

April Fools - No Joke But No Panic Either

Over the past few days I have received a number of questions regarding yet another malware threat that is looming out there, ready to pounce on us on April 1st, 2009.

Referred to as the Conficker Worm (AKA Downup, Downadup or Kido) this is a potentially serious threat, although you shouldn't be losing sleep over it as there are readily available defences to prevent this attack.

First off - The 'Conficker Worm' is designed to target all users of Windows XP and Windows Vista operating systems. Keeping your computer turned off or not browsing the internet on April 1st is not an effective defence strategy, so lets look at what you should do.

Get Your Security Up to Date - Now

If your computer is not configured to receive patches and updates from Microsoft you need to download and apply all the latest security patches ASAP. (To check to see if this is done automatically open 'Control Panel' from your 'Start' menu and proceed to 'Security Center' to see if your updates are set to 'Automatic'. Unless you have the experience to monitor Microsoft's patches and apply them selectively 'Automatic' is your safest option.)

Confirm that your anti-virus program is up to date and that scans are run regularly. Contact FITS if your computer does not have an Anti-virus program as this has become a 'must have'. Be extremely wary of security/anti-virus scans that pop up while browsing the internet. These are often programs that actually are infecting your computer and can be very difficult to remove.

In a recent newsletter of FITS we advised you to turn off the "Autorun" feature on your computer (as recent malware is using this feature as an attack front), if you haven't done so already, now would be a good time to apply this change as well. (FITS has designed a quick registry edit to accomplish this task effectively and efficiently.)

Keep in mind, computer users who do not have a genuine version of Microsoft Windows are at high risk since pirated systems usually cannot get Microsoft updates and patches.

If you have any questions or need assistance with any of the above steps, the FITS helpdesk will be able to assist you. Please Contact FITS at (416) 640-2874 or info@FileBankIT.com.

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Conficker (AKA Downup, Downadup, Kido) Threat



The response to last issues "Question of the Month" has been good.

If you haven't yet joined in there is still time to qualify.

Get it right and you can celebrate with a coffee :)

Question of the Month:

What is the acronym RAID short for?

Send your response to info@FileBankIT.com before AP15/09 to be eligible to win a :

Tim Hortons Gift Certificate

Questions or comments please contact us at info@FileBankIT.com or call (416) 640-2874

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