From: Dan Jones - SMT

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Posted To: spywareworkshop2004

Conversation: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509 Subject: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509

According to the United States Small Business Administration, there are approximately 23 million small businesses in America. While I certainly cannot speak for all of the small businesses, I can speak for ours. The problem with adware, spyware and other malware is growing and the perpetrators of these malicious codes are becoming more adept at making the installation undetectable until the damage is done.

The computer and internet resources at our business are my responsibility and each week I spend an hour or two cleaning up the mess that these criminals create. As my billable hourly rate is \$60, this equates to \$3,000-4,000 per year in lost revenue for our company. If you assume that my colleagues at the other 23 million small businesses throughout the country are experiencing similar challenges; that could easily equate to a \$72 Billion loss to American small businesses.

Something must be done to hold these terrorists who are responsible for this attack on our economy accountable.

I thank you for addressing the issue and I sincerely hope that you can put some teeth into the solution.

Sincerely,

Dan Jones, GIS/MIS Manager Southern Mapping Technology, Inc. FL