



# **Best Practices in Email Security**

**How to Handle the Rising Threat** 

Jeff Brainard July 2005



## **Email is Under Attack!!!**

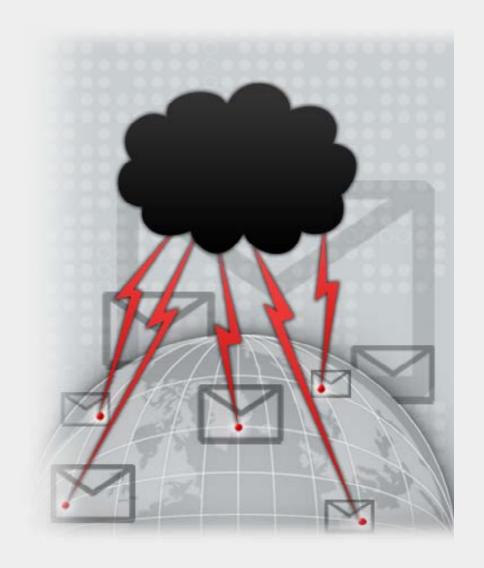


#### **External Threats:**

- Viruses & Hackers
- Spam & Phishing
- DOS & Password attacks
- Directory harvests
- Business continuity

#### **Internal Threats:**

- Zombies
- Harassment & Abuse
- Email floods & Flames
- Information leaks
- Compliance & Discovery



# Threats = High Business Expense

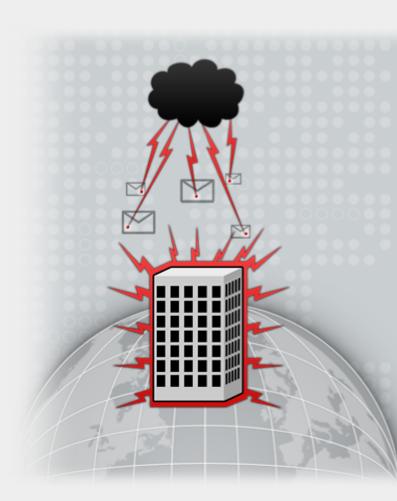


#### **EXTERNAL THREATS:**

- 80% of viruses enter customers' networks via email with typical infection costing up to \$500,000—Gartner
- About 450 viruses are discovered each month—IDC
- In 2004, more than 8.8 billion spam messages were sent every day—IDC
- Spam will cost companies \$198 billion by 2007—Radicati Group
- The Nigerian 'prisoner' scam, which asks people to invest money to transfer millions of dollars supposedly trapped in overseas bank accounts, extracts \$200M from its victims a year—FBI

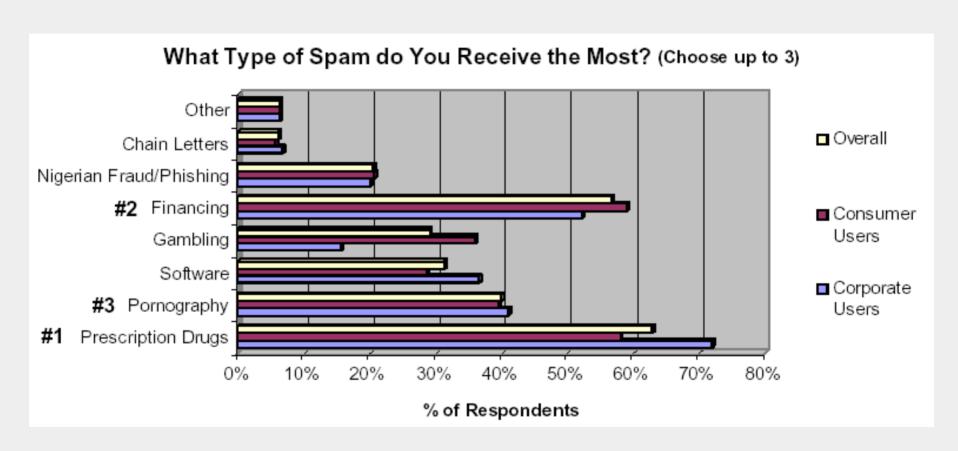
#### **INTERNAL THREATS:**

- 51% of users have received pornographic spam messages—Queens University
- Chevron settled an email harassment case for \$2.2 million that was based on sexually offensive messages including a "joke" sheet titled "reasons why beer is better than women"—Osterman Research
- 70% of all Internet porn traffic occurs during a 9-5pm workday—NFO Worldwide
- Phishing accounted for \$2.4 billion in fraud, or an average of \$1,200 per victim, during 2004—Gartner
- In March 2004, Bank of America was fined \$10 million by the SEC for failure to keep email records—Boston Globe



# Spam, Spam, Spam...

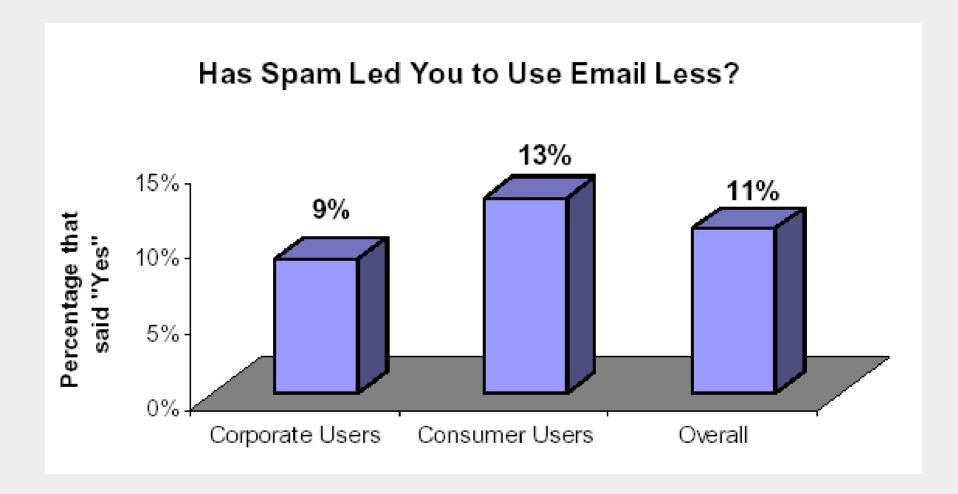




## Top spam = Drugs, Money & Sex!

## Threats & Implications...

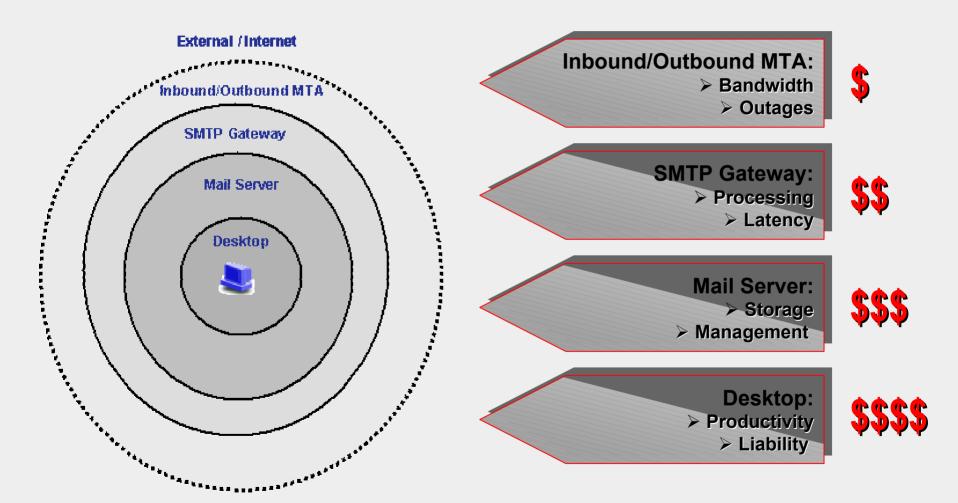




Spam has measurable impact on email usage!

## **Hidden Cost of Threats**

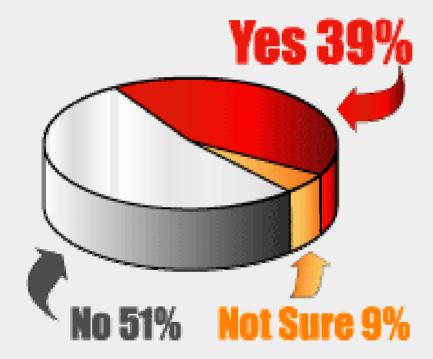




## **Greater User Education Required**



Have You Ever Clicked on a Link within a Spam Message (other than unsubscribe)?



Source: Radicati Group & Mirapoint survey, March 2005

- Reveals active email inboxes & generates more spam
- Creates future risk from phishing, DOS
   & other attacks
- Links can be source of viruses & malicious code
- End-user policy documents critical

## **Greater User Education Required**



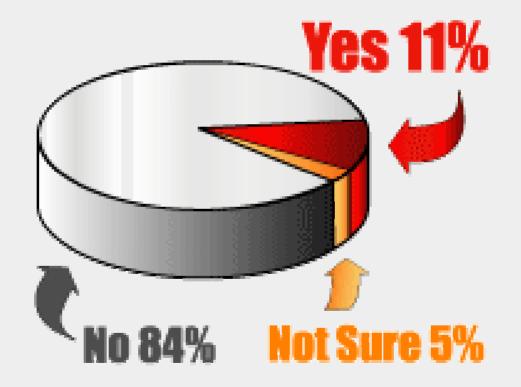


Roughly 10% of users have lost money in email scam!

# **Opportunity Spurs Innovation**



#### Have You Ever Purchased a Product or Service as a Result of Spam?



Source: Radicati Group & Mirapoint survey, March 2005

## **Spammers Have New Tricks**



 In addition to random text used to thwart Bayesian filtering

## Spammers have learned new tricks with HTML

- Exploiting HTML with table columns to separate characters or using 'off-shade' colors to bypass filters
- Embedded images with single links
- Using well-positioned text to create 'ASCII art'

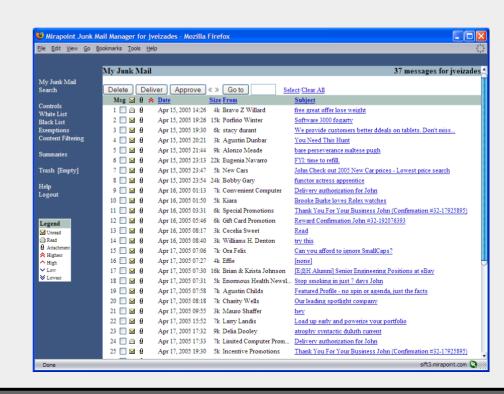
#### What's a durable solution?

- More than rigid & reactive CPU-intensive rules-based filters
- Proactive approach that can adapt to shifting spam threat

#### **End-User Control**

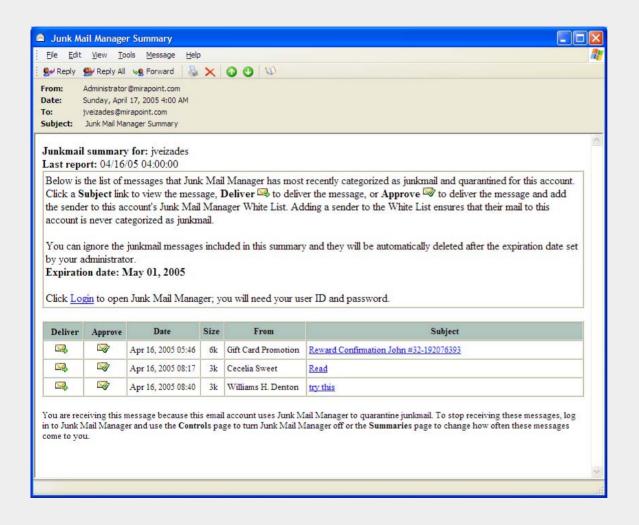


- Address evolving spam landscape & 'false-positive' factor
- Mirapoint's Junk Mail Manager provides individual quarantine mailboxes on edge security appliance; keeps spam out of inbox
- Reduces load on core mail server & increases performance
- Helps IT manage bandwidth, storage & administrator resources
- Integrated per-user controls for white/black lists & content filters
- Automatic message aging available to auto-delete questionable email



## **Integration to Desktop Client**





- Junk Mail Manager digest feature sends summary to inbox (ie. Outlook)
- Users can view messages captured as spam & selfmanage traffic to their inbox
- Easy-to-use webbased interface
- Secure quarantine access via login/password

## **Spam Attack Characteristics**



Coordinated attacks count for 80%-85% of global spam

Average attack volume: +100 million messages

**Distribution sources: >1000** 

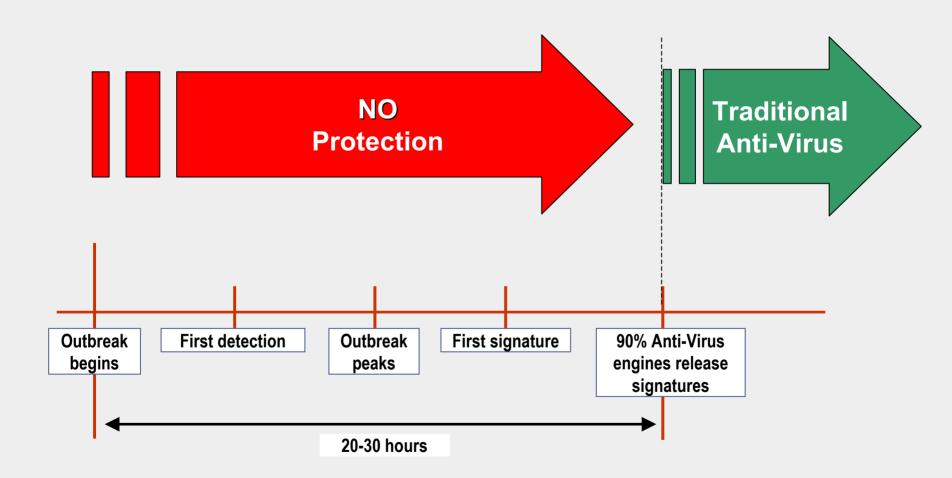
**Average duration: 6-8 hours** 

**Detection within 2 minutes = over 99.5% coverage** 

1 hour lag in detection = 14% missed (or more)

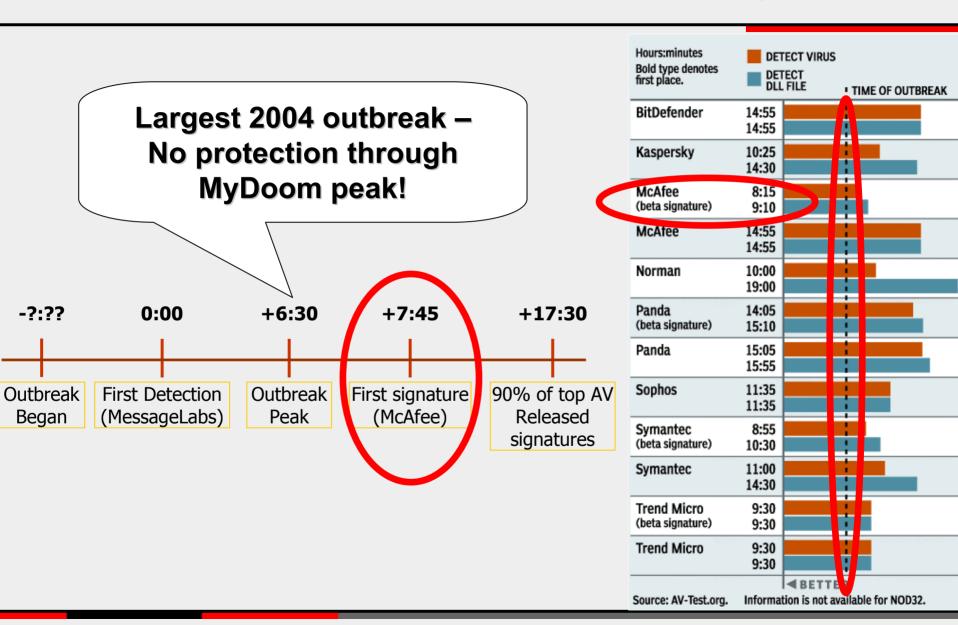
## **Emerging Virus Threat Window**





## Interwoven Threats – MyDoom

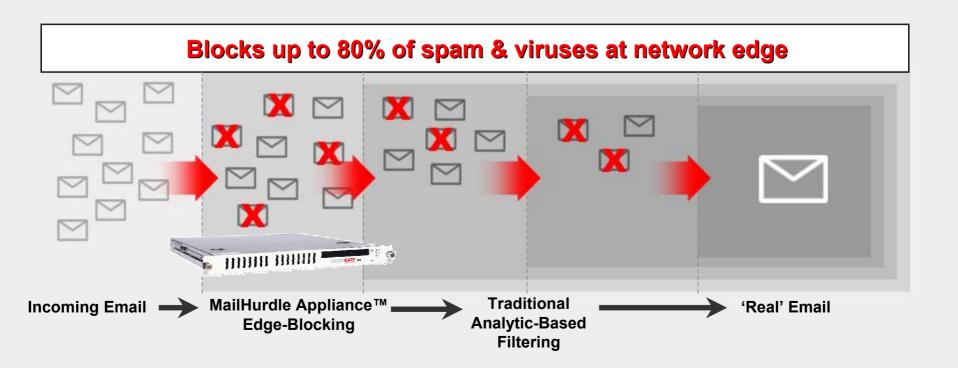




#### **Evolution of SMTP**



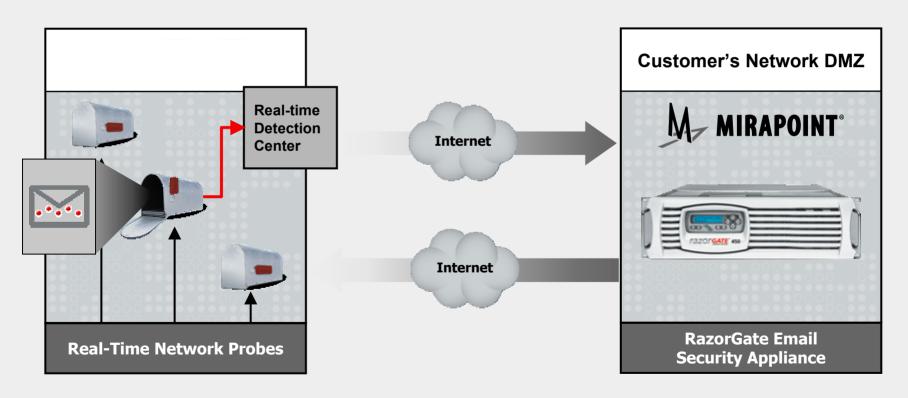
- Uses existing SMTP standard, Mirapoint's MailHurdle™ edge-blocking technology complements existing spam & virus filtering investments
- Blocks up to 80% of spam & many viruses at SMTP-connection layer to conserve bandwidth, storage & administrator resources



## **Real-time Security Protection**



- Powerful Rapid Anti-Spam & Anti-Virus™ technology Uses information from network-based probes to identify & block threats for day-zero protection
- Complements Mirapoint's existing signature-based virus scanning engine
- Part of Mirapoint's Full-Spectrum™ multi-layered email security technology



## **Outbound Protection**



#### Flexibility for implementing any policy

- Support for site-wide, domain or user-specific policies
- Easy-to-configure via web-based interface by administrators, managers or end-users

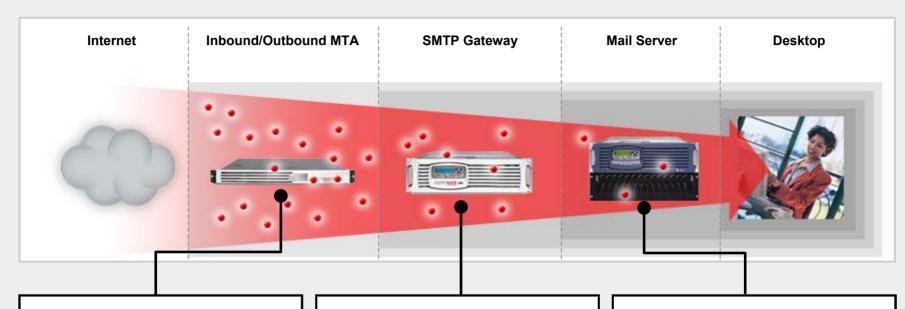
#### Example policies include:

- Wiretaps
- Blockage list
- Rejection filter
- File Type filter
- Specific Words filter
- Objectionable Words filter
- Quarantine filter



## **Complete Message Network Security**





- MailHurdle™ edge-blocking
- SMTP connection management
- Rapid™ real-time protection
- Traditional spam & virus analytics
- Secure webmail proxy

- Per-user junk mail quarantine
- Redundant, 5-9's design
- Integrated routing
- Flexible content filters & policies
- Detailed logs & reports

- Hardened OS
- Integrated security
- Rich email & group calendar
- Web & wireless access
- Outlook support
- Proven low TCO

Tiered approach to complete & scalable security protection

# **Summary: Why Mirapoint**



## Mirapoint - the messaging expert

- Company focus since 1997
- Leadership in appliance approach

# Only vendor with complete email & security solutions

- Addressing today's security pains, plus solutions for more reliable email
- High-quality, field-proven products for Enterprise, Service Provider, Education
   & Government customers



## Offer for QuestNet Attendees!



# FREE MIRAPOINT EVALUATION Contact us now!

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