

In The Mail

Monthly Websense Email Security Threat Brief

Top 10 Classifications of URLs in Email

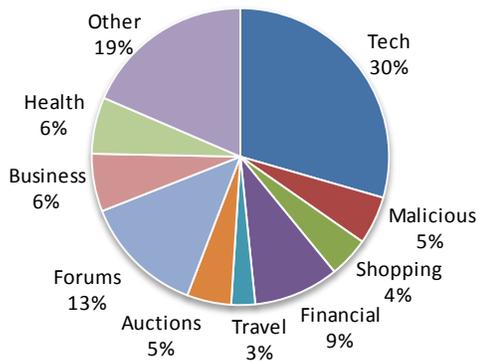


Figure 1: Embedded URLs in Email
Understanding how Web URLs in Email are classified is crucial to stopping converged threats

Top 10 ThreatSeeker™ Malware Discoveries & Closed Window of Exposure

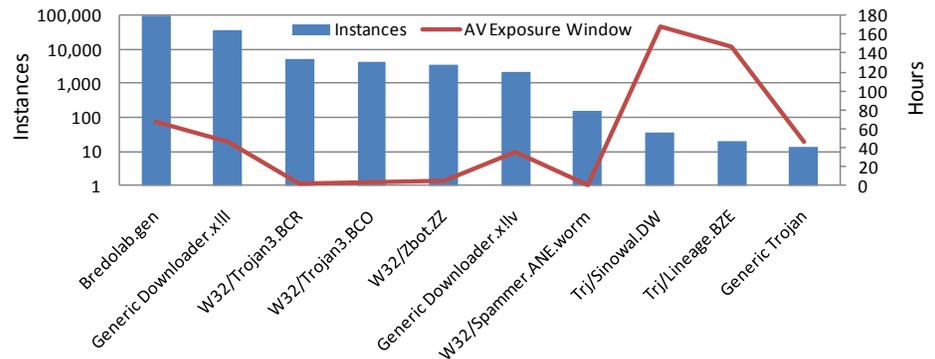


Figure 2: First to Detect
Because of the ThreatSeeker™ Network, our Email Security customers are protected hours, and often days, before other security vendors provide a solution.

KEY STATS

Threats “in the mail” this month:

- 4.2 billion messages processed by the Hosted Infrastructure (over 136 million per day)
- 89.3% of all email was spam
- 88.6% of spam included an embedded URL
- 154 thousand instances of 41 unique zero-day threats stopped by ThreatSeeker before AV
- 3.5% of spam emails were phishing attacks

How Websense is addressing these threats:

- 99.8% spam detection rate. Websense Hosted Email Security provides 99% spam detection Service Level Agreement.
- Average false positive rate of 1 in 203,638
- 4.2% average daily threats protected using ThreatSeeker intelligence before AV signatures were available

What this means:

- The threat landscape is dangerous and growing more sophisticated.
- Websense is on the forefront of finding these threats including the increasingly pervasive blended threats.
- Most importantly, Websense is ideally positioned to address these threats with our market-leading Web security expertise, which drives our leadership in protecting from converged email & Web 2.0 threats.

Celebrating with Waledac

Monthly Email Trends from the Security Labs

With Independence Day in the United States came a new Waledac campaign the day before the celebration holiday. This time we saw an enticement to view a video displaying a fireworks display. Unprotected users who double clicked the video would have been incorporated into the Waledac botnet. You can see what we found at our alert [here](#).

The month of July saw the highest percentage of spam email in any month so far this year - 89.3% of all email was spam. We also saw an increase in phishing attacks through email at 3.5% this month. A slight increase on previous months, showing that in the continued economic climate spammers and scammers are looking to make a profit through fraudulent means.

In other trends, Websense is seeing a rising number of shortened URLs in spam messages, new growth in the use of image spam, and a consistently high number of emails which contain links to malicious sites.

Spam as a Percent of Inbound Email

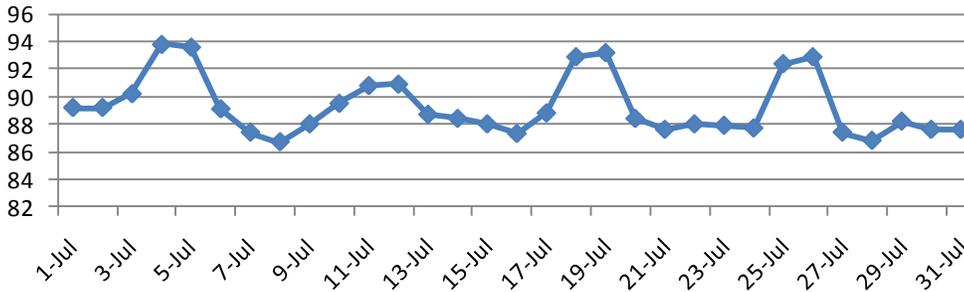


Figure 3 - Percent of email that contains spam (Average 89.3%)

While this figure fluctuates, this signifies that a very high percentage of incoming email is indeed spam. Without a strong email security solution, customers will experience bandwidth and storage capacity issues, frustration, and a drain in productivity, not to mention exposure to significant security risk.

Spam Detection Rate

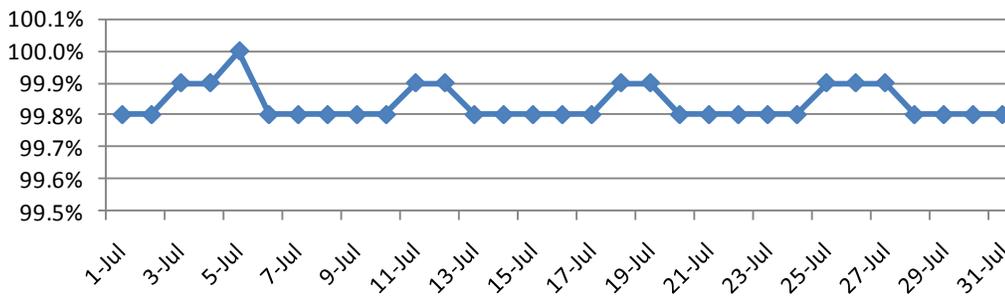


Figure 4 - Percent of spam detected (Average 99.8%)

This is evidence that we are consistently maintaining a very high spam detection rate. Therefore, customers should be very confident that with Websense they are receiving the best in anti-spam protection.

False Positive Rate (1 in X)

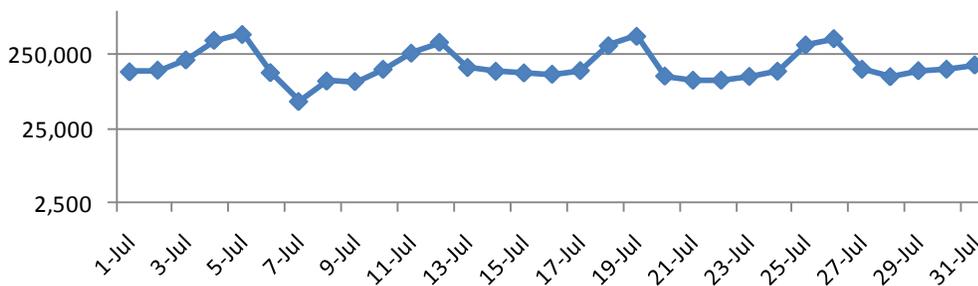


Figure 5 - False Positive Rate (Average 1 in 203,638)

This shows how Websense is consistently maintaining a very low false positive rate. While Websense is catching a high percentage of spam, customers are rarely inhibited by messages falsely landing in a spam queue.

Why Websense Email Security?

- The Websense ThreatSeeker Network provides the intelligence to proactively protect against spam and malware – far ahead of traditional anti-spam and anti-virus alone.
- Today's pervasive blended threats are best matched by integration of best-in-class Websense Web security with email security for Essential Information Protection.