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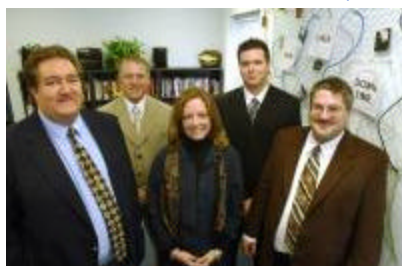
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Reading Eagle: James L. Cucinotta

Executives at Wyomissing-based Dynamic Net Inc. - from left, John R. Robinson, president; Ryan F. May, director of managed hosting; Diane C. Bonafiglia, office manager; Jake R. Winemiller, director of business development; and Peter M. Abraham, chief executive officer - say none of its 600 customers was affected by the devastating Sobig.F worm in August.

Wyomissing firm filters Web for clients

Dynamic Net Inc., an Internet business-solutions provider, offers its customers new antivirus technology and spam-prevention techniques.

By David A. Kostival

Reading Eagle correspondent

One of the biggest headaches in business is the threat of a virus in the computer system, potentially result in Internet downtime and a loss in revenue.

That was the case in August when the notorious Sobig.F worm crippled many companies across the world.

Sobig was dubbed the fastest-spreading virus because it forwarded itself to all e-mail addresses on an infected client's computer.

A Wyomissing-based global Internet business-solutions provider said that during that attack none of its 600 customers was infected.

Peter M. Abraham, chief executive of Dynamic Net Inc., said his company implemented antivirus technology and spam-prevention techniques just prior to the attacks.

"The industry refers to the week of Aug. 18 as worm week because of two major worm viruses that emerge that week," Abraham said. "We were blessed because we implemented our antivirus feature early in August. We were blasting about 25,000 viruses a week."

With spam-prevention technology, Abraham said Dynamic Net blocks 1.75 million spam messages each week.

Jim Wetzel of Car Values Plus, Newburgh, N.Y., said the system is effective in blocking spam.

"It appears to work quite well for me," Wetzel said. "On a recent Monday, it channeled to the Outlook spam folder an amazing 1,800 spam messages that were sent to me over the weekend. With my numerous e-mail addresses, I averaged 600 to 800 spam messages a day. This saves me a lot of time."

Locally, Dynamic Net is the Internet provider for Albright College; Gallen Insurance Inc., Shillington; Hitchcock Enterprises, Ruscombmanor Township; and The Loomis Co., Wyomissing, none of which report virus problems.

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"They have been doing a good job and we're happy with them," said Lu Ann Seyler, owner of Hitchcock Enterprises.

Abraham said his company did not have to reinvent the wheel to offer the technology.

"We used open-source technology, an already-developed system, and just put together the building blocks implement it for our customers," Abraham said. "We are doing it on a global basis at no additional fees. Hosting is extremely competitive so we try to add more value to what we provide.

"Having this in place is a time-saving technology because it blocks known virus signatures and prevents a great deal of Internet downtime. Each specific virus has signatures that can be compared to human DNA. A e-mail goes into the antivirus system looking for signatures. If they are found, the e-mail gets bounced back to the sender."

John R. Robinson, president, said the mistake most computer users make is the failure to use antivirus protection.

"A lot of people feel they are hopeless against a computer virus," Robinson said. "The technology is there to guard against these viruses, but people are not using adequate protection. They are mostly unaware or undisciplined."

Abraham and Robinson said the company's next goal is to implement a content-filtering system.

"We are in the process of developing a content-filtering product that we will install on our network to prevent employees of our customers from going to sites they should not visit," Abraham said. "Our product will differ from existing systems by not blocking just on specific words."

"It will border on artificial intelligence," Robinson said.

Contact correspondent **David A. Kostival** at 610-371-5049 or business@readingeagle.com.



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