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OLSON
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NETWORKING THE
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1982

N E W S L E T T E R M A Y 2 0 0 9
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT NEWSLETTERS, NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES, OR TO SIGN UP FOR NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL

The Conficker Virus

The so-called "Conficker" virus was programmed to launch on April 1st and start spreading its venom worldwide. The threat was and remains real, but most of our OCS subscribers should be OK.

1. If you're using OCS OfficeScan there are no worries, since updates are managed automatically and transparently and Conficker was recognized, anticipated and blocked early on.

2. If you're using an anti-virus product like Symantec or McAfee, you should be OK as long as you are methodical about keeping your updates current.

There are several symptoms of a possible Conficker infection, which include an unusual new slowness when browsing to various websites that you use normally.

If you see a problem like this or suspect an infection, a good test to help determine whether your computer might be infected with Conficker is to try browsing to trendmicro.com or mcafee.com or symantec.com ... this virus is known to block access to common anti-virus websites that might be trying to detect it.

So if you can browse successfully to any of these websites, you probably don't have a Conficker infection.

Worldwide Network Attacks

Recent news indicates that the Pentagon is creating a new military command to counter cyber-attacks on the country's sensitive computer networks, and a military acquaintance verified that their base networks are under attack on virtually a daily basis.

There was a time when "Fortress America" meant that our country was relatively safe from attack, thanks to the vast global oceans on our flanks – but 9/11 largely ended that age of assumed security.

Similarly, over the years many smaller network operators may have been deluded by a sense of cyber-safety based on the concept of "Security by Obscurity" – what hackers would care about a relatively small ISP network?

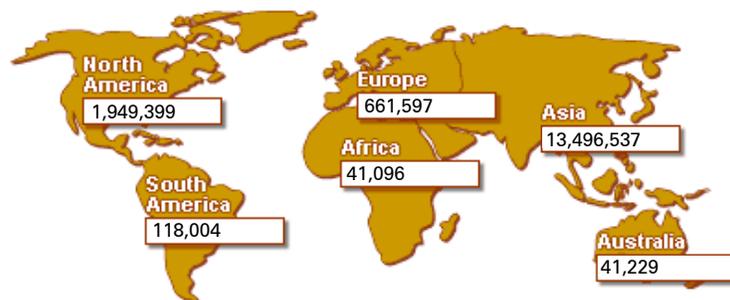
Of course, a reliance on nothing more than that would be foolish in the age of the global Internet, and over the years OCS has invested considerable time and resources into a sophisticated network security system.

In mid-March we detected a security probe that attempted to bypass our firewall and infiltrate our internal network in a new and very clever way. We saw and blocked that attack, and traced the source to China.

But that was only one incident. Like the military we are seeing increasingly regular hacking attempts from around the globe, and network security has become a never-ending top priority.

Worldwide Virus Map

Computers Infected with Top Virus (MAL_OTORUN2)
April 2009 (Source: TrendMicro)



The OCS home page has received more than 12.5 million hits – contact us for local advertising information!

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THE NATIONWIDE OCS REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you refer a friend, family, or business associate to OCS, tell them to mention your name and you'll receive up to a month of free service! Our subscribers have earned \$56,811 so far – click Referrals on our home page for details! Your friends may simply click *Subscribe* to sign up online.



EMAIL CHANGE ALERT - SEE PAGE TWO!

**334,061,016 VIRUSES, SPAM, AND PHISHING ATTEMPTS
HAVE BEEN STOPPED BY THE OCS CENTRAL SYSTEM
THAT'S OVER 22 MILLION IN JUST THE LAST MONTH!**

Need qualified computer or network maintenance?
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Port 587: Email Security Change Reminder

Switchover to Begin in April

OCS has reconfigured our mail servers to accept outgoing email on Port 587, which along with SMTP Authentication will help put a stop to email hijacking. Our subscribers will need to make this same change in their own email programs, and after that transition is completed we'll set our servers to stop accepting outgoing email on Port 25, the traditional SMTP default.

We will end the transition period in March 2009, and will then assist any callers who still need help making the change. *Those who have not made the change will be unable to send email until they do so.*

Our logs indicate that only about half of our subscribers have made this change so far, so many will be impacted when we close Port 25 beginning in April. To avoid an overflow of calls to customer service, we will start making the change for limited groups of subscribers at a time.

To make this change on your own, point to "Subscribers" on our website's main menu bar and click "Email Port Change" for instructions on how to change the SMTP server port number in several popular email programs. (Please note that SMTP Authentication must also be enabled when you make this change.) Or as always, feel free to contact our office for assistance!

Stuck in a contract?

Show us your binding paperwork and we may be able to waive up to \$100 from your OCS startup costs...



Help us celebrate – OCS turned 27 in February 2009! The company was started in a home office in 1982. We've had our 25-year logo printed on a selection of glassware as gifts for our customers, please stop by the office and choose yours! We have mugs in three colors, tall mixing (pint) glasses, and etched wine glasses. Get them while they last, limit two per customer please!

Make Your Billing More Efficient

If you've switched to online banking but are still being mailed an OCS paper invoice, please consider switching to e-invoicing and avoid wasting the paper! Then if you still want a printed invoice for your files you can simply print your OCS e-invoice. Please contact our office if you'd like to make this change!

Remote Support with GoToAssist

We have a great new solution for remote support. Over the phone we give you a unique connection code, which grants us temporary permission to access your system remotely – you can then watch and talk on the phone while we help sort out your problem, just as if we were sitting beside you at your desk. Remote access permission terminates automatically when the session ends to eliminate any security concerns.

As one customer put it, "Your technician used remote support to log into my computer and help resolve an email problem in a matter of seconds, rather than asking a billion questions and having me click here and there. It was great!"

WIRELESS SERVICE AREAS

- Porterville
- Strathmore
- Yokohl Valley
- Springville
- Terra Bella
- Camp Nelson
- Pleasant Valley
- Lindsay
- Success Valley
- River Island
- Exeter
- Badger Hill
- Richgrove
- Globe Drive
- Visalia
- East Delano



Fan Mail

"I've been on dialup for years. I sure do like your wireless 700+kb/sec!" -KL

I Didn't Know That!

OCS provides "A-to-Z" computer technology services:

- Complete computer service and repair shop
- Broad variety of Internet access plans and packages
- Professional website design, development, and hosting
- Professional programming and custom application development
- eCommerce and business groupware solutions
- Computer and Internet technology consulting
- Secure branch office inter-networking
- Internet-based "VOIP" telephone services
- iSuite of online utility applications

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Plan Name	Average Speeds			B-M-W ¹	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
	Min	Typ	Max		Service Activation	Install/Configure	Equipment Deposit	
1 Bandwidth-Mailboxes-Webpace (see notes)								
DIALUP	26K	40K	53K	1-5-5	25.00	-	-	24.95
Accelerator	Typically 2-5X faster			-	-	-	-	+5.00
WIRELESS STANDARD 2.4 GHz								
24 Basic	125K	500K	750K	10-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	49.95 ^{2,3}
24 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	79.95 ^{2,3}
24 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95 ^{2,3}
WIRELESS SPECIAL CASES 900 MHz (where available)								
900 Basic	125K	375K	750K	5-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	59.95 ^{4,5}
WIRELESS MISSION CRITICAL 5.8 GHz (where available)								
58 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	99.95
58 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95
58 Professional	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	100.00	159.95
58 Corporate	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	100.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	100.00	249.95

All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. Some plan types permit webpace for personal use only. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in installments upon request. All speeds are symmetrical (same for upload and download) within the OACYS network only. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. All plans subject to change without notice. Pricing and terms are current at the date of this newsletter and supersede previous versions. For footnotes 2,3,4,5 surcharges may apply. Please check with our office for additional details.

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On the road? Call our toll-free support at 888-OACYSCOM