

Microsoft hurries out patch for Internet Explorer hole

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"We recommend that customers install the update as soon as it is available," the US software titan said in a message posted Monday at its security response center website.

"We have been monitoring this issue and have determined an out-of-band release is needed to protect customers."

[Microsoft](#) routinely releases software patches the second Tuesday of

each month and only resorts to "out-of-band" fixes when it deems it too dangerous to wait.

Early in March, Microsoft said it was investigating a hole that cyber attackers are taking advantage of in IE 6 and IE 7.

Hackers could use the flaw to remotely seize control of computers. The new IE 8 Web browser and an old IE 5 version are not affected, according to the US software giant.

The warning came less than two months after Microsoft released a patch for an IE 6 [software hole](#) through which China-based cyber spies attacked [Google](#) and other firms.

No matter which Web browser people use, upgrading to the most current version promises to increase protection against hackers.

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