



SPAMHAUS

THE SPAMHAUS PROJECT

ITU REGIONAL CYBERSECURITY WORKSHOP - HANOI - AUGUST 2007

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About Spamhaus

-➤ Founded in late 90's, non-profit
-➤ Headquartered in the UK
-➤ 25+ specialists around the world
-➤ DNSBLs: SBL, XBL and PBL
-➤ ROKSO, DROP
-➤ Corporate research team



Industry Self-Regulation

Spamhaus' primary role is to research and publish accurate information - specifically to enable ISPs to make decisions on what connections to their networks should be accepted, and to ensure end-user compliance with the ISP's contractual requirements.



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Industry Self-Regulation

Spamhaus is a member
of the London Action Plan
but is not a direct enforcer of
legislation in any jurisdiction



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Industry Self-Regulation

Spamhaus will willingly provide LEAs with any assistance they may request on technical matters, and any access they may need to our confidential research.



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Industry Self-Regulation

Spamhaus holds a lot of information provided in confidence by Industry players - on the understanding that it can be made available to LEAs where needed.



Spamhaus Users

- ISPs, ESPs, xSPs, governments, universities, military, etc
- Over 1.2 billion mailboxes protected



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Spam is strongly linked with the “underground” cyber-economy

Phishing is demonstrably a
self-perpetuating activity.



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**Spam will stop being a problem
when it stops being profitable**



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Spam will stop being a problem when it stops being profitable

The most effective way to bring that about,
is for networks - especially backbone
networks - to act together to suppress the
addresses where the spammers operate.



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Legislation and loss of revenue are cited as the reason why mostly does not happen.



Governments

**- and industry bodies -
need to formulate policies
to reshape motivation.**



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Trust and teamwork are essential here - the real sources of spam and the associated websites are often concealed.



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Industry specialists can trace these sources but Networks need to accept and act on their research.



Co-operation?

- We must try harder. Problems are getting more serious and harder to solve.
- Balance between prevention of harm and the traditional freedoms of the 'net



Co-operation?

- Governments are not empowered to solve these problems. They are looking to the industry to implement self-regulation.



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**In many countries,
current laws can pose
a serious obstacle to
industry co-operation.**



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**They create safe havens
where spammers and
cyber-criminals can
operate anonymously.**



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Action is needed NOW!

Problems are getting more serious
and harder to solve.



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**Two major barriers
to overcome -
language and time-zones.**



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**Some sites do so
much harm that immediate
action is essential.**



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China and Russia are still the most serious threat to World Cybersecurity



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Asian culture is to be helpful - but sometimes it is essential to say “NO”!



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**Chinese companies
are not good at ensuring
compliance by middle
management.**



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**Foreigners can get hosting
in China to use as a platform for
cyber-attacks, more easily than
any other country.**



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On the internet, nobody knows you're a dog!



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**You and your reputation are based solely on
what you do and say!**



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If you ignore concerns from other networks and their users - or if they think you do - they will block traffic from your network or country.



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**China's new spam laws
do not help address the
problems that China is causing
to other countries.**



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