

**Archive: February 4, 2004**

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**Security and Internet Services**[Security home](#)**MALWARE UPDATE: NOVARG, MYDOOM**

Novarg (a new mass-mailing worm variant of Mydoom that is delivered as an attachment) has been arriving in e-mail inboxes worldwide in various disguises. The good news is that our spam controls have been able to block most of the mailings. The week of January 25th, the central e-mail servers blocked approximately 2.5 million messages (accounting for 50% of the background activity on the server's front-end). Also, the number of insecure hosts that our spam controls blocked was almost doubled.

**E-MAIL BLOCK REASON GLOSSARY**

The "Show Blocked Incoming E-mail" section of your Internet Account Options page includes links to an E-mail Block Reason Glossary. That glossary page also includes tips for improving errant hosts' standing. You can look at the list anytime here: <https://www.umn.edu/dirttools/etc/blockreasons.html>

**MICROSOFT WINDOWS SECURITY**

OIT is evaluating the feasibility of making Windows XP and 2000 more secure by making the software available with security patches already built-in; we're also exploring the feasibility of setting up processes to "push down" updates. Numerous issues are unresolved. More security information at: <http://www.umn.edu/oit/security/>

**Network and Telecommunication Services**[NTS home](#)**NETWORK UPGRADE CONTRACT AWARDED**

Welcome the future, Gopher GigaNet! The Twin City Campus Network Upgrade Contract was awarded to Eventis Telecom Inc. on Jan. 15th. In mid-February the first shipment of equipment should arrive. Equipment to be purchased for the new network includes Cisco 6500's for the backbone and core infrastructure and Cisco 3750's for the distribution and edge devices. [\[MORE\]](#)

**CISCO PRODUCT DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL 20**

Deep discounts on Cisco products available until April 20, 2004 from Purchasing Services was announced by Karen Triplett, Director of Purchasing Services. The discounts are available to departments on any campus. [\[MORE\]](#)

**DHCP CHANGES AHEAD**

During summer, 2004 Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) services will change. DHCP services have significantly expanded since 1995 when they replaced the campus BOOTP (BOOTstrapping Protocol) service. Initially NTS provided DHCP service for a few hundred nodes; currently DHCP services over 18,000 nodes. [\[MORE\]](#)

**ON A PERSONAL NOTE**

TAC staff in Iraq and Bosnia: Tom Murray is in Bosnia with the National Guard; Sgt. Alyssa Peterson, Minnesota National Guard, was awarded a Purple Heart for injuries she received in a mortar attack last October; next July Alyssa and Sgt. Stephen Perkins will be returning home. Stephen's website has more personal info: <http://www.c234k43.com/>

**Academic and Distributed Computing Services**[ADCS home](#)**PREMIUM INTERNET ACCOUNTS GET MORE DISK SPACE**

On Jan. 21 the disk space for Premium Interactive Accounts was doubled to 100MB for files storage and 100MB for personal web space. Previously, the quota for premium accounts was 100MB shared space for files and web space. For a fee, staff and faculty may request additional file storage and/or web space by contacting the accounts office at 612-626-8366 or [accounts@umn.edu](mailto:accounts@umn.edu)

**ZSH SHELL FOR PREMIUM ACCOUNTS**

Premium Interactive Accounts holders can now select zsh shell from the "E-mail Accounts Options" section of their Account Update/Internet Account Options page: <http://www.umn.edu/validate>. Zsh (Z-shell) is a command interpreter for UNIX systems; the FAQ is here: <http://www.faqs.org/faqs/unix-faq/shell/zsh/>

**INCREASE YOUR PRODUCTIVITY WITH WORD**

How to be a productive Word user: you talked, we listened. Our new topical Word classes are now shorter and less expensive. Match your specific needs to a course: Editing and Sharing Documents Made Easier; Formatting Papers Efficiently; or Hints, Tips, Shortcuts, and Secrets! Descriptions and registration available at: <http://www.umn.edu/uttc>

**LEARN JAVASCRIPT AT YOUR LEVEL**

Jump into JavaScript this spring. We've divvied our class in two just for you. Non-techies: learn to enhance a website with pull-down menus, automatic slide shows, and more, by taking JavaScript: Basics for Non-Programmers. Coders: expand your repertoire by taking JavaScript: Programming for the Web. Choose the class that's right for you: <http://www.umn.edu/uttc>

**ENTERPRISE PASSWORD EXPIRATION DATES**

Now it's easier to keep track of your Enterprise Password's expiration date. When you successfully change that password, the confirmation window now includes the date and time it expires. For uninterrupted access to enterprise/institutional data that requires that password, enter the expiration date on your calendar and change it before it expires: <http://www.umn.edu/validate>

**Digital Media Center**[DMC home](#)**SPRING TEL SEMINARS**

Faculty and staff members and students will discuss current TEL issues at four spring sessions on: "Inquiry-Based Learning Activities," "Learning Technologies and Public Engagement," "Student Views of TEL," and "Disciplinary TEL Teaching Communities." See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/series/spring04.shtml>

AND 3 REMINDERS

**FEB 10: EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGISTS FORUM MEETING**

David Ernst (CEHD), Charlie Miller (CEHD), and Jerry Stenger (CSOM) will discuss the Arctic Transect 2004 expedition, an online adventure/learning program; then small groups will discuss participant-chosen topics: FEB 10, 3:00-4:30 pm, 101 Walter Library. See: <http://dmc.umn.edu/etf/>

**DUE FEB 17: TEL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS**

Through this program, faculty members are awarded grants for developing, implementing, and evaluating technology-enhanced learning (TEL) experiences. A Call for Proposals for 2004 is online: <http://dmc.umn.edu/grants/>

**DUE FEB 20: FACULTY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATIONS**

Each year the DMC accepts new applications for the program from Twin Cities faculty members; 3-5 are chosen to receive fellowships. A Call for Proposals for 2004-05 is online: <http://dmc.umn.edu/fellowship/>

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