

Internet Explorer Fix

Microsoft has posted a single patch to fix all three security bugs in its Internet Explorer web browser.

Without the patch, an unscrupulous website operator could take advantage of the flaws to access information stored on your hard disk, including running programs, changing or deleting data files, and sending email using your name and address.

The patch was posted late Saturday at the Microsoft Corp. official website and can be downloaded for free. The flaw affects Internet Explorer versions 3.0 and 3.01 for the Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.0 operating systems.

Microsoft's website is
<http://www.microsoft.com/>.

Backing Up is Cheap

Large business operations have known for years the benefits of installing a corporate LAN (local area network). Recently, small offices and home offices are networking their PCs together.

By sharing hard disks, printers, and other computer peripherals, you can increase productivity while saving money.

The new Eagle96 tape backup system from Exabyte, one of the best-regarded vendors of large backup units, is now available as an option on DGL Gold computers for only \$125.

The Eagle96 can protect a whopping 3.2GB (Gigabytes) of data...that's enough space to backup most if not all of your office's computers. By installing the Eagle96 in your next DGL Gold, you'll save your data and your money.

Fast Ethernet, Low Cost

It's a wonderful time to be a small business that wants to be networked.

The small office-home office (SOHO) market is reaping the benefits of an ongoing price war in the Ethernet-based adapter card and shared hub hardware market.

NetGear, a division of Bay Networks dedicated to the small business market, has begun to compete in an environment populated by the likes of 3Com and Intel.

A price war is currently driving down the costs of connecting PCs with easy-to-use hardware called hubs and 100Mbps Ethernet technology found in network interface cards (NICs), making a compelling case for small offices to get connected.

NetGear will introduce new 4-port and 8-port hubs based on 100Mbps Ethernet technology next week. The two models—the FE104 and FE108—will be available for \$259 and \$519, respectively. This drives the cost per computer for a shared Fast Ethernet SOHO hub below \$65.

"Right now, it's the lowest-priced 100T [Fast Ethernet] hub on the market," said Esmerelda Silva, analyst for market researcher International Data Corporation. "It's even lower-priced than some of the second- and third-tier vendors in the market."

If you would like to discuss the benefits of networking your office, call Dave Murphy at 410.290.7000.

Spring Classes

DGL's spring schedule of classes is now available, call Kanda at 410.290.7000 for your copy.

Windows NT 4.0 Bug

A security feature in Windows NT can cause users to lose their desktop configuration and even data when they belong to both the built-in Guests and Administrators groups.

"The reason for this is to avoid having one guest gain access to another guest's data that may be left in a folder on the desktop," said Jeff Price, Microsoft's product manager for Windows NT Server.

Price said the Guest group should be reserved for users who are truly guests.

The problem occurs when a new user is created and then that user is added to all the Windows NT groups or to a subset of user groups that includes both the Guest group and Administrators group (or Domain Guests or Domain Administrators, in the case of Windows NT Server).

If the user were later removed from the Administrators group, all configuration information and any data in the user's personal directory will be deleted the next time the user logs off the system.

Items placed on the desktop, including files, folders and shortcuts, were deleted, as were configuration settings and appearance settings selected under Windows NT's display properties control panel. In addition, folders and data in the user's profiles subdirectory were erased.

Directories and data stored in other locations will be unaffected.

The problem is the Guest groups. Windows NT only temporarily stores information for accounts in those groups, deleting information after the user logs off. The only exception is if that user also belongs to the Administrators group.

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