ABSTRACT:

SPAM BUSINESS – THE ROUTE OF UNSOLICITED E-MAILS FROM THE ATTACKER TO THE VICTIM

Krasznay Csaba, <u>krasznay@interware.hu</u> kancellár.hu Kft.

One of the biggest challenges in these days is to handle unsolicited e-mails. Based upon industry statistics we can say that 40% of all sent e-mails belong to this set, that means 10 billion unsolicited e-mails per day. This is 2200 spam for a typical internet user in one year. Accordingly the number and quality of defense techniques has evolved in the past few years. But these are just symptomatic treatments. For the convenient prevention we have to understand the cause of this disease. In my presentation I examine the route of unsolicited mails from the customers, i.e. the advertisers to the victims i.e. the millions of internet users. I expatiate on the types of such shipment, the operation of supposable criminal gangs who deal with posting and those technical solutions that make possible to get millions of e-mail addresses and send mails to them. At last I summarize the legal activities both national and international levels that were taken to force back unsolicited mails.

It's very difficult to obtain authentic information on the examined field that is why we have to rely on industry experts and judgments. But even the smallest company encounters those attacks day by day that imply circumstantial evidences of huge business of organized crime in the background. Sun Tze said: "Know the other and know yourself and fight one hundred of battles without danger". According to statistics the information society has lost many battles against spam. Maybe we don't know our enemy. The goal of my presentation is to give a short look into the dark background and to present those innovative techniques that are used by attackers.