

ISPNN Provides New Filtering Service; eScout

ISPNN is pleased to provide its new proprietary junk e-mail and virus filtering service to its clients. Designed to keep out unwanted mail, spam, and viruses, eScout will provide end users added security and convenience. Easy to use, e-Scout has additional features such as an address book and planner. From the e-Scout filter page end users can scan mail statistics, adjust mail settings, set their white/black list, quarantine mail and report SPAM.



Users Wising Up to Spyware

Associated Press

Internet users worried about spyware and adware are shunning specific sites, avoiding file-sharing networks, even switching browsers. Many have also stopped opening e-mail attachments without first making sure they are safe, the Pew Internet and American Life Project said in a study issued Wednesday. "People are scaling back on some internet activities," said Susannah Fox, the study's main author. "People are feeling less adventurous, less free to do whatever they want."

Spyware refers to unwanted programs that sneak onto computers without their owners' knowledge. A subset called adware covers software designed to display targeted ads to subsidize another program's development. While some computer users knowingly install spyware and adware, they often hitch rides with games, screensavers and other freebies, or exploit security flaws in Windows operating systems and Internet Explorer browser. According to Pew, 48 percent of adult internet users in the United States have stopped visiting specific sites that they fear might be harboring unwanted programs. Twenty-five percent stopped using file-sharing software, which often comes bundled with adware. Rogue programs can also disguise themselves as songs or movie files waiting download on file-sharing networks. Eighteen percent of U.S. adult internet users have started using Mozilla Firefox or another alternative to Internet Explorer. In addition, 81 percent have become more cautious about e-mail attachments, a common way for spreading viruses, though rare for spyware or adware. All told, ninety-one percent have made at least one behavioral change. Users hit by spyware or adware were more likely than others to change their habits.

Although many users have changed their online habits, they haven't necessarily fixed their machines, even as infected computers slow, often to a crawl. Twenty percent of users who had computer problems did not attempt a fix. Among those who did, 29 percent waited a month or longer. Two in five who tried to fix their machines did so on their own while others needed help from a friend, family member or a professional repair shop. In 20 percent of cases, the problem couldn't be fixed. The survey also found that 43 percent of Internet users say they've been hit with spyware, adware or both. Those who report spyware were more likely to have previously engaged in "risky" behavior such as playing online games and visiting adult sites. Broadband users tend to be at greater risk. Pew also found that three-quarters of Internet users do not always read user agreements and other disclaimers where spyware and adware are sometimes disclosed. The study was based on random telephone-based interviews with 2,001 adult Americans conducted May 4 to June 7. It has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

ISPNN'S UPCOMING TRADE SHOW SCHEDULE

- **NTCA Annual Meeting and Expo**
San Diego, CA
February 7-8, 2006
- **AT&S Annual Convention**
Bismarck, ND
February 14-16
- **Upper Midwest Hospitality & Lodging Show**
Minneapolis, MN
February 19-21, 2006
- **MTA Annual Convention**
Minneapolis, MN
February 27-29
- **RIITA Annual Conference**
Des Moines, IA
March 7-9, 2006
- **ITA Showcase Northwest**
Portland, OR
March 7-8, 2006



14303 W. 95th Street
Lenexa, KS 66215

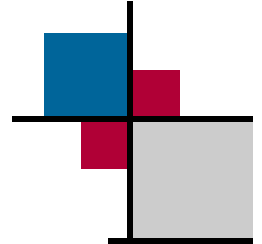
Phone: 913.859.9500 • 800.253.7222

Fax: 913.859.9805

Email: sales@ispn.net

We Aim For Excellence!

ISPn is interested in your feedback.
For suggestions or to submit an
article, please email Nima Moaveni at
nima@ispn.net .
Visit us on the Web!
www.ispn.net



Water Cooler Talk

Record falls as best Rubik's 'cubers' meet in S.F.

By Daniel Terdiman

SAN FRANCISCO--Think of the things you could do in 11 seconds. Maybe you could walk to the fridge to get a soda. You could change CDs, or possibly put on a T-shirt. But when you think about it, it's a pretty short period of time. Don't tell that to Leyan Lo. On Saturday, at the International Rubik's Cube competition held at the Exploratorium here, Lo took just 11.13 seconds to set the world record for solving of one of the iconic red, white, blue, green and yellow cubes. Lo's record came at the very beginning of a long day in which dozens of "cubers" squared off in bids to become the best at one or more of a series of different categories of Rubik's Cube competitions. Among them were the standard 3x3x3, the 3x3x3 blindfolded, the 3x3x3 one-handed and the 4x4x4. And by day's end, Lo had established himself as perhaps the most accomplished of all the competitors, having finished second in the 3x3x3, first in the 3x3x3 blindfolded and 3x3x3 one-handed, and second in the 4x4x4. But it was his world record that had everyone on hand buzzing all day, even if Lo himself tried to play it down. "It was a lucky solve," he said. "It was kind of cool. You get good cases and bad cases all the time." He explained that the solution he'd chosen--based on algorithms he'd memorized for solving the cube as it was presented to him--ended up not requiring a final step that normally would have added two or three seconds to his time. But others weren't so sanguine about what they saw Saturday. "It's great," said Tyson Mao, a student at Caltech and the organizer of the event. "I mean, it's great that people have opportunities to push the limits of Rubik's Cube solving. The world record has dropped so much recently because people have been putting in so much time."