

# Microsoft's browser flaw exposed Google to hackers

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(AP) -- Microsoft says a security flaw in its Internet Explorer browser played a role in the recent computer attacks against Google and at least 20 other companies.

In a Thursday alert confirming the weakness, Microsoft said the [security](#) hole can be closed by setting browser's Internet security zone to "high." The world's largest software maker may also issue an update to fix the problem.

[Microsoft](#) pinpointed the trouble spot after Google announced earlier this week that hackers in China had pried into the e-mail accounts of

human rights activists opposing the Chinese government's policies.

The attack outraged [Google](#). It plans to leave China unless the government backs off rules requiring Google's Chinese search engine to censor some results.

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