

Re: FIX FOR MESSENGER POP UPS

Source:

http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.windowsxp.security_admin/2003-08/1327.html

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Date: 08/07/03

Date: Wed, 6 Aug 2003 22:08:49 -0600

Greetings ---

Please stop posting potentially harmful advice. What are you, a hacker-wannabe? Why else would you be deliberately posting bad advice? Are you trying to give people a false sense of security by having them turn off what are, in effect, valid security warnings, while still leaving their PCs open to potential exploitation?

Disabling the messenger service is a "head in the sand" approach to computer security.

The real problem is not the messenger service pop-ups; they're actually providing a useful service by acting as a security alert. The true problem is the unsecured computer, and you're only giving advice, however well-intended, was to turn off the warnings. How is this helpful?

Equivalent Scenario 1: Somewhere in a house, a small fire starts, and sets off the smoke alarm. The home-owner, not immediately seeing any fire/smoke, complains about the noise of the smoke detector, so you tell him to remove the smoke detector's battery and go back to sleep, or whatever else he was doing.

Equivalent Scenario 2: You over-exert your shoulder at work or play, causing bursitis. After weeks of annoying and sometimes excruciating pain whenever you try to reach over your head, you go to a doctor and say, while demonstrating the motion, "Doc, it hurts when I do this." The doctor, being as helpful as you are, replies, "Well, don't do that."

The only true way to secure the PC, short of permanently disconnecting from the Internet is to install and **properly** configure a firewall; just installing one and letting it's default settings handle things is no good. Unfortunately, this does require one to learn a little bit more about using a computer than used to be necessary.

Bruce Chambers

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Help us help you:

<http://dts-l.org/goodpost.htm>

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

You can have peace. Or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once. -- RAH

"Joe" <Sarg7@rcn.com> wrote in message

news:048b01c35b94\$867ca930\$a301280a@phx.gbl...

> As no one from microsoft was willing to help. I found the
> fix on Spybot. Here is the fix as it appears on the
> spybot site.

>

> I am not sure but you may not get the auto updates from
> MS anymore, just just go to MS once in awhile and check
> for new updates.

>

> These are sent using the Messenger service integrated
> into Windows 2000 and XP (try the 'net send' command to
> see for yourself).

> To disable the Messenger service, go to Start --> All
> Programs --> Administrative Tools --> Component Services.
> In Component Services, click on Services (Local), then on
> the right side, find Messenger and disable it.

> Note: not everyone will have Administrative Tools in the
> Start menu. You need to make it visible under Taskbar and
> Start Menu Properties (right-click on taskbar -->

> Properties). The surest way to get to Component Services
> is to enter %systemroot%\system32\com\comexp.msc into the
> command line.