

virus

BULLETIN

EXCERPT FROM VBSPAM COMPARATIVE REVIEW SEPT 2012

THE TEST SET-UP

The VBSpam test methodology can be found at <http://www.virusbtn.com/vbspam/methodology/>. As usual, email was sent to the products in parallel and in real time, and products were given the option to block email pre-DATA. Five products chose to make use of this option.

As in previous tests, the products that needed to be installed on a server were installed on a *Dell PowerEdge R200*, with a 3.0GHz dual core processor and 4GB of RAM. The *Linux* products ran on *SuSE Linux Enterprise Server 11* or *Ubuntu 11*; the *Windows Server* products ran on either the 2003 or the 2008 version, depending on which was recommended by the vendor.

To compare the products, we calculate a 'final score', which is defined as the spam catch (SC) rate minus five times the false positive (FP) rate. Products earn VBSpam certification if this value is at least 97:

$$SC - (5 \times FP) \geq 97$$

The test ran for 16 consecutive days, from 12am GMT on Saturday 18 August 2012 until 12am GMT on Monday 3 September 2012.

The corpus contained 144,971 emails, 134,418 of which were spam. Of these, 101,621 were provided by *Project Honey Pot*, and 32,797 were provided by *Spamfeed.me* from *Abusix*. They were all relayed in real time, as were the 10,366 legitimate emails ('ham') and the remaining 187 emails, which were all legitimate newsletters.

OnlyMyEmail's Corporate MX-Defender

SC rate: 99.999%

FP rate: 0.02%

Final score: 99.90

Project Honey Pot SC rate: 99.999%

Abusix SC rate: 100.00%

Newsletters FP rate: 9.6%

After 12 tests, it is hard to find appropriate adjectives to describe *OnlyMyEmail's* catch rate, but as the product missed only a single spam message in a corpus of well

over 134,000 emails, 'impressive' is an understatement. And yet again, with just two false positives, the product has one of the lowest false positive rates. If there is something that can be improved, it is the performance on newsletters, where the product blocked a number of mostly Swedish and Finnish newsletters, but that's only a small detail and shouldn't stop the developers from celebrating achieving another VBSpam award with this month's highest final score.



Complete solutions sorted by final score	
OnlyMyEmail	99.90
Kaspersky LMS	99.88
Mailshell	99.74
ZEROSPAM	99.72
SpamTitan	99.68
Symantec	99.64
Libra Esva	99.62
FortiMail	99.57
Netmail Secure	99.48
GFI	99.47
The Email Laundry	99.42
McAfee SaaS	99.30
Halon Security	99.29
Sophos	99.29
Bitdefender	99.25
McAfee Email Gateway	99.05
CronLab	98.64
IBM	98.21
Vamsoft ORF	96.85
SPAMfighter	94.09



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