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November 2004 Newsletter

Product Highlight—Yearly Plan Promo
What's New @ KDSI—SPAM Fighting
Industry News—Mydoom Worm Warning; Companies Scramble to Deal with Spyware
November Internet Tip—New Pop-Blocker for Windows XP

Product Highlight—Yearly Plan Promo

Here we are in the middle of November with Christmas close enough to be scary if you haven't started shopping yet. Want an easy gift idea that bypasses all the crowds? Give Internet! Our yearly plans start as low as \$115 and our helpful, friendly help desk staff can help even the most technology-challenged people get on-line! It's so fast and easy! Plus, with most plans we throw in an extra month for free—it's a "baker's dozen" so-to-speak. And, while you are nipping away at your Christmas list, go ahead and indulge yourself! We'll sweeten the deal for **you** by giving a **\$10 credit** against **your** own yearly plan for every gift plan you buy—it's a "Christmas bonus" so-to-speak. Now, doesn't that sound like a better way to shop? Call us today at 1-888-382-5670, or e-mail support@kdsi.net!

What's New @ KDSI—SPAM Fighting

Rolex, Viagra, porn, phishing, etc. SPAM isn't new, but the tactics spammers use are. The war against SPAM is endless and impossible, but we continuously and tirelessly fight to minimize it. Bruno, our junk e-mail filter, nabs a good share of it based on known spamming characteristics found in the message header or the message itself. There are a lot of messages making it through Bruno, though. Sometimes a message makes it through simply because there is no real content to filter—the message is a single embedded image. Other messages may get through because they don't score high enough (based on your Bruno settings) to be filtered. Still other messages get through because their content and characteristics don't qualify them as SPAM in the first place. To combat these challenges, KDSI has recently implemented server level SPAM blocking to aggressively deflect messages coming from known malicious spamming sources before they ever hit Bruno. To illustrate the effectiveness of this technique, in the last 24 hours, KDSI blocked over one million malicious SPAM messages! For more information on Bruno, contact us today at 1-888-382-5670, or e-mail support@kdsi.net.

Industry News

Mydoom Worm Warning

According to CNN and [Money Magazine](#), "Anti-virus software maker McAfee Inc. is warning about a new version of the Mydoom worm that infects computers of people who click on a link in e-mail they receive." Some of the e-mail messages wrongly appear to be from PayPal, the online payment system used by eBay. The message will indicate PayPal has successfully charged your credit card and ask you to click on a link to see details. The program also harvests addresses from your computer and uses them in the "from" field to send itself. To best protect yourself, don't click on links in messages you are not expecting or messages that are from unknown sources for unknown reasons. In other words, if you didn't make an eBay purchase, don't click on a link in a message that appears to be from eBay. And, if you did make an eBay purchase, don't click on a link in a message that doesn't clearly represent your purchase.

Companies Scramble to Deal with Spyware

According to [MSNBC](#) "The people who call Dell Inc.'s customer service line often have no idea why their computers are running so slow. The ones who call America Online Inc. can't necessarily explain why Internet connections keep dropping. And those who file error reports with Microsoft Corp. don't always know why their computers inexplicably crash. Sometimes, the company that gets the complaint is rightly to blame. But with alarming frequency, officials at these and other technology companies say they are tracing customer problems back to one culprit: spyware." KDSI recommends regular scanning of your computer for spyware. Many tools are available, such as Ad-aware and Spybot-Search&Destroy. Both of these scanners are available on <http://www.download.com> by going to "most popular."

November Internet Tip—New Pop-Blocker for Windows XP

If your computer is on Windows XP and you have updated to Service Pack 2, there is a new option in Internet Explorer listed under the **Tools** menu called Pop-Blocker. You can turn it on or off, and you can even allow

pop-ups for certain sites only. To allow a pop-up for a site on a one-time basis, simply hold down the [Ctrl] key while clicking the link.

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