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HostingCon '08 Booth #810

Message Systems and Commtouch Join Forces to Fight Zombies

Message Systems Edge of Network carrier-class MTA and Commtouch Recurrent Pattern Detection™ technology defeat malicious code at the edge

CHICAGO – July 29, 2008 – Millions of agile botnets dodged defenses and polluted the Internet with email threats, according to the [2008 Email Threats Trends](#) issued by messaging and web security technology provider Commtouch® (NASDAQ: CTCH).

While spammers and malware writers experimented with a few new techniques during the quarter, no innovation was needed for zombies to continue pummeling email users and networks with unwanted messages and hazardous code. According to the report, 10 million zombie IP addresses are active each day, on average, and spam levels throughout the second quarter averaged 77 percent of all email messages.

“Zombie networks or ‘botnets’ are flooding email with malicious threats, and wasting organizations’ bandwidth and storage,” said Amir Lev, Commtouch’s chief technology officer and president.

To counter the unrelenting zombie and botnet attacks, software solutions provider Message Systems has integrated the Commtouch email security technology into its EoN carrier-class mail transfer agent (MTA). Combining high performance edge protection, message processing and policy-based protocol with Commtouch’s [Pattern™](#) technology, EoN delivers sustained performance while supporting full protection that consistently achieves global filtering rates of over 95 percent.

EoN’s ability to centrally manage and share data between MTAs allows detection of zombie/ botnet activity earlier than other edge software providers by sharing real-time intelligent analysis of abnormal sender behavior across the network, thus preventing the spammer from rolling from one MTA to another to prolong a spam attack. Additionally, changes to policies or blocking can be made in real-time, by way of seamless MTA propagation, with no associated restart. By eliminating the restarts incurred by other edge and MTA software providers, EoN gives service providers the highest possible availability in the industry, with customer reports of uninterrupted 100% availability over a 12-month time period.

“The dual protection provided by EoN and Recurrent Pattern Detection from Commtouch is a significant tool to combat spam sent by zombies,” said Catherine Foster, Director Product Management for Message Systems. “Zombies or botnets produce distinctive patterns that can be automatically detected. Detection coupled with intelligent reporting and throttling techniques can be used to block or slow down messages from zombie-infected computers. This is also very valuable technique to immobilize internal messaging network attacks from compromised webmail accounts.”

More about Message Systems Edge of Network (EoN)

Message Systems EoN is a comprehensive email solution for carriers and email receivers that delivers speed, high performance, manageability, extensibility and security at an affordable cost. Capable of delivering millions of unique messages per hour, Message Systems EoN is the fastest email solution on the market today. A comprehensive policy management module features a full threat prevention matrix and the ability to select best-in-class anti-spam and antivirus solutions to protect enterprise networks.

About Message Systems

Founded in 1997, Message Systems is a worldwide provider of email software solutions and services for email service providers (ESPs), Internet service providers (ISPs) and large enterprises that need to manage the delivery of large amounts of business-critical email. Through a combination of technology, partnerships and intellectual capital, Message Systems offers a family of software solutions and services that address the email infrastructure and deliverability needs for organizations ranging from regional businesses to the Global 2000. With the most powerful Message Transfer Agent (MTA) on the market supporting more than 100,000 concurrent connections per server, Message Systems gets millions of unique messages to the right place at the right time. Headquartered in Columbia, Maryland, Message Systems has a network of channel partners in North America, Europe and Asia. For more information, go to [://www.messagesystems.com](http://www.messagesystems.com).

About Commtouch

Commtouch Software Ltd. (NASDAQ: CTCH) is the source of proven messaging and web security technology for scores of security companies and service providers, founded on a unique datacenter-based approach. Commtouch's expertise in building efficient, massive-scale security services has resulted in its patented technology being used to mitigate Internet threats for thousands of organizations and hundreds and millions of users in over 100 countries. Commtouch's Data Centers automatically analyze billions of transactions in real-time to identify new spam, malware and zombie outbreaks as they are initiated. Commtouch's unmatched suite of security offerings - anti-spam, virus detection, reputation and zombie intelligence services - work together in a comprehensive feedback loop. Commtouch was founded in 1991, is headquartered in Netanya, Israel, and has a subsidiary in Sunnyvale, Calif. For more information and real-time statistics and trends, see: <http://www.commtouch.com> and the Commtouch Café blog at: <http://blog.commtouch.com/cafe>.

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