

New Computer Virus

The U.S. Department of Energy's Computer Incident Advisory Capability web site has posted warnings about a new class of computer viruses. The URL is: <http://ciac.llnl.gov/>

Visit this site for more detailed information on the nature of the problem.

The important thing about this new virus class is that there is finally a computer virus that can be spread by email, without executing code or opening attachments.

Quoting from the CIAC web site:

The mime name vulnerability is *not* a hoax. Several different CIRT (computer incident response teams) have tested the affected e-mail/news readers and have found that the potential for someone exploiting this vulnerability is real and serious. The vulnerability was originally discovered by Ari Takanen and Marko Laakso of the University of Oulu in Finland and was then passed on to the Australian Computer Emergency Response Team (Auscert). Microsoft and Netscape have also confirmed that the vulnerability is real. <http://www.microsoft.com/ie/security/?/ie/security/olong.htm>
<http://www.netscape.com/products/security/resources/bugs/long-file.html?hom07prt1>

The vulnerability has been found in Microsoft's Outlook 98 and Outlook Express for Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, Windows 3.11, Macintosh, and Solaris. Netscape Communicator 4.0 through 4.05 and Netscape Communicator 4.5 Preview Release 1 on the Microsoft Windows 95, 98, and Microsoft NT platforms are also affected. Netscape Corporation is confident that no other Netscape versions or platforms are affected. No other e-mail/news readers appear to be vulnerable at this time.

If you are using an unpatched version of Microsoft Outlook 98 or Microsoft Outlook Express on any Microsoft Windows, Macintosh, or Solaris platform

you are vulnerable to someone exploiting this problem on your computer. If you are using Netscape Communicator 4.0 through 4.05 or the Netscape Communicator 4.5 Preview Release 1 on the Microsoft Windows 95, 98, and Microsoft NT platforms you are also vulnerable to this problem. The best way to make sure you are not vulnerable to this problem is to download and install the appropriate security patch for your e-mail/news reader. Patch information can be found at the Microsoft and Netscape web sites listed above.

This vulnerability DOES NOT affect all email programs that handle MIME. Currently, the only email/news readers vulnerable are those identified in the CIAC bulletin and FAQ - MIME Vulnerability web page. Of course, this may change when others are being tested for the vulnerability. Today, Eudora is not affected

At this time, CIAC has not received any reports of anyone being affected by this vulnerability. For more information regarding this vulnerability reference CIAC Bulletin 1-077a: Mime Name Vulnerability in Outlook and Messenger. <http://ciac.llnl.gov>.

For additional information or assistance, please contact CIAC:

Voice: +1-925-422-8193 (8:00 - 18:00 PST, 16:00 - 2:00 GMT)

Emergency (DOE, DOE Contractors, and NIH ONLY):

- 1-800-759-7243, 8550070 (primary)

8550074 (secondary)

FAX: +1-925-423-8002

E-mail: ciac@llnl.gov

World Wide Web: <http://www.ciac.org/>

or <http://ciac.llnl.gov>

Anonymous FTP: <ftp://ciac.org>

or [ciac.llnl.gov](ftp://ciac.llnl.gov)

While no one has yet been affected by this vulnerability, it's only a matter of time before such viruses start appearing.

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COMING EVENTS

Marine Biological Laboratory Courses: Woods Hole, MA

Oct 7/15 '98: **Optical Microscopy & Imaging in the Biomed Sciences**
Carol Hamel: (508)289-7401, admissions@mbl.edu

- ✓ August 2/7 '98: **UltraPath IX Meeting** (Society for Ultrastructural Pathology), Asheville, NC, Dr. J. Allan Tucker: (334)471-7473, Fax: (334)471-7884
- ✓ August 10/13 '98: **INTER/MICRO-98** (McCrone Research Institute) Chicago, IL. Nancy Daerr: (312)842-7100, Fax: (312)842-1078, email: ndaerr@mcri.org
- ✓ August 17/21 '98: **Summer School on Computing in Electron Microscopy** (Lawrence Berkeley National Lab) Berkeley, CA. (510)486-6036, Fax: (510)486-5888. eMail: JLCavliina@lbl.gov
- ✓ Aug 23/27 '98: **Microstructure and Microtribology of Polymers** (ACS) Boston, MA. ACS: (202)872-4396, Fax: (202)872-6128
- ✓ Aug 31 - Sept 4 '98: **ICEM XIV/International Congress on Electron Microscopy**. Cancun, Mexico. (525)553-4507, Fax: (525)553-4500, email: icem@icem.inin.mx WWW: <http://icem.inin.mx>
- ✓ Sept 2/3 '98: **Microscopical Society of Ireland 22nd Annual Symposium**. National University of Ireland, Galway. mailto:j.folan-curran@ucg.ie
- ✓ Sept 3/Dec 10 '98: **Transmission Electron Microscopy** (Nassau Community College), Garden City, NJ, (516)572-7355
- ✓ Sept 13/15 '98: **1998 National Society for Histotechnology Annual Symposium/Convention** Salt Lake City, Laura A. Kemp: UT (301)262-6221, FAX: (301)262-9188, LAURA@NSH.ORG
- ✓ Sept 19/23 '98: **100th Anniversary Golgi Conference** Pravia, Italy, Dr. A. Mironov +39872 570 323, Fax: +39 578 240
- ✓ Sept 28 - Oct 2 '98 (Tentative): **5th Annual Materials Science Ultramicrotomy Course** (RMC) Tucson, AZ. Ann at (520)903-9366, Fax: (520)903-0132
- ✓ Sept 28/Oct 2 '98: **OIM Academy - Advanced OIM Theory and Application** (TEXSEM Labs) Provo, UT. (801)495-2758, Fax: (801)495-2758
- ✓ Sept 29/Oct 2 '98: **5th Annual Materials Sciences Course** (RMC) Tucson, AZ. Ann: (520)903-9366 X251, Fax: (520)903-0132, eMail: rmc@rmc-scientific.com
- ✓ Oct 5/9 '98: **6th International Conference and Workshop on Molecular Morphology**. Salzburg, Austria. Prof. Gerhard W. Hacker: 43 662 4482 4730, Fax: 43 662 4482 882, eMail: g.hacker@ikasbg.gv.at www: <http://kongress.at/IMMC/>
- ✓ Oct 7/15 '98: **Optical Microscopy and Imaging in the Biomedical Sciences** (Marine Biology Laboratory), Woods Hole, MA. Carol Hamel: (508)289-7401, admissions@mbl.edu
- ✓ Oct '98: **International Courses of Light Microscopy, Photomicroscopy and Laser Scanning Confocal Microscopy**. Gargaano, Italy <http://imiucca.csi.unimi.it/endori/micro.html>
- ✓ Nov 2/6 '98: **45th International Symposium Covering Thin Films, Microelectronics, Nanostructures, Processing, Surfaces, and Vacuum** (AVS), Baltimore, MD. AVS: (212)248-0200, avsnyc@vacuum.org
- ✓ Nov 15/20 '98: **1998 Eastern Analytical Symposium**. Somerset, NJ, (302)738-6218, easinfo@aol.com
- ✓ March 7/12 '99: **PITTCOON '99**. Orlando, FL (412)825-3220, Fax: (412)825-3224, email: expo@pitcon.org
- ✓ April 11/14 '99: **SCANNING '99**: (FAMS, Inc.) Chicago, IL, Mary K. Sullivan: (201)818-1010, Fax: (201)818-0086, fams@holonet.net
- ✓ April 11/15 '99: **12th International Conference on 3D Image Processing in Microscopy & 11th International Conference on Confocal Microscopy** (European Molecular Biology Laboratory). Heidelberg, Germany <http://www.embl-heidelberg.de/Conferenvcves/FocusOnMicroscopy>
- ✓ June 26/30 '00: **7th Asia-Pacific Conference on Electron Microscopy** Singapore. eMail: micngml@nus.edu.sg, <http://med.nus.edu.sg/micsoc/7apem>

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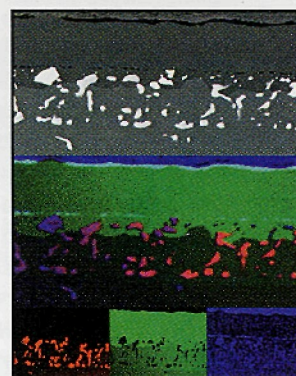
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