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CCS Technologies
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"Local Support • Personal Service • Since 1976"   www.ccstech.net   "Relax...we're on IT"

One Click from Disaster: The Growing Tide of Web and Email Threats, and How to Stop Them.

by Jeff Verry

"Seatbelts and airbags are great. You know what's even better? Don't hit the tree."

Such were the words of wisdom from Mr. Mandez, my driver's ed teacher.

What applies to the highway applies to the information highway. With the continued sophistication and proliferation of web-borne threats, stopping malicious code before your computer hits it has become more important than ever.

We hear this with some regularity: "But I don't download any attachments." Or this: "I never go to those, you know, bad websites." First of all, kudos all around! We are always pleased to see end users taking responsibility and trying to make good choices. But the new reality is that vigilance, user training and guidelines just aren't enough.

According to the Center for Internet Security, the top three "attack vectors" (how malware gets on to your computer or network) are

Malspam – Unsolicited emails, which either direct users click on a button in the message.

Malvertising – Malware introduced through a malicious advertisement on a website

Multiple – A combination of the above.

We have seen that the effects of infections can be catastrophic. Typically, it can be encrypting all of your files and/or using your network as a workhorse to perform other, often illegal, activities using your computer and your address on the Internet.

The best way to prevent an infection is not clicking a malicious ad or a link embedded in an email. The best way to this is to not see the ad or email in the first place. Enter content filtering.

Our Provent security suite has an option to actively monitor and filter web content by type, by site and across all users. It can monitor bandwidth usage (a common indication of infection) and completely block users from known malicious sites as well as suspicious ones.

CCS Technologies has also offered AppRiver's award winning anti-spam services for years. This cuts the attack off at the source. Since malware often comes in as spam, if the spam never makes it to your inbox, your never need to worry.

The false positive rates for both of these services is extremely low so you can spend more time focusing on your work and less time worrying about where that email went. Call us today and schedule a web/email security consultation. We can help you stay safer out there and avoid the lurking pitfalls and hazards.

"Relax…We're on IT"

CCS Technologies Welcomes Our Newest Addition: Rich Raab!

We have added a new member to our team. Rich blew us away with his technical knowledge, customer service skills and desire to be part of a team. His background as a manager helped bring him to the top of our list due to his experience with dealing with customer issues, time sensitive emergencies and thinking on his feet. He worked in a training and then management role for 13 years while also serving as an IT support technician. Afterwards he served as a Qdoba general manager for several years and then as a full time IT support person for the USDA.

He has been pursuing a degree in Information Technology with an emphasis on Cyber Security at Baker College while also acquiring a CompTIA A+ certification, Security+ and most recently a Network+ certification. When he's not working or busy with his large family of five children, he tries to squeeze in time for his hobbies which include weightlifting, painting, writing bad science fiction and horror stories, or playing video games with his wife. We are beyond excited to work with Rich and discover the new ways that he can help our customers!

"Relax...we're on IT"

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CCS Technologies Store Hours

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Mon-Thu 8 - 5:30 & Fri 10 - 5:30

Grand Haven Store
Mon-Thu 9 - 6 & Fri 10 - 6
Sat 10 - 3