

# W17

**Wednesday**

**Morning**

**Fax**

*from*

**The**

**Castle**

**Press**



## **epidemic spam, viruses, fraud deluge Internet**

A September report from the Symantec computer-security company reveals that spam, viruses, and identity theft are flooding the Internet.

The Symantec report covers the first six months of 2007. It incorporates attack data from more than 120 million computers, plus more than two million decoy e-mail messages designed to lure recipients of shady transmissions worldwide into responding. It showed that:

■ **Traffic in stolen personal information keeps growing**

The U.S. is home to 64% of the world's known underground servers, which identity thieves use to buy and sell pilfered credit-card information and similar sensitive personal records.

■ **Security threats from malicious computer code mushroom**

In the first six months of this year, Symantec detected 212,101 new code hacks — an increase of 185% over the earlier half year.

■ **"Toolkits" automate computer-security attacks**

Only three toolkits — program bundles that permit criminals to custom-design messages — initiated 42% of the 2.3 million identity-theft "phishing" messages that Symantec staffers picked up from January through June.

**Get fast relief**

*from your mailing headaches with Castle Press project management.*

*The Internet's bad guys are simply outrunning most of the anti-spam technology out there today.*

— *The New York Times*

■ **Spam e-mail growing exponentially**

Today, almost two million e-mail messages every second go out into cyberspace.

In 2001 about 5% of Internet traffic was spam.

Today, it has grown to more than 90%.

■ **U.S. businesses now spend more than \$10 billion a year** to filter out spam and virus-loaded messages.

It takes at least five seconds for a recipient to recognize and delete a spam e-mail. If five billion spam messages slip through the defenses, that adds up to 795 billion employee years of time lost through pressing computer delete buttons every day.

One Internet-security company, Postini, stopped 22 billion spam messages for its 36,000 business clients during last November alone.

It says that it now intercepts 12 spam transmissions for every e-mail it accepts for delivery.

**The Castle Press** — *your best choice for a printing partner since 1931.*



1222 North Fair Oaks Avenue  
Pasadena, California 91103  
1-800-794-0858  
www.castlepress.com

(10.17.07)