
- > *Also, i understood the original poster straight away despite his*
- > *grammar.*
- >
- > *And no i didnt read all the nonsense you put here as an answer,*
- > *simply because its incorrect.*

Yes I have used other languages than my native one.

Please reread – if I wanted to be insulting, I certainly would have been much harsher than: "I realize English may be a second language for you, so I will try to translate what you said."

The information I put is not incorrect and the conclusion you come to (for being "hacked") is more likely to be incorrect and even if it is not – is covered in my post.

- > *The answer is easy but harsh for the original poster : YOU HAVE BEEN*
- > *HACKED !*
- > *The best thing to do is to FDISK you harddisk (if you dont know this*
- > *then get someone to help you), then FORMAT it and reinstall windows.*

Yeah – your MSN account has been hacked.. So formatting will fix it.
Okay.. heh

microsoft.public.security: Re: Big security problem

As for the "best thing".. I disagree – the best thing is to clean it up and learn how to prevent it in the future if it is indeed true – or chance repeating the same mistakes again. A clean install may be your only choice and it may actually make things better in the short term, but if you continue with the same habits...

- > *Before you do this be sure make a backup of all the stuff you want to*
- > *keep but dont put it back on your harddisk before you are sure that*
- > *the backup contains no contamination of any sort (Virusses, Trojans,*
- > *worms etc.)*

Backups should continue to be made, even after you solve your issues – on some regular basis. Minimize ill–results of unplanned problems!

- > *After you done this you want to change the password for your hotmail*
- > *account as well as all the password you ever typed !*
- > *Why ?*
- > *Because someone seemed to be logging all the keystrokes you made,*
- > *including your passwords, and uses it to get into your email and*
- > *probably some more private stuff.*

Yes – changing your passwords is a good thing – especially with "strong" passwords, like the examples I gave in my post.. Not sure where you got that they were definitively being logged. However, I do agree that the changing of passwords is a necessary thing – but only AFTER they have cleaned their machine!

- > *It's good to have some kind of security installed too, i recommend*
- > *the following :*
- > *– AVG antivirus, this can be downloaded FREE at www.grisoft.com*
- > *– Activate you windows firewall and be sure to do a windows update.*
- > *– You can install anti–spyware programs, but as long as you keep a*
- > *normal surfing habit you shouldn't be needing them too often. (They*
- > *tend to attract spyware according to my research !)*

Your experience with spyware must be limited or you must have been installing the ones listed on this page:

http://www.spywarewarrior.com/rogue_anti-spyware.htm

The antispyware applications I list are tested very thoroughly by myself and recommended by many of my respected peers (here and in my other daily interactions.) They do not "attract" spyware. In fact – several of them provide immunization methods preventing infestation.

- > *I dont hope, i know this helps!*

Possibly. But the only way you will ever *know* is if the OP comes back.

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<- Shenan ->

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The information is provided "as is", it is suggested you research for

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microsoft.public.security: Re: Big security problem

yourself before you take any advice - you are the one ultimately responsible for your actions/problems/solutions. Know what you are getting into before you jump in with both feet.