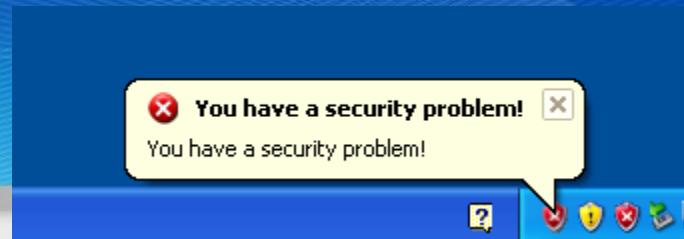


# Recent Rogueware



Kurt Baumgartner  
PC Tools ThreatFire Research  
Virus Bulletin 2008

pct∞ls

## Recent Rogueware

- Rogueware?
- Obfuscation Methods and Vundo Behaviors
- Survey Multiple Recent Rogueware
- MonaRonaDona Hoax
- Recent Binder and Downloader Components and Behavioral Challenges
- What Now?



## Rogueware?

- Sometimes clumsy descriptions found on sites and blogs.
- Substantial definitions exist on well known sites like castlecops, spywarewarrior, and many others
- My definition: Rogueware-based schemes coerce computer users to pay for removal of nonexistent malware. **Rogueware are select software components used in these schemes to aid in coercion.**





# Rogueware Certified



## Antivirus XP 2008



Official International Virus Research Lab. Product



MORE **REALIABLE**  
MORE **EFFECTIVE**  
MORE **PROACTIVE**



Antivirus XP 2008 - antispyware/virus security protector, the new comprehensive, automatic, and self-updating PC care service that helps to protect and maintain your PC.



**Free Check**



**Download**



## Rogueware?

- Recent active and prevalent examples over the past couple of weeks
  - AntiVirus2008 and 2009
  - MultyCodecUpdr.7.2068.exe and its “promom” which then drops sav components
  - pdf exploit -> 0xf9.exe -> AntiVirus2008, other adware
- not-so-recent MonaRonaDona and Unigray Antivirus




which then



## Rogueware?

- Shameless re branding, shuffling of domains, redistribution, shock messaging
- Towards the end of last year, high level of active distribution channels and offers:

 ~Доп. прибыль с загрузок~...от 70-150\$ с 1 тысячи!

---

Приветствую всех форумчан!

Если вы грузите граббер-соксбот-спамбот и хотите получать дополнительный доход с в предлагаем подгружать наш софт и получать 70-150\$ с 1 тысячи загрузок(все зависит от

Что за софт мы грузим:

Грузим мы adware, который в свою очередь активно продвигает antispyware софт! Adware ботнетами, ни с троянами и не убивает ваших ботов!

Какие страны нам подходят:

Все страны кроме Азии и России(в ближайшем будущем и эти страны тоже будем прин

Принцип работы:

## Rogueware?

~ Extras. Profit from downloads ~ .. from 70-150 \$ c 1 thousand!

If you load: grabber-soksbots-spambot and would like to receive additional income from your downloads, we offer our software and get 70-150 \$ 1 to thousands of downloads (all depends on the country).

As for software, we control:

adware, which in turn actively promotes antispyware software! Adware does not conflict with either the botnetami, or trojan, and does not kill your bots!

Russian ▾ » English ▾ **Translate**





## Survey Multiple Fakealerts - Intro

- Vundo obfuscation, behavior, commodity client side exploits
- Codec distribution, often via spammed links –  
MultyCodecUpgr.7.20680.exe
- P2P distribution and crack sites – binding keygen schemes, most active downloads
- Shuffling web sites and domains
- Common component behaviors – Shell\_NotifyIcon





## Vundo's Blatantly Intrusive Behavior

- Vundo's prevalence seems to be on a steep downward slope towards the end of this year
- Vundo loaders and dll's have maintained multiple layers of obfuscation, calls to random antiquated API's, polymorphism
- Vundo distributors most commonly implemented commodity exploits to download and execute components that dropped a randomly named dll and loaded it into its own process, then the loaded dll made copies of itself that it injected first into winlogon, then globally into explorer and other processes
- Process check – ad-aware, winlogon, explorer, other AV's



## Vundo's Blatantly Intrusive Behavior

- Anti-RE Obfuscation
  - Anti-RE: perverted code beyond recognition, i.e. prologues where normal “push ebp...move ebp,esp” is mangled

Address	Hex dump	Disassembly	Comment
0040191D	55	PUSH EBP	
0040191E	87E4	XCHG ESP,ESP	
00401920	81E5 A3618A78	AND EBP,788A61A3	
00401926	8BEC	MOV EBP,ESP	
00401928	83EC 0C	SUB ESP,0C	
0040192B	66:90	NOP	

- Anti-emulation: calling antiquated api's with “impossible” parameters to generate predictable values – this is not compiler “optimization”

00401DDA	8B 01	MOV EAX,01	
00401DDC	B8 1A000000	MOV EAX,1A	
00401DD1	41	INC ECX	
00401DD2	48	DEC EAX	
00401DD3	85C0	TEST EAX,EAX	gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx
00401DD5	^ 75 FA	JNZ SHORT 812427EA.00401DD1	gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx
00401DD7	59	POP ECX	
00401DD8	FF35 A4504000	PUSH DWORD PTR DS:[<&gdi32.SetVi	gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx
00401DDE	D2C0	ROL AL,CL	
00401DE0	09E0	OR EAX,ESP	
00401DE2	58	POP EAX	gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx
00401DE3	FFD0	CALL EAX	gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx
00401DE5	85C0	TEST EAX,EAX	gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx
00401DE7	v EB 10	JMP SHORT 812427EA.00401E06	

EAX=77C731DA (gdi32.SetViewportOrgEx)

Address	Hex dump	ASCII
00405000	38 51 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 FE 00 00	80.....*
		0012FF9C 00000001
		0012FFA0 00000000
		0012FFA4 00000000



## Vundo's Blatantly Intrusive Behavior

- Garbage assembly level instructions, loops and jmp flows: i.e. implement ridiculous custom GetProcAddress with multiple levels of needless instructions

Address	Hex dump	Disassembly
004017B4	55	PUSH EBP
004017B5	8AC0	MOV AL,AL
004017B7	21D0	AND EBP,EBX
004017B9	D3C5	ROL EBP,CL
004017BB	BD 253A7C6A	MOV EBP,6A7C3A25
004017C0	8BEC	MOV EBP,ESP
004017C2	✓ E9 15050000	JMP 812427EA.00401C0C
004017C7	56	PUSH ESI
004017C8	87E4	XCHG ESP,ESP
004017CA	56	PUSH ESI
004017CB	51	PUSH ECX
004017CC	59	POP ECX
004017CD	56	PUSH ESI
004017CE	8BED	MOV EBP,EBP

# Vundo's Blatantly Intrusive Behavior

- Definitive Vundo loader winlogon injection

10001599	FF7424 14	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+14]		EBP 00000000
1000159D	55	PUSH EBP		ESI 10000000 wvUkHyAP.10
1000159E	68 2A040000	PUSH 42A		EDI 100019A7 wvUkHyAP.10
100015A3	FF15 B0A00010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A0B0]	kernel32.OpenProcess	EIP 100015A3 wvUkHyAP.10
100015A9	8BF8	MOV EDI,EAX		C 0 ES 0023 32bit 0(FFF
100015AB	3BFD	CMP EDI,EBP		P 0 CS 001B 32bit 0(FFF
100015AD	0F84 9E000000	JE wvUkHyAP.10001651		A 0 SS 0023 32bit 0(FFF
100015B3	53	PUSH EBX	wvUkHyAP.10000000	Z 0 DS 0023 32bit 0(FFF
100015B4	56	PUSH ESI		S 0 FS 0038 32bit 7FFDE
100015B5	FF7424 20	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+20]		T 0 GS 0000 NULL
100015B9	FF15 68A00010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A068]	kernel32.lstrlenA	D 0
100015BF	6A 04	PUSH 4		O 0 LastErr ERROR_SUCCE
100015C1	8BF0	MOV ESI,EAX		EFL 00000202 (NO,NB,NE,A
100015C3	68 00100000	PUSH 1000	wvUkHyAP.10000000	ST0 empty +UNORM F590 00
100015C8	46	INC ESI	wvUkHyAP.10000000	ST1 empty +UNORM 2402 00
100015C9	56	PUSH ESI	wvUkHyAP.10000000	ST2 empty +UNORM 17CD 77
100015CA	55	PUSH EBP		ST3 empty 0.097005657150
100015CB	57	PUSH EDI	wvUkHyAP.100019A7	ST4 empty +UNORM 0044 00
100015CC	FF15 ACA00010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A0AC]	kernel32.VirtualAllocEx	
100015D2	8BD8	MOV EBX,EAX		
100015D4	3BDD	CMP EBX,EBP		
100015D6	74 70	JE SHORT wvUkHyAP.10001648		
100015D8	55	PUSH EBP	wvUkHyAP.10000000	
100015D9	56	PUSH ESI		
100015DA	FF7424 28	PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+28]		
100015DE	53	PUSH EBX	wvUkHyAP.100019A7	
100015DF	57	PUSH EDI	kernel32.WriteProcessMemory	
100015E0	FF15 08A10010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A108]		
100015E6	85C0	TEST EAX,EAX		
100015E8	74 41	JE SHORT wvUkHyAP.1000162B		
100015EA	68 94A40010	PUSH wvUkHyAP.1000A494	ASCII "LoadLibraryA"	
100015EF	68 88A40010	PUSH wvUkHyAP.1000A488	ASCII "Kernel32"	
100015F4	FF15 A4A00010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A0A4]	kernel32.GetModuleHandleA	
100015FA	50	PUSH EAX		
100015FB	FF15 A0A00010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A0A0]	kernel32.GetProcAddress	
10001601	3BC5	CMP EAX,EBP		
10001603	74 26	JE SHORT wvUkHyAP.1000162B		
10001605	55	PUSH EBP		
10001606	55	PUSH EBP		
10001607	53	PUSH EBX		
10001608	50	PUSH EAX		
10001609	55	PUSH EBP		
1000160A	55	PUSH EBP		
1000160B	57	PUSH EDI	wvUkHyAP.100019A7	
1000160C	FF15 9CA00010	CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A09C]	kernel32.CreateRemoteThread	

Select process to attach

Process	Name	Win	Path
00000240	smss		\SystemRoot\System32\smss.exe
00000288	csrss		??\C:\WINDOWS\system32\csrss.exe
000002A0	winlogon	Net	??\C:\WINDOWS\system32\winlogon.exe
000002C0	services		C:\WINDOWS\system32\services.exe
000002D8	lsass		C:\WINDOWS\system32\lsass.exe
0000038C	svchost		C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost.exe
000003F0	svchost		C:\WINDOWS\System32\svchost.exe
00000440	svchost		C:\WINDOWS\System32\svchost.exe
00000468	svchost		C:\WINDOWS\System32\svchost.exe
00000554	wuauclt	Auto	C:\WINDOWS\System32\wuauclt.exe
000005C0	Explorer	SysF	C:\WINDOWS\Explorer.EXE
000005C8	PEID		C:\re\PEID\PEID.exe
000005FC	spoolsv		C:\WINDOWS\system32\spoolsv.exe
00000654	VMwareTr		C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware Tools\
00000660	VMwareUs	VMw	C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware Tools\
00000668	messaging	DDE	C:\Program Files\Messenger\msmsgs.exe
00000758	VMwareSe		C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware Tools\
000007A4	ieplorer		C:\Program Files\Internet Explorer\ie
00000D88	812427EA		C:\Documents and Settings\p\Desktop\8

Attach Cancel

DS:[1000A0B0]=77E706B7 (kernel32.OpenProcess)

Address	Hex dump	ASCII	0012F608	0000042A	Access = CREATE_THREAD\VM_OPERATION\VM_WRITE\QUERY_INFORMATION
00405000	E4 E8 3B FD FF FF 66 90 C9 EB 1E CC E9 76 0F 00	23:2 fE[F3]f0u*	0012F60C	00000000	Inheritable = FALSE
00405010	00 CC 50 6A 5B 5C FF D6 E8 4F C9 FF 46 E8 80 37	.fPj[\_r#0f F#C? e E&L" EL#*0+*	0012F6E0	000002A0	ProcessId = 2A0
00405020	EC 4C EC 74 E0 C0 7C EC 4C C0 CD 01 C0 0D E1 00	e E&L" EL#*0+*	0012F6E4	100019A7	wvUkHyAP.100019A7



# Vundo's Blatently Intrusive Behavior

- Definitive SetWindowsHook WH\_GETMESSAGE injection, from this injection, ads displayed, trayalert

The screenshot shows the OllyDbg interface with the assembly window displaying the disassembly of the SetWindowsHookExA function. The instruction list includes:

- 10001B3C: PUSH EBX
- 10001B3D: PUSH ESI
- 10001B3E: PUSH EDI
- 10001B3F: PUSH 3
- 10001B41: CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A1B4]
- 10001B47: MOV EDI, EAX
- 10001B49: CMP EDI, EBX
- 10001B48: JE SHORT wvUkHyAP.10001B6A
- 10001B4D: PUSH 7530
- 10001B52: PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-8]
- 10001B55: CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A098]
- 10001B58: TEST EAX, EAX
- 10001B5D: JNZ SHORT wvUkHyAP.10001B63
- 10001B5F: MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1], 1
- 10001B63: PUSH EDI
- 10001B64: CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A1B8]
- 10001B6A: PUSH DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-8]
- 10001B6D: CALL DWORD PTR DS:[1000A0A8]
- 10001B73: CMP BYTE PTR DS:[1000A22D], 0

Comments for the highlighted instructions include: "USER32.SetWindowsHookExA", "kernel32.WaitForSingleObject", "wvUkHyAP.100019A7", "USER32.UnhookWindowsHookEx", and "kernel32.CloseHandle".

Below the assembly window, the hook table is visible, showing the following entries:

Address	Hex dump	ASCII	HookType	Hookproc	hModule	ThreadID
0012F6F0	00000003		WH_GETMESSAGE			
0012F6F4	100019A7			wvUkHyAP.100019A7		
0012F6F8	10000000				10000000 (wvUkHyAP)	
0012F6FC	00000000					0
0012F700	0012BA5C					
0012F704	10000000			wvUkHyAP.10000000		
0012F708	7FFDF000					
0012F70C	00242F20					



## Codec Distribution

- Zcodec.1140.exe -> 5491.exe -> sav.exe, etc
- 5491.exe is a simple self extracting compressed archive, no packing involved, drops sav.exe in %progfiles%\AV2008
- No injections, no system tampering -- clearly “malicious” behavior?



## MonaRonaDona Hoax - Intro

- Bumbling rogueware scheme – early 2008
- “Virus” bound to version of "Registrycleaner2008"
- Hoax postings and content regarding this “virus”
- “Virus”?
- Fraudulent postings about unigray antivirus scanner and its user base, google/search engine top results



## MonaRonaDona Hoax -- Planning

- Create AV product that performs no beneficial activity
- Attempt to establish reputation and price point by comparison between it and legitimate solutions
- Write phony “virus”
- Create confusion and chatter about it on popular forums
- Wait for \$\$\$ -- you will wait a long time
- This does not work







## MonaRonaDona Hoax – “Virus”

- SvcsPOOL.exe dropped to All Users StartMenu Startup by RegistryCleaner2008.exe
- Really a “virus”? No – no replication code. IE WindowBar manipulation, Task Manager disabled by dropper. Some amount of hiding, obfuscation
- “Top virus list”



## Downloader Components – Intro

- Malicious examples – 0xf9.exe, av2009install.exe
- Static characteristics
- Behavioral characteristics
- Downloading sav.exe
- Groups continue to use exploits to deliver downloaders, do testers know that?

## Downloaders

- Difficult for behavioral solutions to assess without using more hardcoded data – closer to signature based technologies



- AV2009 UPX packed compiled Delphi executable
  - Simple and straightforward, like any other app...CreateWindow, InternetOpen, InternetOpenUrl, CreateProcess
  - Creating a dependence on static characteristics of file, connection endpoints,etc
  - InternetOpenUrl connects with [http://securedownloads6.com/download/av\\_2009.exe](http://securedownloads6.com/download/av_2009.exe)

# Downloaders

- Simple CreateWindowEx for installer box, nothing obfuscated or injected here...

The screenshot shows a debugger window with assembly code on the left and a hex dump on the right. The assembly code is for a function that creates a window. The hex dump shows the data for the window, including the class name, window name, style, and dimensions.

```

00408EC3 | . 85C0          TEST EAX,EAX
00408EC5 | v 75 25        JNZ SHORT av2009in.00408EEC
00408EC7 | . 8B4424 04     MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+4]
00408ECB | . 898424 94000000 MOV DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+94],EAX
00408ED2 | . C74424 74 605C48 MOV DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+74],av2009in.0
00408EDA | . 8D4424 70     LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[ESP+70]
00408EDE | . 50           PUSH EAX
00408EDF | . E8 60CAFFFF  CALL <JMP.&user32.RegisterClassA>
00408EE4 | . 85C0          TEST EAX,EAX
00408EE6 | v 0F84 81000000 JE av2009in.00408F6D
00408EEC | > 891D 04254100 MOV DWORD PTR DS:[412504],EBX
00408EF2 | . E8 5C8BFFFF  CALL <JMP.&user32.CreateWindowExA>
00408EF7 | . 8943 28     MOV DWORD PTR DS:[EBX+28],EAX
    
```

The hex dump shows the data for the window, including the class name, window name, style, and dimensions.

Address	Hex dump	ASCII
00411000	32 13 8B C0 00 8D 40 00 00 8D 40 00 00 8D	2i!i@..i@..i@.
00411010	A0 10 41 00 00 00 00 00 84 1F 40 00 0C 21	ã*À....ã*..!@.
00411020	80 24 40 00 52 75 6E 74 69 6D 65 20 65 72	Ç*@.Runtime erro
00411030	72 20 20 20 20 20 61 74 20 30 30 30 30 30	r at 00000000
00411040	30 00 8B C0 45 72 72 6F 72 00 8B C0 30 31	0..!Error.i!0123
00411050	34 35 36 37 38 39 41 42 43 44 45 46 20 20	456789ABCDEF
00411060	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	
00411070	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	
00411080	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	
00411090	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 00 0A	.....i!
004110A0	00 00 00 00 00 00 40 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....@.....

The hex dump also shows the data for the window, including the class name, window name, style, and dimensions.

```

0012FEA4 | 00010000  ExtStyle = WS_EX_CONTROLPARENT
0012FEA8 | 0012FED4  Class = "obj_Form"
0012FEAC | 00900FC4  WindowName = "Antivirus 2009 Installer"
0012FEB0 | 06CF0000  Style = WS_OVERLAPPED!WS_MINIMIZEBOX!WS_
0012FEB4 | 00000161  X = 161 (353.)
0012FEB8 | 000000F5  Y = F5 (245.)
0012FEBC | 80000000  Width = 80000000 (-2147483648.)
0012FEC0 | 80000000  Height = 80000000 (-2147483648.)
0012FEC4 | 00000000  hParent = NULL
0012FEC8 | 00000000  hMenu = NULL
0012FECC | 00400000  hInst = 00400000
0012FED0 | 00000000  lParam = NULL
0012FED4 | 5F60626F
    
```

## Downloaders

- Adobe exploit kits – Dancho Danchev's blog, Secure Computing
- 0xf9.exe is generally a ~20k upx packed Visual Basic compiled executable, standard part of a kit being reused
  - Names? “Downloader.MisleadApp”, Trojan-Downloader.Win32.VB.hww, Trojan-Downloader.Win32.VB.hyc
  - Trivial unpacking with upx, simple inspection of underlying code with Basic Decompiler
  - Straightforward download and setup of msadv.exe or mssadv\_sp.exe in “Program Files\Microsoft Security Adviser”

## Recent Components -- MultyCodec

- Multiple components delivered via phony video codec



- MultyCodec.7.20680.exe drops c..exe, calls CreateProcess on the file, phones home
  - Based on http responses, “promomodule” carries out 'trayalert', 'winalert', 'excelalert', etc
  - Changing behaviors from b..exe based on response – spoils automated analysis
  - Shell\_NotifyIcon call based on 'trayalert'...”you have a security problem’



# Recent Components -- AntiVirus 2008

- Misleading scan results

The screenshot displays the System Antivirus 2008 Security Center interface. The main window shows the Security Scanner results with a table of detected threats. Two warning dialog boxes are overlaid on the main window.

**System Antivirus 2008: WARNING**

**WARNING: 41 infections found!**  
Last scan detected malicious programs and viruses.

**These harmful programs may cause:**

- System crash
- Permanent data loss
- Sensitive information disclosure
- System startup failures
- System slowdown
- Internet connection loss
- Infection of other computers on your network

It is highly recommended to remove harmful programs and viruses immediately. You must have to register this copy of System Antivirus 2008 now to eliminate the threats. To do so, please click "Remove all threats" button below.

**Remove all threats** (Register now and clean your PC) | **Continue unprotected** (Threats will NOT be removed)

**System Antivirus 2008: WARNING**

**WARNING! Attack Detected.**  
Possible harmful action has been detected from remote host.

System Antivirus 2008 has detected possible harmful actions from remote computer on the network. **Blaster/Sasser variant** worm behavior detected. You have to register your copy to get full protection feature set and an ability to defeat upcoming threats. To begin online registration, please click "Activate now" button below.

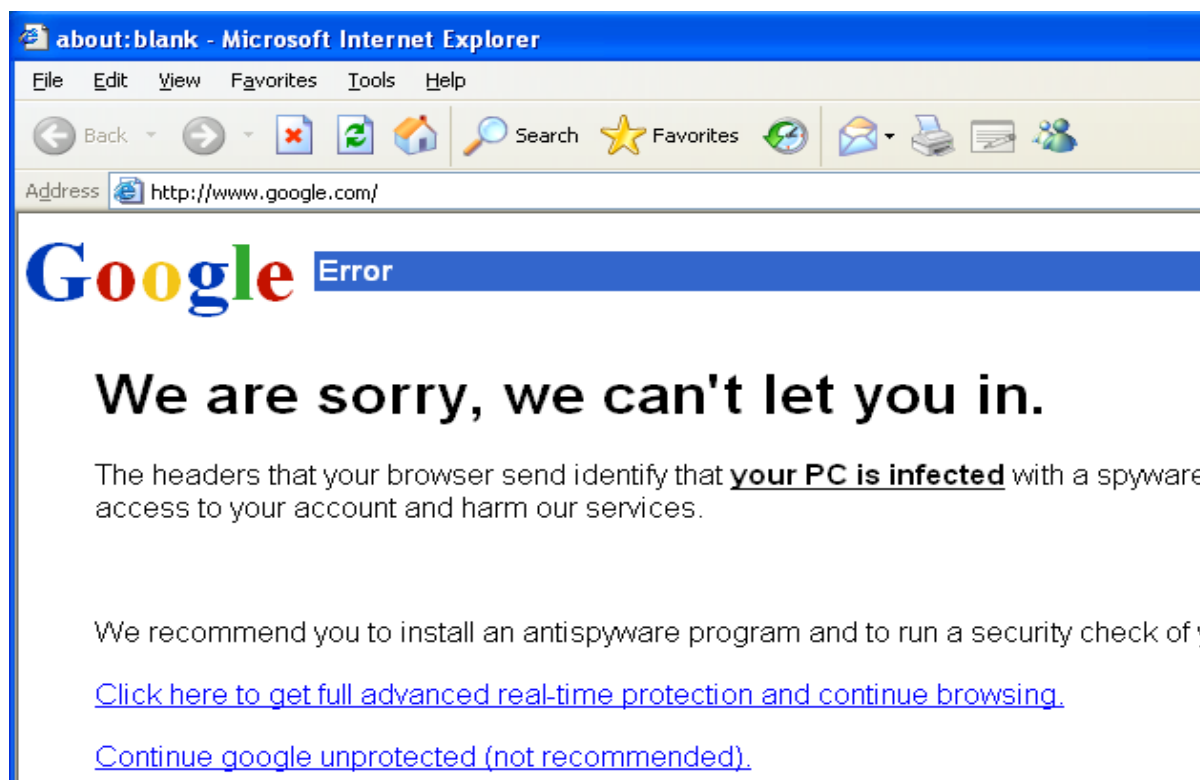
**Activate Now!** (Block this attack!) | **Continue unprotected** (Disabled protection)

Name	Status	Description
Desktop Detective	Infected!	Desktop Detective is a system monitor that is cap...
Excite	Infected!	Excite is a cookie capable of tracking Web site vi...
KeenValue/PerfectNav	Infected!	KeenValue/PerfectNav is an adware program that...
Trojan	Infected!	This trojan horse downloads adware, spyware, an...
Search	Infected!	Search desktop search may hijack any of the follo...



## Recent Components -- AntiVirus 2008

- Misleading browser redirection





## Microsoft Legal Efforts

- On Monday, Microsoft/State of Wash Atty General Office lawsuit filed against “John Doe”, maker of AV2008, Winfixer, etc
- CAN-SPAM enforced against some Spam Kings, ineffective against global spam industry. See inbox/bulk.
- Behavioral based products – will they have to hybridize, or will they just continue as another layer?



## Questions?

A problem has been detected and windows has been shut down to prevent damage to your computer.

BOGUS\_DRIVER

If this is the first time you've seen this stop error screen, restart your computer. If this screen appears again, follow these steps:

Check to make sure that any new hardware or software is properly installed. If this is a new installation, ask your hardware or software manufacturer for any windows updates you might need.

If problems continue, disable or remove any newly installed hardware or software. Disable BIOS memory options such as caching or shadowing. If you need to use Safe Mode to remove or disable components, restart your computer, press F8 to select Advanced Startup Options, and then select Safe Mode.

Technical information:

\*\*\* STOP: 0x00000099 (0x00000000,0xF88308B3,0x00000008,0xC0000000)

\*\*\* vmxnet.sys - Address F88308B3 base at F8830000, DateStamp 36B055A7