

Media Release



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FBI and CIA Email Scam

Email users should be wary of unsolicited emails from the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The FBI has issued an official warning notifying users not to open emails from mail@fbi.gov, post@fbi.gov and admin@fbi.gov or similar addresses. The same email has also been received purporting to be from United States Central Intelligence Agency email addresses ending in @cia.gov.

The email, which states that the recipient's IP address "has been logged on more than 30 illegal websites", asks the recipient to open an attachment for further details.

Users should immediately delete any emails from generic FBI or CIA email addresses, as the attachment contains the Sober virus.

Federal Agent Kevin Zuccato, Director of the Australian High Tech Crime Centre, said "What is worrying about this virus is its ability to multiply by copying itself to the email address book and distributing infected emails to the listed addresses".

The virus also displays a dialogue box which notes that no viruses, Trojans or spyware have been found on the computer, thus leaving the computer vulnerable to further attacks.

"Computer owners and Internet users should always exercise the utmost caution by deleting suspicious or unsolicited emails and ensuring that firewalls, virus scanners and intrusion detection devices are up-to-date and properly configured." Federal Agent Zuccato concluded.

Media Note:

For more information visit the Australian High Tech Crime Centre website: www.ahtcc.gov.au or the US Federal Bureau of Investigation website press release www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel05/emailscheme112205.htm and the US Central Intelligence Agency website www.cia.gov

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