From: j.knight
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Posted To: spywareworkshop2004
Conversation: spyware
Subject: spyware

Sir's,
Having read your website, I won't go into the horror stories, instead I offer the following for your comsideration.
1]No programme to be bundled with any others, that stop the programme you want to not work if you don't want it. It would be preferable to have only single programmes d/loaded.Therefore giving the user the choice of what programmes he has on his computer.
2]All programmes to have a genuine contactable address
in case of problems. Not as happens now a website that gives a phone number, which is automated and tells you to visit the site you've just come from.
3] Have a short Eula, similiar to the one by Google that outlines in clear language what the programme does, if it phones home let it tell the user.
4] All programmes to have a genuine uninstall programme that removes every single bit of code.
5]Make drive-by installs illegal, this is my machine I worked to pay for it I DECIDE what I want on MY computer.Not the Ad companies. These companies say that they are enhancing my surfing experiance, excuse me, If I decide I want an item I either shop in my local store or I use a search engine and scour the net.I don't need or want Ad companies telling me what and where I should buy.
6]Every computer sold should have the following installed and enabled by default.
A Firewall.
An Antivirus programme.
other options should be Spyware Blaster, Spyware Guard. etc. There are plenty of other free programmes available. I'm sure as this could be classed as being of commercial use, the programmer of these programmes would accept a small donation from the computer makers. Any maker that took this course would surely sell more computers.
Also I don't know of any TV ad that tracks a users machine.
7]All misleading actions should be made illegal, i.e. when you want to get rid of a window or popup you click the 'X' in the top right hand, when you do this on some pop-ups, up comes another window to say you must click o.k. to receive the programme,there is no way to get rid of this without rebooting.
Reading this site it was laughable to see the Ad companies classing TV ads as the same as computer ads, Tv ads are on for a limited period, computer ads stay there until you click them off.
Regarding Isp's. They should be told of any spyware programme emanating from their servers and should stop them, if they don't they should be heavilly fined. Like one user on your site said he's giving up his computer because he's getting nothing but continual ads,another customer lost = lost revenue= lost ISP if more follow his example.

Finally, the greatest problem is educating the masses on spyware and how it slow downs and messes up their machines, we know how short a memory span people have, the net will turn into just one gigantic ad.Board. Just don't buy from any company that uses pop-ups.
WE need goverments around the world to tackle this problem, you start, others will follow
Thank you for reading this.

J.Knight.

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