

March 26, 2004

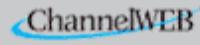
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Panda Software flags an attachment-driven worm, and Network Associates' McAfee team identifies two mass-mailer worms.

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No, it makes up for the lack of fine in the U.S.

Yes, the EU went overboard

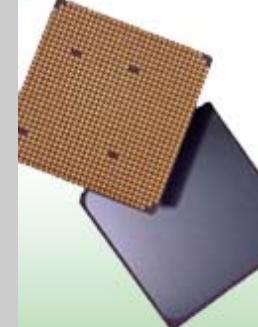
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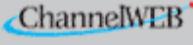
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More Worms Assault E-Mail Users

By [Dan Neel](#), CRN

11:35 AM EST Fri., Mar. 26, 2004

PC users awoke Friday to the threat of three new worms identified by security software companies.

The most dangerous of the three, Bagel.U, was detected by security firm Panda Software, Glendale, Calif. Bagel.U attacks from within an e-mail message that has no subject and no body copy. The worm bears an attachment with a file name that varies, but it always has an "EXE" extension, Panda Software said in a statement.

If installed in an affected computer, Bagel.U can be recognized because it opens the Windows game Hearts, which is bundled with most Windows PC operating systems, according to Panda.

Bagel.U has a backdoor that opens TCP port 4751. The worm then tries to connect with a Web page hosting a PHP script, which is the process it uses to notify its author that the PC it resides in can be accessed through TCP port 4751, Panda said.

A weakness of Bagel.U is that the worm can only operate within a PC that has a running system date of Jan. 1, 2005 or earlier. PCs with system dates after Jan. 1, 2005 disable the worm, according to Panda.

Posing a lesser threat are two mass-mailer worms--MYWIFE.A and SNAPPER--identified Friday by the McAfee Avert team of Network Associates, Santa Clara, Calif.

MYWIFE.A and SNAPPER are both rated as a "low" threat by McAfee. MYWIFE.A is somewhat identical to the "MyLife" virus and spreads via e-mail attachments. SNAPPER spreads by e-mailing what appears to be blank messages but are really intended to exploit a weakness in Microsoft operating systems. Its purpose is "downloading other remote scripts that drop and run the worm on the victim's machine," the McAfee Avert team said in a statement.

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