

TRACK: InfraGard Track / Cyber-crime, terrorism, and information warfare
SESSION #: ITCT#4
DATE: Monday April 19, 2010
TIME: 3:45-5:00
SESSION TITLE: "Combating Threats to Your Critical IT Infrastructure"
SPEAKER(S): Rodney Joffe – SVP and Senior Technologist
ORGANIZATION: Neustar

ABSTRACT: "Combating Threats to Your Critical IT Infrastructure"

The U.S. is currently facing increasing threats from cyberspace to both our economy and the safety of our citizens. Cyberspace has no geographic or political borders and we don't yet have an effective mechanism to police this vital environment. After all, it was only a relatively short while ago that the Internet first came into existence and the security systems put in place at the time could not possibly have envisioned today's world where nearly every critical piece of infrastructure is tied to the global Internet. Consequently, criminals and terrorists are taking advantage of this lack of regulatory and legal maturity. For any company with a web presence, the secure and reliable resolution by their domain name system (DNS) is core to their Internet operations. However, they're faced with the enormous challenge of thwarting malicious attacks that pose immediate threats to this system and can wreak havoc in a matter of seconds. Such attacks can involve malware designed to infiltrate or damage a computer system as witnessed with the recent Conficker worm, distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks and DNS cache poisoning. The drivers for these malicious attacks range from pure bragging rights, to financial gain and at worst cyberterrorism.

Attendees will learn:

1. The risks of poor DNS performance including dropped queries, high latency and security vulnerabilities.
2. How to create a hardened and secure DNS infrastructure that provides unprecedented levels of Internet performance, while also providing protection against Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) and pharming attacks.
3. The importance of constructing a solid foundation to allow cloud computing to maintain its rapid rate of adoption and build confidence in the eyes of service providers and end users.
4. Areas for improvement in the collaboration and communication between the public and the private sectors in dealing with cyber attacks.
5. How more sophisticated technology solutions allow us to stay one step ahead of cybercriminals.

SPEAKER BIO(S): Rodney Joffe, SVP and Senior Technologist. Joffe is a DNS security expert and has made numerous presentations at ICANN conferences as well as RSA 2009. He is the director of the Conficker Working Group and has provided operational expertise to the Department of Homeland Security's "Cyber Storm II & III" - the largest ever multinational online security exercise.