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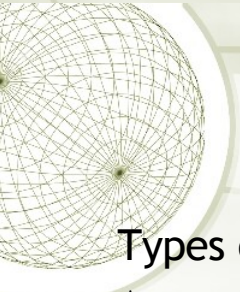


Legal and ethical issues: Malware, Virtual worlds

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Malware
Virtual worlds



Regulating malware

Types of malware: spectrum
Apparently obvious, but reserve jmt?
Bad: Russian data mafia, zombie bot
net masters
??: Adware, spyware? Law suits
Allegedly good: DRM, MS, Sony?



Who 'carries the can'?

Temptation to 'Shift liability' to user
Banking example
Trust is critical to ecommerce
Big banks hesitate, small want to shift
But how can a consumer understand either
contract or IT security?
Usability failure
Potential abuse of negotiation power
Customers can vote with their feet...



Is IT security broken?

Reports from AusCERT: Buckland, Mau.
Unix model (WinNT, Mac, *nix) doomed
Assumes a well informed user
But too complicated, vendor obfuscate
No basis for decision to agree, click
False alarms
Rating method: minutes/hours before honeypot compromised?



Financial markets

Compound character: virus, spam, spyware, recombinant, zombie, net
Targeted, off the shelf, attack financial systems
Spam trick trying to ramp up shares
Stock markets looking 'straight through'
Participants not diligent
Barbarians at the gate
Impact of manipulation: loss, panic?
Regulators out of touch?



Consumer rights

'Informed prior consent' best principle
Temptation: water it down
Business factor in cost of doing business?
Capacity to understand IT, security, or user agreement (EULA)
Rating method, icons?
Trust: someone else picks up the pieces
Foolproof, hack proof systems?



Benevolent worm?

Alana Maurushat: Chinese public health
Aim to evade repressive state
Spread critical public health info
Users can remain innocent
'good' payload?
'bad' methods?
Means justify the ends?
Or are principles important?




Virtual Worlds

Second Life, SL Exchange
World of Warcraft
MM
Pandora
Interface to mainframes
Xbox, PS3, Wii
Addiction, gambling, vice??
Commercial opportunities?



Features of SL

Property rights (see also Auran)
Can traffick real estate: trade, develop
Can exploit own copyright works; CC?
Convertible currency
Mass usage, global
Potential anonymity
Virtual sex
Not much violence




I'm God. No, I'm God!

Two lawyers walk into a bar...
Linden Labs and Telstra Big Pond
Near monopolies, habit of control
Rule of law, contract or 'executive discretion'?
Example of the clever lawyer
Who can insist on legal rights?



Uluru: Customary law?

BigPond Island, most successful
Uluru, Bridge (climb), Opera House
Voluntarily banned walkover
Importing customary tribal law into SL?
But did not ask the custodians, they complain, aided by Dept lawyers



Opera House

Opera House also claim rights trampled
Copyright? Trade Mark? Industrial
Design?
Commercial exploitation of others'
work?



Paedophilic pornography?

Child abuse, paedophilia is a crime
But what if no child is involved? Adult play
impersonating child
Images: anime, avatars, 3D models
EU: crime is the representation, not OK
US: crime is hurting the child, OK
German attempt to extradite US citizens
Jurisdiction: where are you when in SL?
Whose moral/ethical rules?



Money Laundering?

Real world crackdown: antiterror, drugs
Global cash conversion?
Jurisdictional problems
Easy to hide
Options for hackers?
Police take it seriously?