

Digital frame virus traced to China

February 19 2008

A powerful virus recently discovered in digital photo frames has been identified as a Chinese Trojan Horse that gathers personal information.

So far the Trojan Horse has simply collected passwords for online games, but experts say the designers might have larger targets in mind, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer reported Monday.

"It is a nasty worm that has a great deal of intelligence," said Brian Grayek, who heads product development at Computer Associates, a security vendor that analyzed the Trojan Horse.

The virus, which has been named Mocmex, blocks ant-ivirus protection from more than 100 vendors, as well as the security and firewall built into Microsoft Windows. It spreads by hiding itself on photo frames and other portable storage devices that are plugged into an infected PC.

The malware has "specific designs to capture something and not leave traces," Grayek said. "This would be a nuclear bomb" of malware.

He added that the Trojan has been traced to a specific group in China, but would not name the group.

Copyright 2008 by United Press International

Citation: Digital frame virus traced to China (2008, February 19) retrieved 27 April 2024 from

<https://phys.org/news/2008-02-digital-virus-china.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.