### **Viruses and Worms**

Module 7

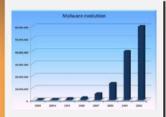
Engineered by Hackers. Presented by Professionals.







#### SECURITY NEWS



"This doesn't mean that there are fewer threats or that the cyber-crime market is shrinking. Quite the opposite; it continues to expand, and by the end of 2010 we will have logged more new threats in Collective Intelligence than in 2009. Yet it seems as though hackers are applying economies of scale, reusing old malicious code or prioritizing the distribution of existing threats over the creation new ones", Corrons concluded.



December 20, 2010 11:56 AM

#### One third of existing computer viruses were created in Jan-Oct 2010: Panda

PandaLabs, Panda Security's anti-malware laboratory, stated that, in the first ten months of the year the number of threats created and distributed account for one third of all viruses that exist. These means that 34 percent of all malware ever created has appeared in the last ten months. The company's collective intelligence database, which automatically detects, analyzes and classifies 99.4 percent of the threats received, now has 134 million separate files, 60 million of which are malware (viruses, worms, trojans and other threats).

The report further added that, up to October this year, some 20 million new strains of malware have been created (including new threats and variants of existing families), the same amount as in the whole of 2009. The average number of new threats created every day has risen from 55,000 to 63,000.

Despite these dramatic numbers, the speed with which the number of new threats is growing has dropped since 2009. Since 2003, "new threats have increased at a rate of 100 percent or more. Yet so far in 2010 the rate of growth is around 50 percent", explains Luis Corrons, technical director, PandaLabs.

The company further informed that, although more malicious software is created, its lifespan is shorter: 54 percent of malware samples are active for just 24 hours, as opposed to the lifespan of several months enjoyed by the threats of previous years. They now infect just a few systems and then disappear. As antivirus solutions become able to detect new malware, hackers modify them or create new ones so as to evade detection. This is why it is so important to have protection technologies such as collective intelligence, which can rapidly neutralize new malware and reduce the risk window to which users are exposed during these first 24 hours.

http://www.cxotoday.com







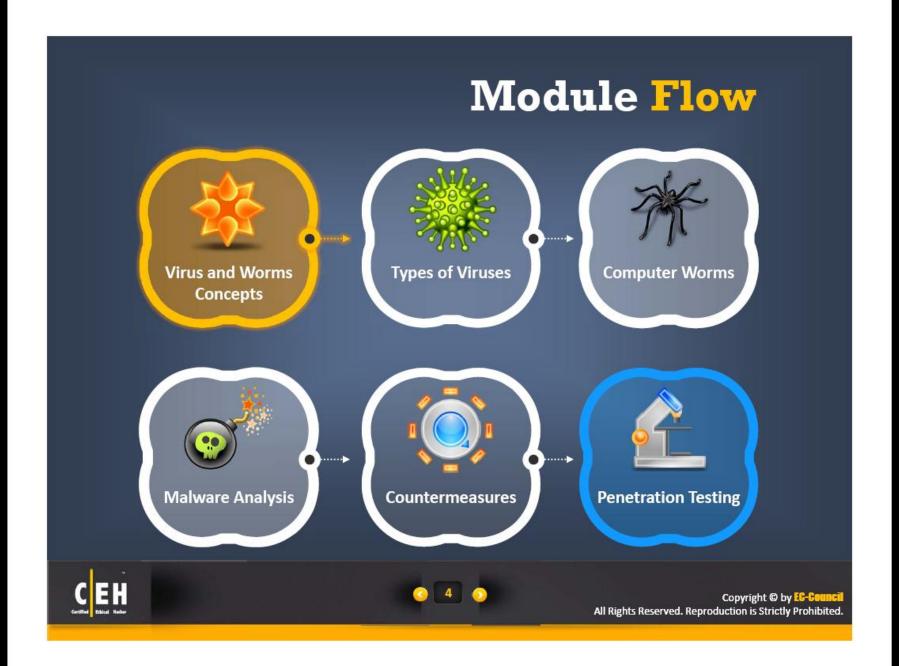
















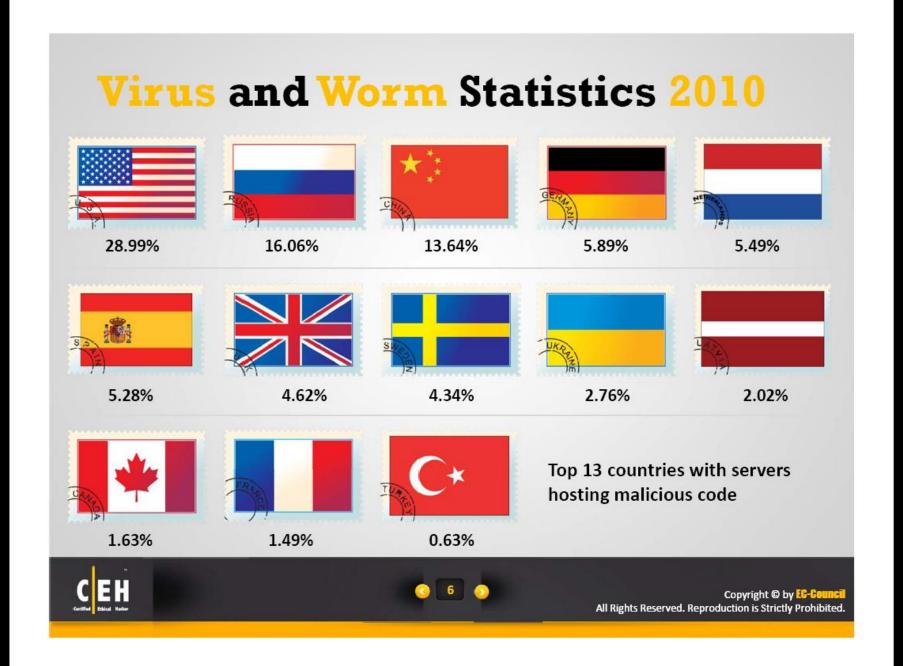
# Introduction to Viruses

- A virus is a self-replicating program that produces its own code by attaching copies of itself into other executable codes
- Some viruses affect computers as soon as their code is executed; other viruses lie dormant until a pre-determined logical circumstance is met



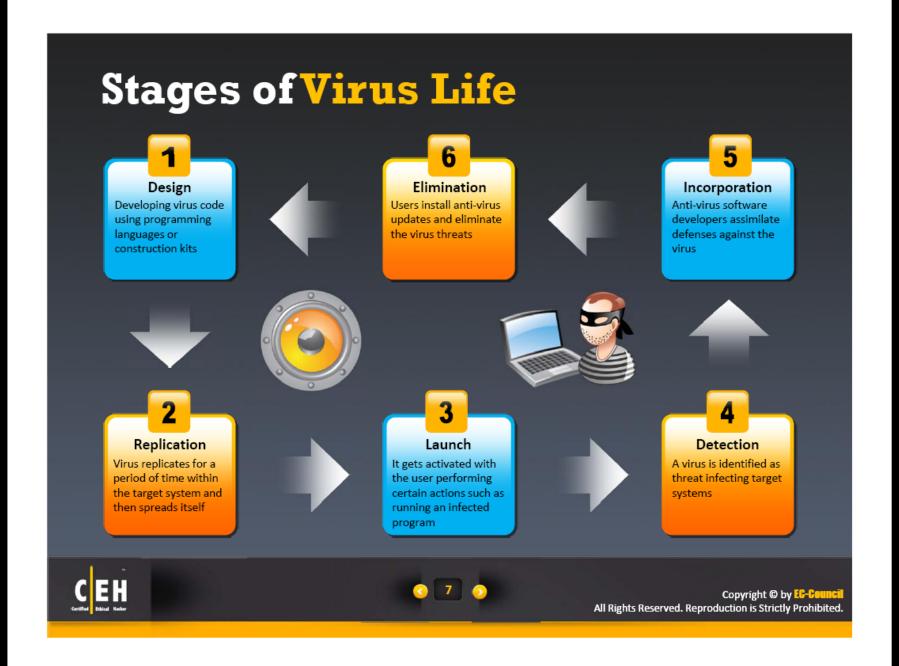










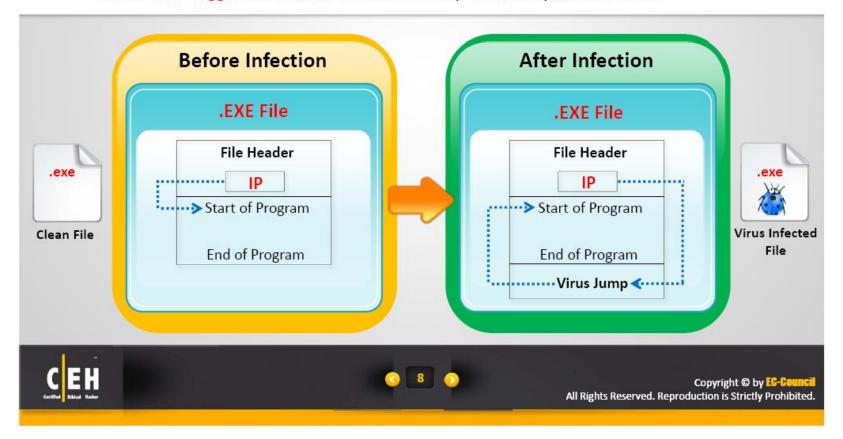






### Working of Viruses: Infection Phase

- In the infection phase, the virus replicates itself and attaches to an .exe file in the system
- Some viruses infect each time they are run and executed completely and others infect only when users' trigger them, which can include a day, time, or a particular event

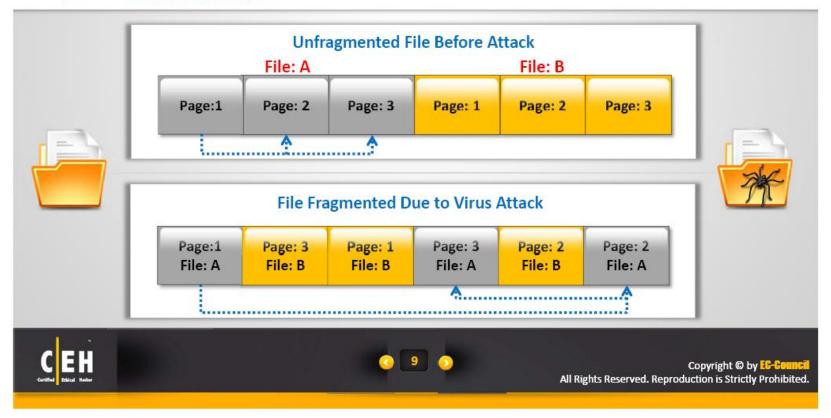






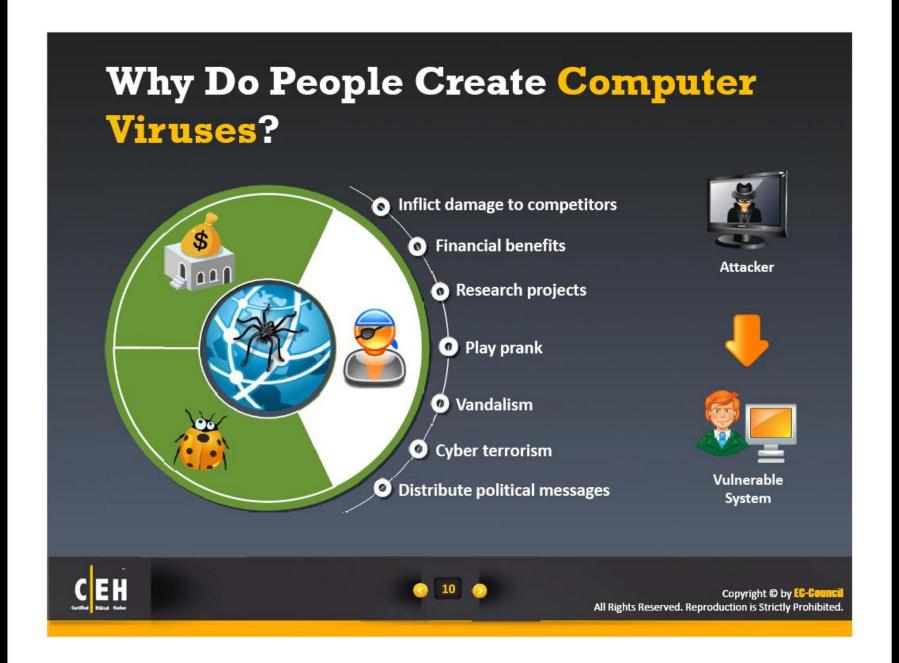
### Working of Viruses: Attack Phase

- Some viruses have trigger events to activate and corrupt systems
- Some viruses have bugs that replicate and perform activities such as file deletion and increase the session's time
- They corrupt the targets only after spreading completely as intended by their developers





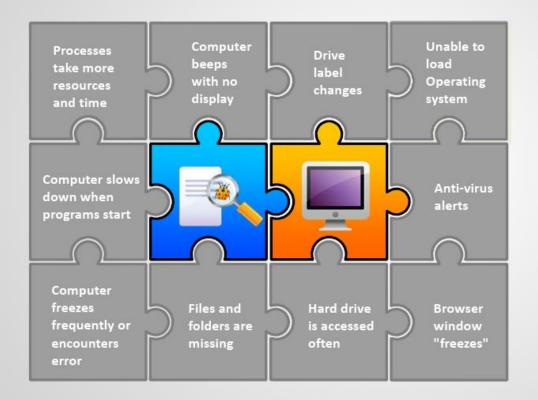








#### **Indications of Virus Attack**





#### **Abnormal Activities**

If the system acts in an unprecedented manner, you can suspect a virus attack



#### **False Positives**

However, not all glitches can be attributed to virus attacks













#### Virus Hoaxes

- Hoaxes are false alarms claiming reports about a non-existing virus which may contain virus attachments
- Warning messages propagating that a certain email message should not be viewed and doing so will damage one's system

#### Subject: FORWARD THIS WARNING AMONG FRIENDS, FAMILY AND CONTACTS

PLEASE FORWARD THIS WARNING AMONG FRIENDS, FAMILY AND CONTACTS! You should be alert during the next few days. Do not open any message with an attachment entitled 'POSTCARD FROM BEJING' or 'RESIGNATION OF BARACK OBAMA', regardless of who sent it to you. It is a virus that opens A POSTCARD IMAGE, then 'burns' the whole hard C disc of your computer.

This is the worst virus announced by CNN last evening. It has been classified by Microsoft as the most destructive virus ever. The virus was discovered by McAfee yesterday, and there is no repair yet for this kind of virus.

This virus simply destroys the Zero Sector of the Hard Disc, where the vital information is kept.

COPY THIS E-MAIL, AND SEND IT TO YOUR FRIENDS. REMEMBER: IF YOU SEND IT TO THEM, YOU WILL BENEFIT ALL OF US.

End-of-mail Thanks.











## Virus Analysis: W32/Sality.AA

W32/Sality-AA is a virus that also acts as a keylogger and spreads via email by piggy-backing on W32/Netsky-T worm



It infects files of ".exe" and ".scr" on all drives excluding those under <Windows>

W32/Sality-AA creates the files

- <System>\vcmgcd32.dl1
- <System>\vcmgcd32.dll



The virus logs system information and keystrokes to certain windows and periodically submits to a remote website

W32/Sality-AA deletes all files found on the system with extension ".vdb" and ".avc" and files that start "drw" and end ".key"



It modifies <Windows>\system.ini by adding the following:

- [MCIDRV\_VER]
- DEVICE=<random string>





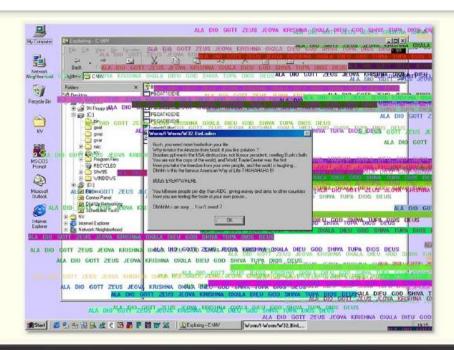




- W32/Toal-A is an email-aware virus that arrives as an attachment called BinLaden\_Brasil.exe.
- The subject of the email will be related to the conflict in Afghanistan. This is chosen randomly from a large selection including:

From: editor@hacker.com
To:
Subject: USA against geneva
convention?
Attached: BinLaden\_Brasil.exe.

Best Wishes,









#### Virus Analysis: W32/Toal-A The blank message has MIME Header encoded to exploit vulnerabilities in IE 5.01/5.5 that run an attachment automatically when the email is viewed If the attached file is executed, it drops the library file INVICTUS.DLL to the Windows System directory and the virus itself to the Windows directory, using a random 3-letter name consisting of the upper case characters 'A-O' The virus may also make a copy of itself in the C:\ directory; these copies of the virus will have their file attributes set to hidden and read-only The virus adds its pathname to the "shell=" line in the [Boot] section of <Windows>\System.ini; this causes the virus to be run automatically each time the machine is restarted The virus makes the C: drive shareable by setting various subkeys of: HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Network\LanMan\B inLaden\ Copyright © by EG-Goung All Rights Reserved. Reproduction is Strictly Prohibited.





In particular, it will normally target Netstat.exe and Calc.exe Each time you launch Windows Explorer, the virus will run and infect the files HH.EXE and Explorer.exe The virus looks for the active antivirus products scanners and attempts to terminate them

The message box is titled 'Worm/I-Worm/W32.BinLaden' and contains below text Various colorful slogans will be displayed across the desktop, along with a message box

On rare occasions that the virus is run, it will activate a visual payload

Bush, you need more hashish in your life
Why to take the Amason from brazil. if you like polution?
Brazilian ppl wants the UTA destruction, not likeous president, smelling Bush's balls
You are not the cops of the world, and World Trade Center was the first
How you take the freedom from your own people, and the world is laughing ...
Ohhhh is this the famous American Way of Life? MANAMANA!!!



The text is masked intentionally to hide offensive content

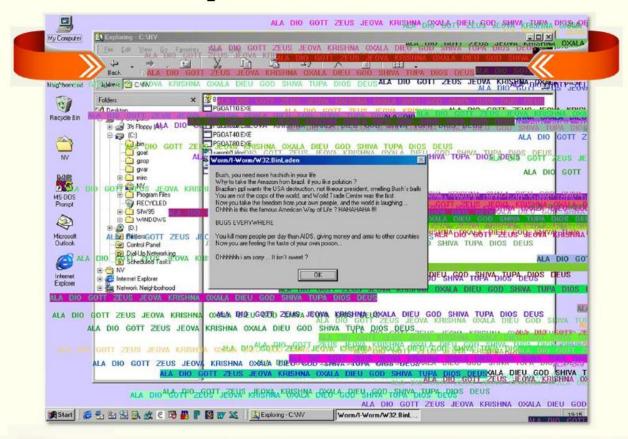


















The virus tries to download information about other users from remote ICQ site by searching "white pages" for a list of keywords including: "history", "friends", "airplane"



The virus will then send itself to email addresses that it finds within the found pages



The terr but the

The virus process will normally terminate itself after 5-10 minutes, but can also be terminated using the Task Manager



**Countermeasure:** Microsoft has issued a patch to protect against this vulnerability at <a href="http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/MS01-027.asp">http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/MS01-027.asp</a>







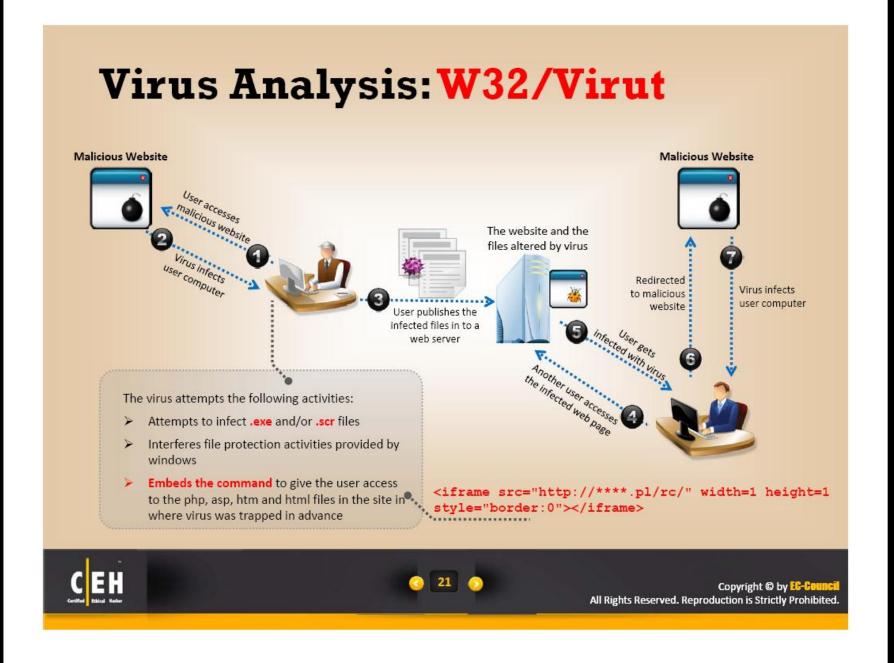
### Virus Analysis: W32/Virut

Virut is a family of polymorphic memory-resident appending file infectors that have EPO (Entry Point Obscuring) capabilities



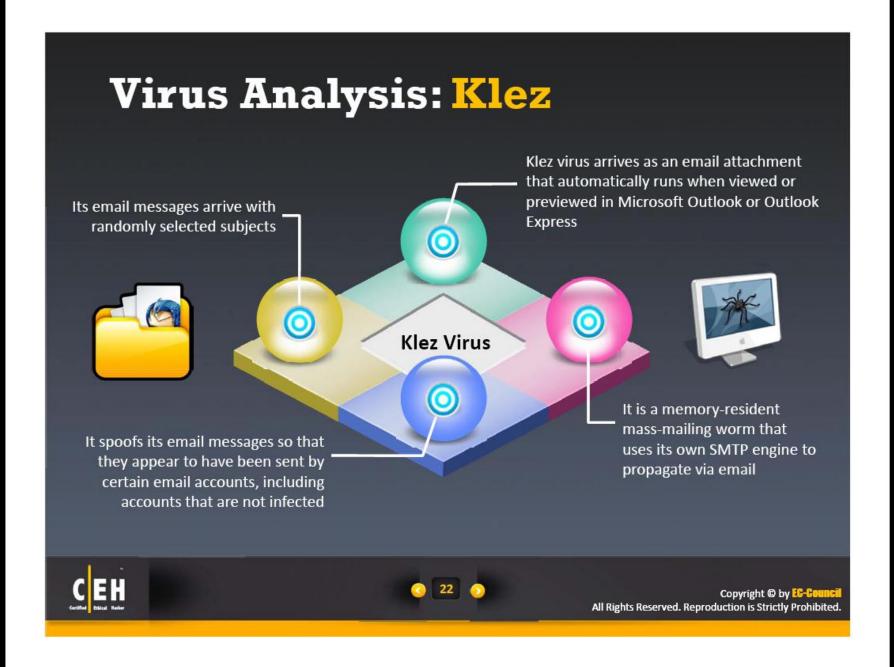
















### Virus Analysis: Klez

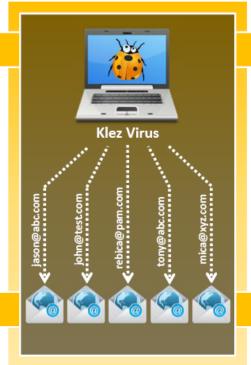
#### Execution

This virus drops a copy of itself as WINK\*.EXE in the Windows System folder

(Where \* is a random alphabetical string)

#### **Payload**

Once the victim's computer is infected, the Klez virus starts propagating itself to other users through Microsoft Outlook contact list



#### Autorun

This virus creates this registry entry so that it is executed at every Windows startup:

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\Sof ware\Microsoft\Windows CurrentVersion\Run Winkabc

#### Register

On Windows 2000 and XP, it sets itself as a service by creating this registry entry:

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYST MM\CurrentControlSet\Se rvices Winkabc

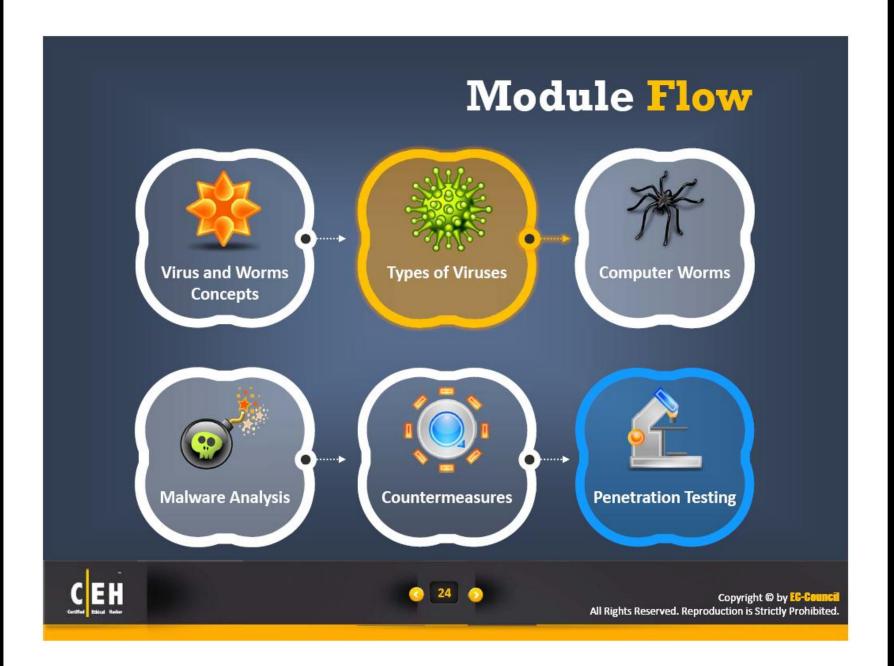






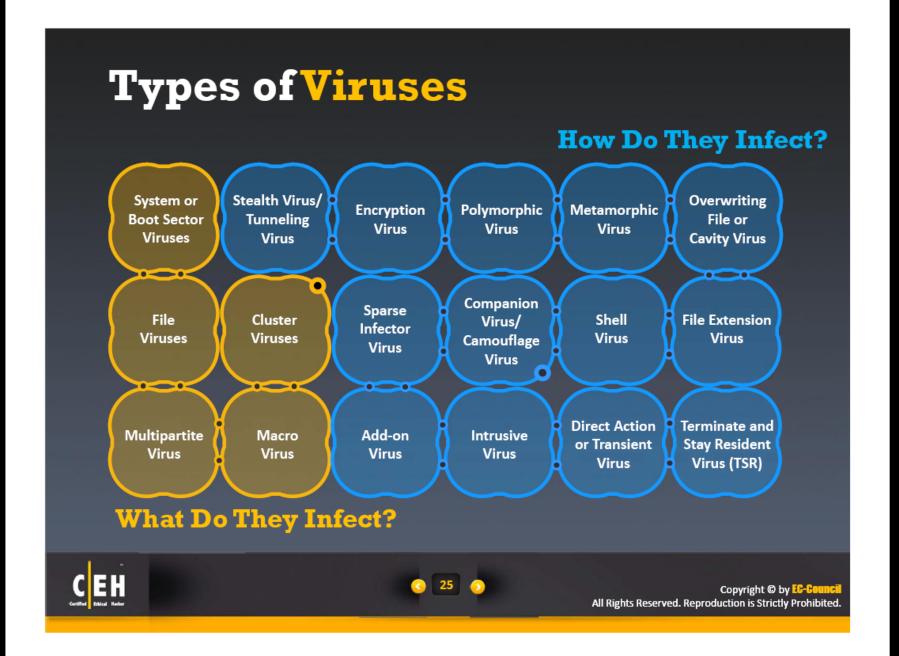










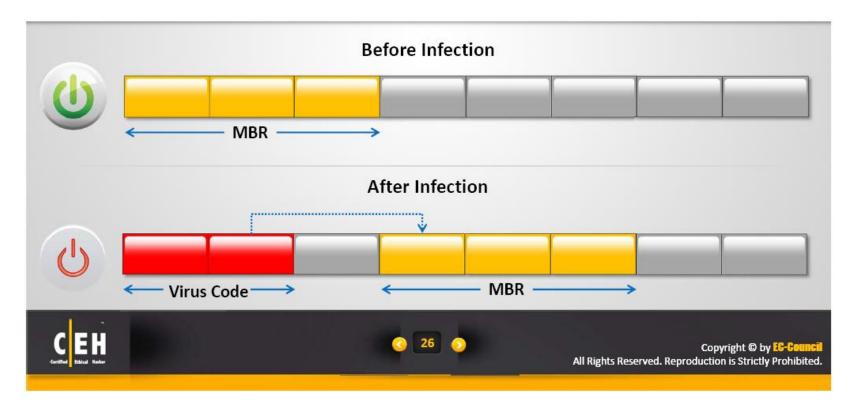






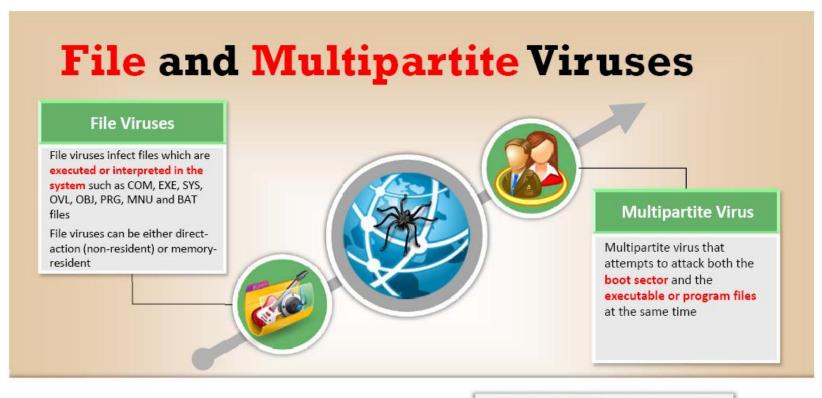
## System or Boot Sector Viruses

- Boot sector virus moves MBR to another location on the hard disk and copies itself to the original location of MBR
- When system boots, virus code is executed first and then control is passed to original MBR











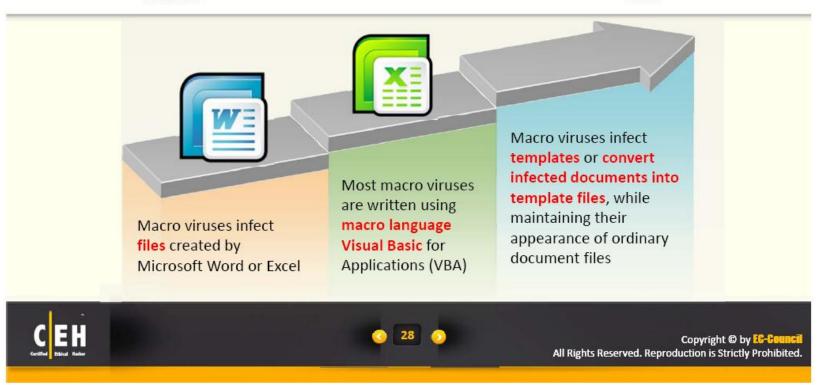






#### **Macro Viruses**









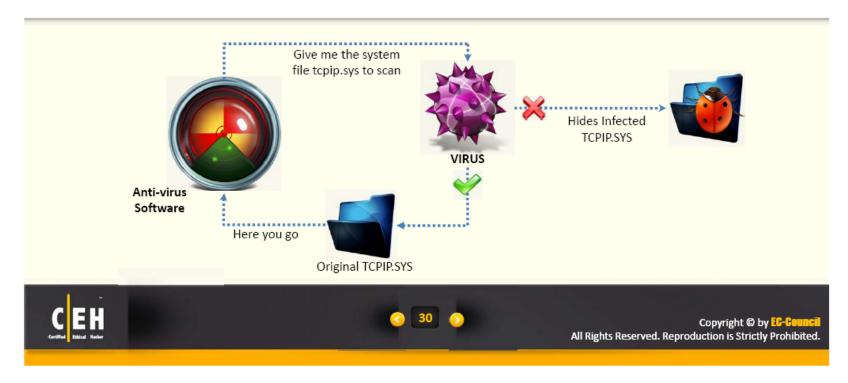






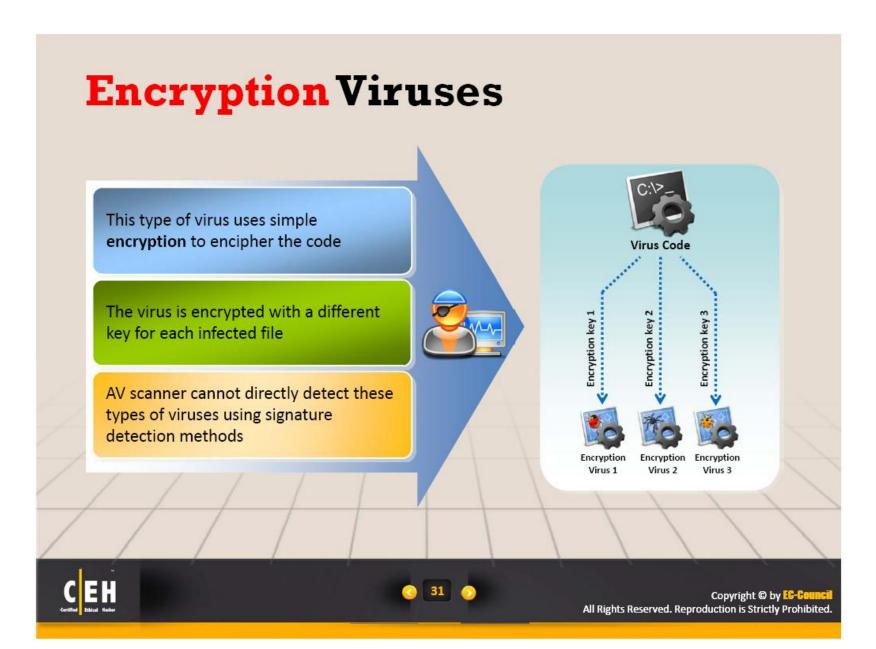
# Stealth/Tunneling Viruses

- These viruses evade the anti-virus software by intercepting its requests to the operating system
- A virus can hide itself by intercepting the anti-virus software's request to read the file and passing the request to the virus, instead of the OS
- The virus can then return an uninfected version of the file to the anti-virus software, so that it appears as if the file is "clean"







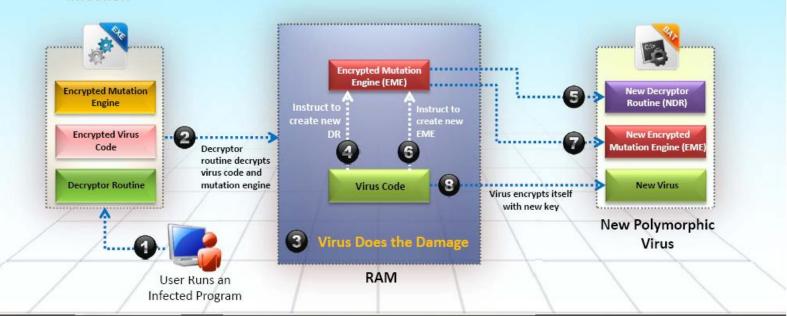






# Polymorphic Code

- 1. Polymorphic code is a code that mutates while keeping the original algorithm intact
- 2. To enable polymorphic code, the virus has to have a polymorphic engine (also called mutating engine or mutation engine
- 3. A well-written polymorphic virus therefore has no parts that stay the same on each infection



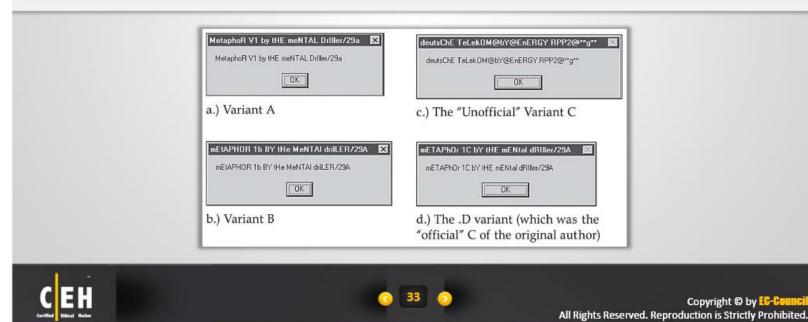






## **Metamorphic Viruses**

- Metamorphic viruses rewrite themselves completely each time they are to infect new executable
- Metamorphic code can reprogram itself by translating its own code into a temporary representation and then back to the normal code again
- For example, W32/Simile consisted of over 14000 lines of assembly code, 90% of it is part of the metamorphic engine









Cavity Virus overwrites a part of the host file with a constant (usually nulls),
 without increasing the length of the file and preserving its functionality

Sales & marketing management is the leading authority for executives in the sales and marketing management industries. The suspect, Desmond Turner, surrendered to authorities at a downtown Indianapolis fast-food restaurant



Original File Size: 45 KB



Infected File Size: 45 KB













Wake up on 15<sup>th</sup> of every month and execute code









### Companion/Camouflage Viruses

A Companion virus creates a **companion file** for each executable file the virus infects

Therefore, a companion virus may save itself as **notepad.com** and every time a user executes notepad.exe (good program), the computer will load notepad.com (virus) and **infect** the system



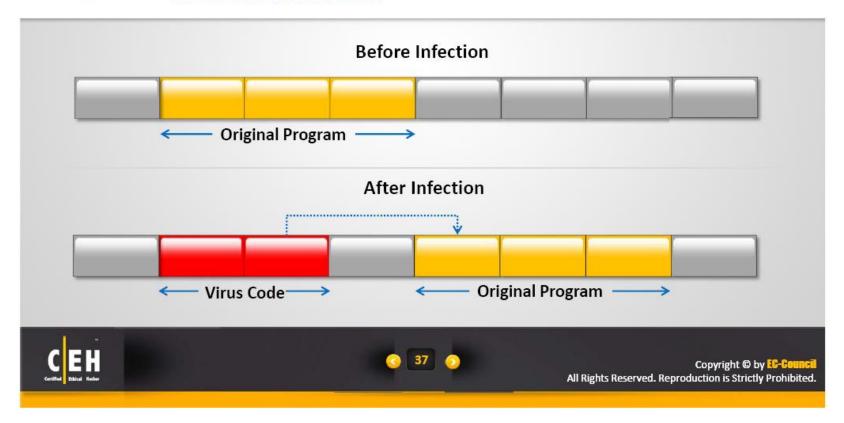






#### **Shell Viruses**

- Virus code forms a shell around the target host program's code, making itself the original program and host code as its sub-routine
- Almost all boot program viruses are shell viruses

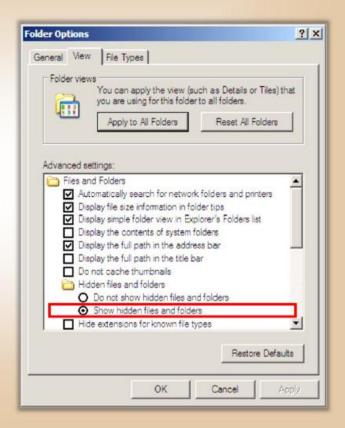






#### File Extension Viruses

- File extension viruses change the extensions of files
- 2. .TXT is safe as it indicates a pure text file
- With extensions turned off, if someone sends you a file named BAD.TXT.VBS, you will only see BAD.TXT
- If you have forgotten that extensions are turned off, you might think this is a text file and open it
- This is an executable Visual Basic Script virus file and could do serious damage
- Countermeasure is to turn off "Hide file extensions" in Windows









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# **Add-on and Intrusive Viruses** Add-on viruses append their code to the host code without making any changes to the latter or relocate the host code to insert their own code at the beginning **Original Program** Virus Code **Original Program Original Program** Virus Code Intrusive viruses overwrite the host code partly or completely with the viral code **Original Program** Virus Code **Original Program** Copyright © by EG-Gounce All Rights Reserved. Reproduction is Strictly Prohibited.





#### **Transient and Terminate and Stay Resident Viruses**

**Basic Infection Techniques** 

**Direct Action or Transient** Virus

Transfers all the controls of the host code to where it resides

Selects the target program to be modified and corrupts it

**Terminate and Stay Resident** Virus (TSR)

Remains permanently in the memory during the entire work session even after the target host's program is executed and terminated; can be removed only by rebooting the system





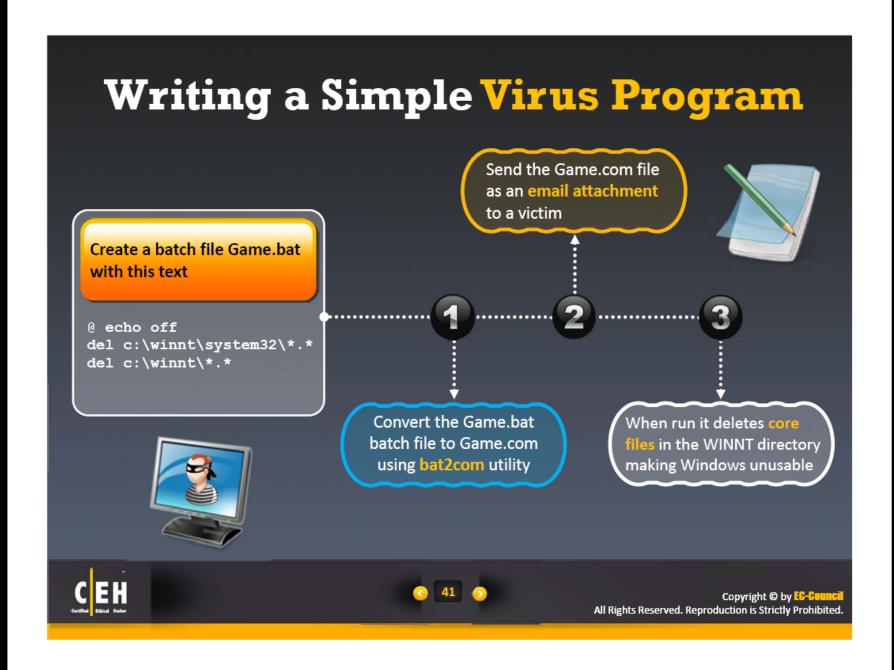




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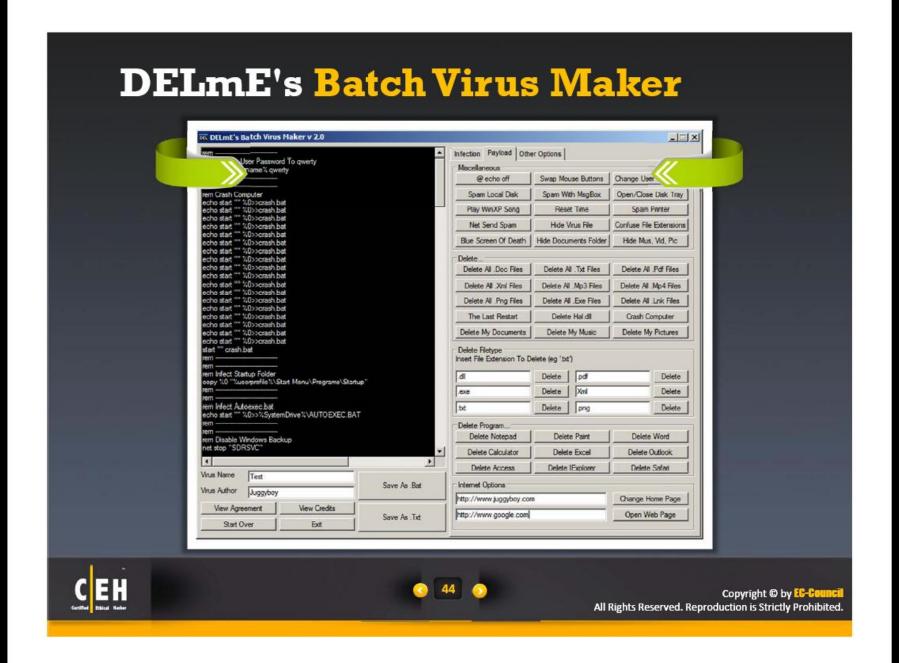






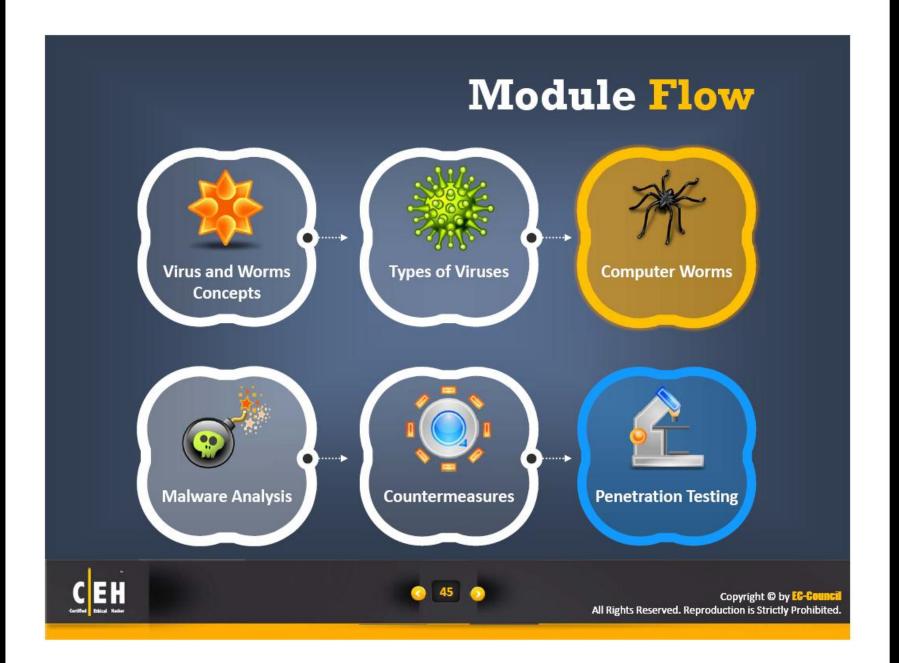
















# **Computer Worms**

Computer worms are malicious programs that **replicate**, **execute**, and **spread** across the network connections independently without human interaction

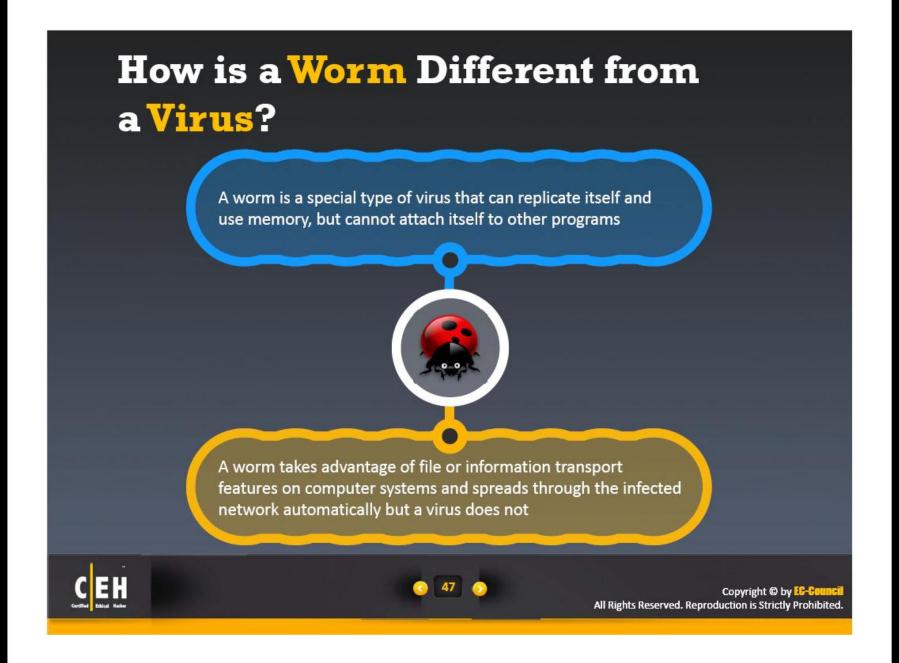
Most of the worms are created only to replicate and spread across a network, consuming available computing resources; however, some worms carry a payload to damage the host system

Attackers use worm payload to install backdoors in infected computers, which turns them into zombies and creates botnet; these botnets can be used to carry further cyber attacks



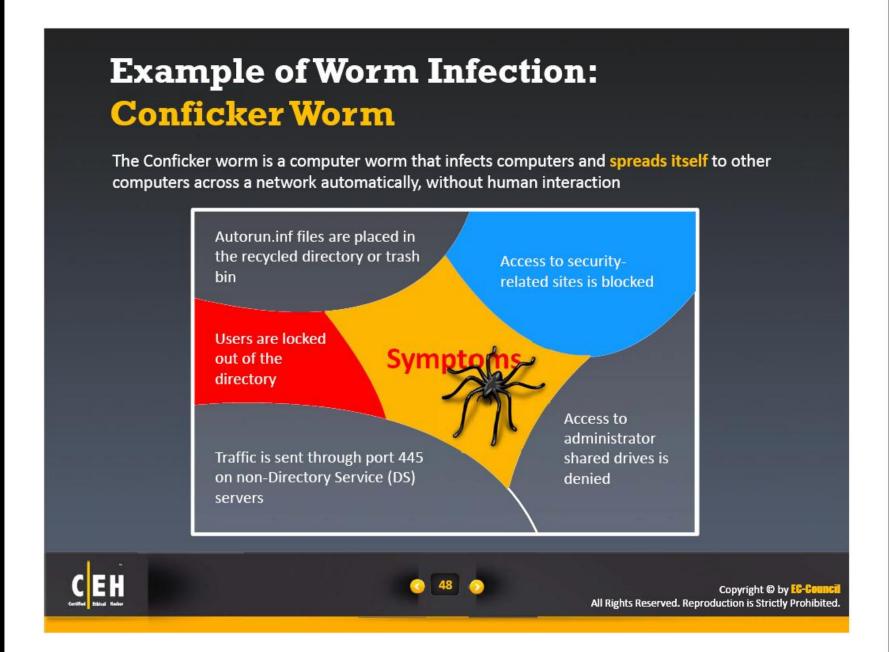
















#### What does the Conficker Worm do?

- The Conficker worm can also disable important services on your computer
- In the Autoplay dialog box, the option Open folder to view files — Publisher not specified was added by the worm
- The highlighted option, Open folder to view files — using Windows Explorer is the option that Windows provides and the option you should use
- If you select the first option, the worm executes and can begin to spread itself to other computers







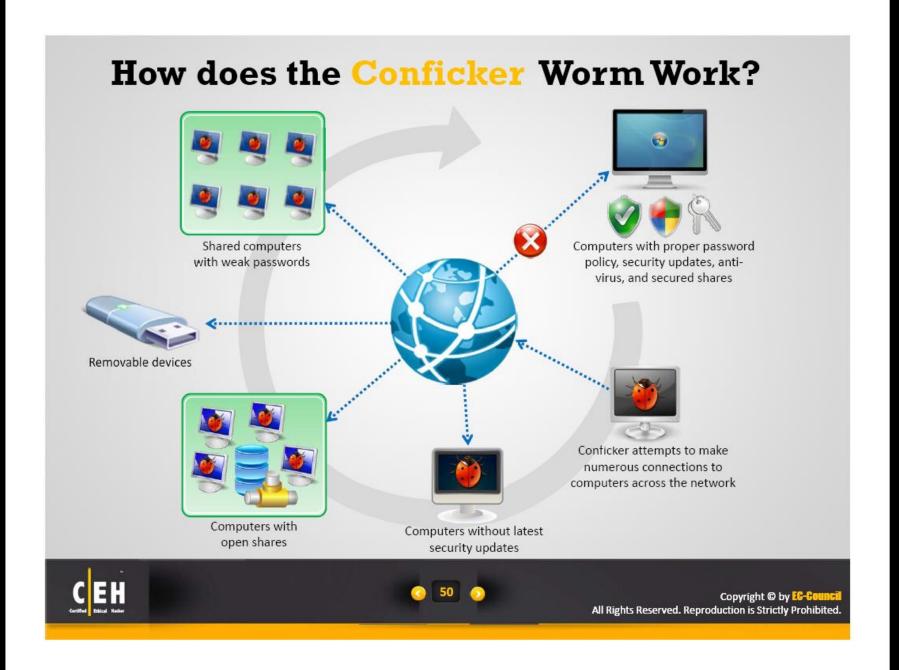




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#### Worm Analysis: W32/Netsky

W32/Netsky-A is a worm that spreads using email and Windows network shares

It searches all mapped drives for files with these extensions in order to find email adresses: MSG, OFT, SHT, DBX, TBB, ADB, DOC, WAB, ASP, UIN, RTF, VBS, HTML, HTM, PL, PHP, TXT, EML

The worm will also attempt to copy itself into the root folders of drives C: to Z: using these filenames: angels.pif, coolscreensaver.scr,
dictionary.doc.exe, dolly\_buster.jpg.pif,
doom2.doc.pif, e.book.doc.exe, ebook.archive.doc.exe, eminem-lickmypussy.mp3.pif,
hardcoreporn.jpg.exe, howtohack.doc.exe,
matrix.scr, maxpayne2.crack.exe, nero.7.exe
office\_crack.exe, photoshop9crack.exe, porno.scr,
programmingbasics.doc.exe, rfccompilation.doc.exe,
serial.txt.exe, sexsexsexsex.doc.exe,
strippoker.exe, virii.scr, winlonghorn.doc.exe,
winxp\_crack.exe





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#### Worm Analysis: W32/Netsky W32/Netsky-A may arrive in an email with these characteristics: Sender: auctions@yahoo.com/responder@amazon.com/auctions@msn.com Subject lines: Re: Auction Successful/Re: Approved/Re: Details/Re: Document/Re: Excel file -----message was sent by automail agent-----message was sent by automail agent-----Congratulation!!! You were successful in the auction Auction ID <random> Product ID <random> A detailed description about the product are attached to this mail. Please contact this seller Thank you! Attached File: HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVers ion\Run\ service= "C:\\WINDOWS\\services.exe -serv When the file is In order to run W32/Netsky-A copies extracted and opened automatically when itself into the the virus may display Windows starts up Windows folder as the message "The file W32/Netsky-A creates services.exe could not be opened" above registry entry Copyright © by EC-Counci All Rights Reserved. Reproduction is Strictly Prohibited.





#### Worm Analysis: W32/Bagle.GE

W32/Bagle.GE worm is embedded in an e-mail attachment, and spreads using the infected computer's e-mailing networks

It hides itself and other Bagle components using rootkit techniques

#### Installation

When Bagle.GE is run, it creates a directory named 'hidires' in the user's 'Application Data' folder. It copies itself as %User%\Application Data\hidires\hidr.exe

The trojan also drops the following driver file to the same folder:

%User%\Application Data\hidires\m hook.sys

The trojan installs the following registry launchpoint as a string value:

[HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\Current Version\Run] "drvsyskit" = "%System%\hidr.exe"

#### **Payload**

It tries to disable several AV and other security related software

#### **Rootkit Details**

Bagle.GE loads a kernel-mode driver (m hook.sys) that it uses to hide itself and another Bagle related malware, Email-Worm:W32/Bagle.GF

#### **Hidden Items**

- **Processes**
- Files and directories
- Registry keys and values







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http://ceh.vn

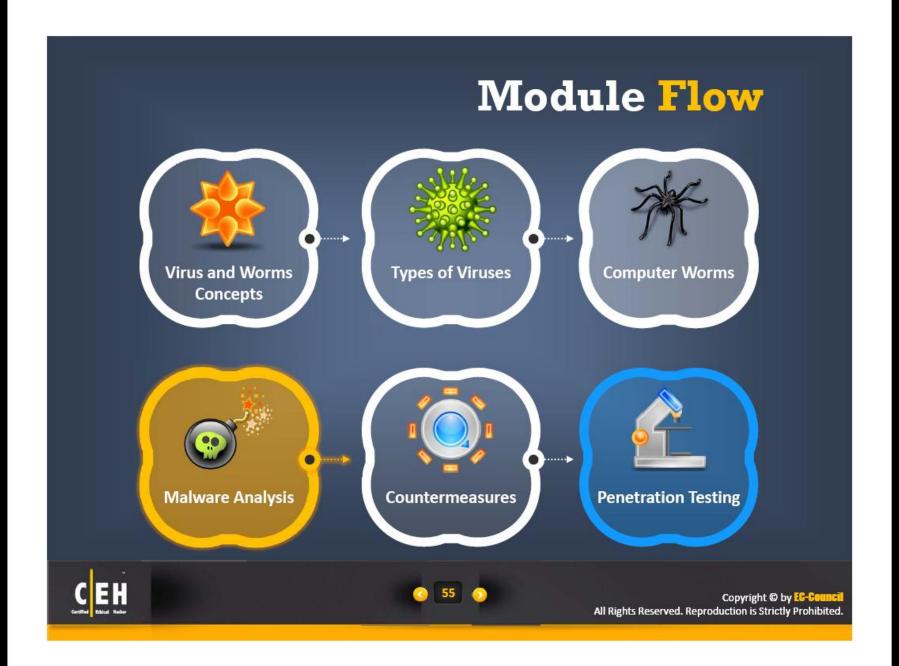




#### Worm Maker: Internet Worm Maker Thing Internet Worm Maker Thing: Version 4.00: Public Edition \_ O X INTERNET WORM MAKER THING V4 Payloads: □ Change Homepage Exploit Window Print Message C Activate Payloads On Date I IRI + You Got Hacked by Juc DO MM YY http://www.juggyboy. ☑ Disable System Restore 01 01 2111 Infection Ontions: Juggybay □ Disable Windows Security ✓ Change NOD32 Text ✓ Play a Sound ☑ Infect Bat Files W Disable Norton Security L:\windows\media\vi Randomly Activate Payloads Infect Vos Files 1 . 1 ☑ Uninstall Norton Script Blocking □ Loop Sound Chance of activating payloads: T Infect Voe Files □ Disable Macro Security ✓ Hide Desktop □ Disable Run Commod This is Ridiculous Disable Malware Disable Shutdown ☑ Hide All Drives ☑ Hide Virus Files ☑ Include [C] Notice ✓ Disable Logoff ▼ Outlook Fun 1 ? Disable Windows □ Disable Task Manager Output Path: □ Disable Windows Update URL: □ Disable Keybord ▼ No Search Command Corrupt Antivirus http://www.juggybay.o ✓ Custom Code ✓ Swap Mouse Buttons Disable Mouse ▼ Compile To EXE Support Change Computer ✓ Open Webpage Sender Name: WScript.Echo "Test Worm" Message Box Spreading Options Juggyboy Juggyboy-007-007 littu.//www.jugysluy. Startup: Mute Speakers Change Drive Icon ✓ Global Registry Startup Change IE Title Bar ▼ Delete a File DLL, EXE, ICO: Index: □ Local Registry Startup Hacked C:\Windows\WO1 1 Juggyboy Winlogon Shell Hook C: Duggy.txt Add To Context Menu If You Liked This Program Please ▼ Start As Service Change Win Media Player Txt Delete a Folder Critical Change Clock Text F English Startup If You Know Anything About VBS Programming Help Support This Project By Making A Plugin (See Readme). Thanks. Path □ Disable Regedit Text (Max 8 Chars): Juggyboy ✓ German Startup C:\temp Hacked ☑ Disable Explorer.exe Open Cd Drives ✓ Spanish Startup □ Change Reg Owner □ Change Wallpaper ☐ Heck Bill Gates ? French Startup Control Panel ₩ Keybuard Discu ☑ Download Hie More? ☑ Italian Startup Juggyboy http://www.google.o Add To Favorites Name: http://www.juggyboy. CPU Monster Change Reg Organisation Free Art Gallery □ Change Time About Me Organisation: C:\Juggy.exe Hour Juggyboy Network 00 : 02 http://juggyboy.com Execute Downloaded Copyright @ by EC-Council All Rights Reserved. Reproduction is Strictly Prohibited.











# What is Sheep Dip Computer?

Sheep dipping refers to the analysis of suspect files, incoming messages, etc. for malware

A sheep dip computer is **installed with** port monitors, file monitors, network monitors and antivirus software and connects to a network only under strictly controlled conditions

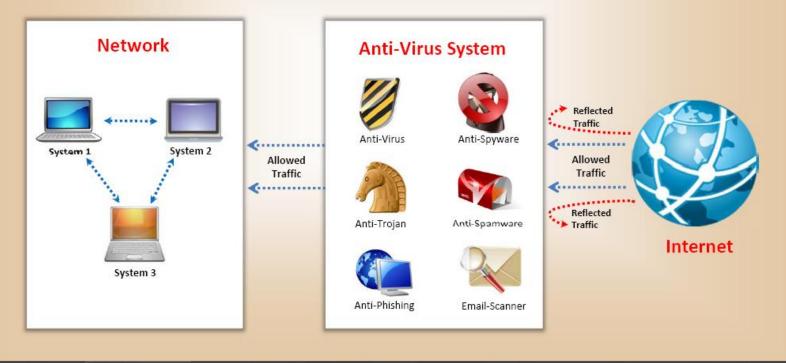






#### **Anti-Virus** Sensors Systems

Anti-virus system is a collection of computer software that detects and analyzes malicious code threats such as viruses, worms, and Trojans. They are used along with sheep dip computers.





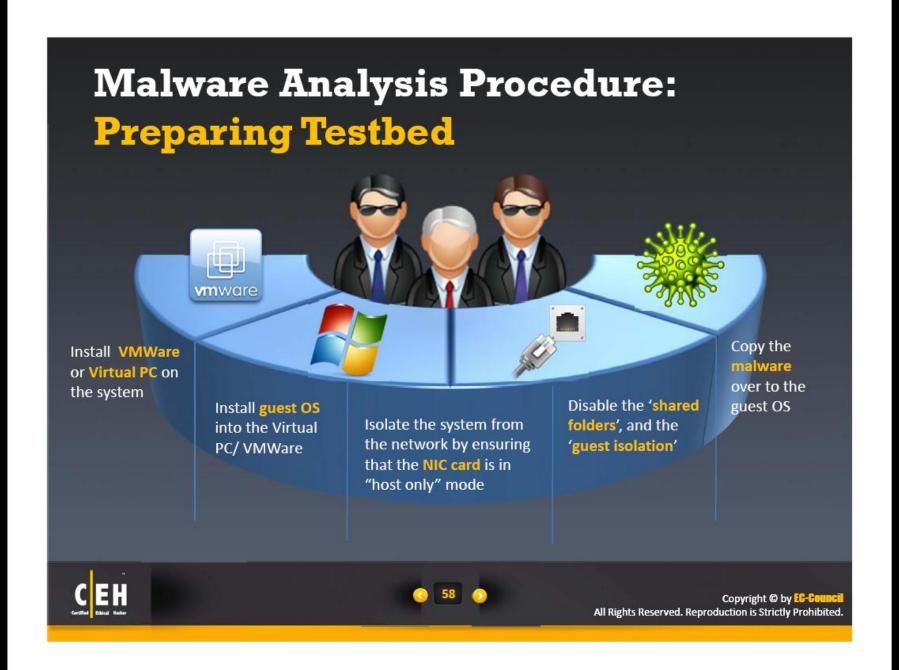




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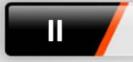




# **Malware Analysis Procedure**



Perform static analysis when the malware is inactive



Collect information about:

- String values found in the binary with the help of string extracting tools such as BinText
- The packaging and compressing technique used with the help of compression and decompression tools such as UPX



Set up network connection and check that it is not giving any errors



Run the virus and monitor the process actions and system information with the help of process monitoring tools such as Process Monitor and Process Explorer







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#### Malware Analysis Procedure



Record network traffic information using the connectivity and log packet content monitoring tools such as **NetResident** and **TCPView** 



Determine the files added, processes spawned, and changes to the registry with the help of registry monitoring tools such as **RegShot** 



Collect the following information using debugging tools such as **Ollydbg** and **Proc Dump**:

- Service requests
- Attempts for incoming and outgoing connections
- DNS tables information















# Compression and Decompression Tool: UPX

```
C:\windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\upx305w>upx.exe
                            Ultimate Packer for executables
                   Copyright (C) 1996 - 2010
Markus Oberhumer, Laszlo Molnar & John Reiser Apr 27th 2010
 IPX 3.05w
Usage: upx [-123456789dlthUL] [-qvfk] [-o file] file..
 Commands:
           compress faster
                                                            compress better
                                                            list compressed file
           decompress
           test compressed file give more help
                                                           display version number display software license
 ptions:
                                                           be verbose
           be quiet
  -oFILE write output to 'FILE'
-f force compression of suspicious files
           keep backup files
file..
          executables to (de)compress
Type 'upx --help' for more detailed help.
UPX comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY; for details visit http://upx.sf.net
C:\upx305w>_
C:\upx305w>_
                                                                                     http://upx.org
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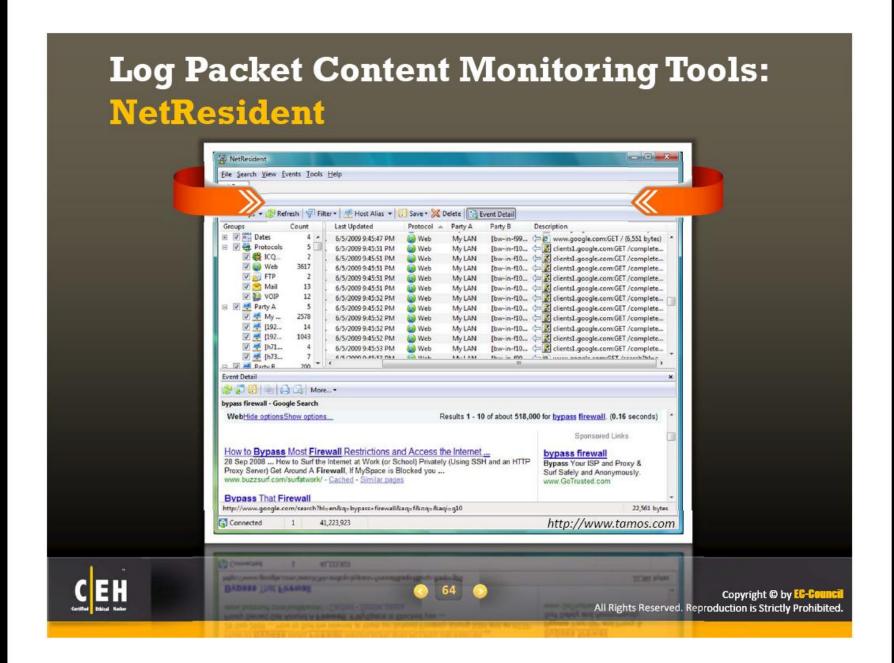






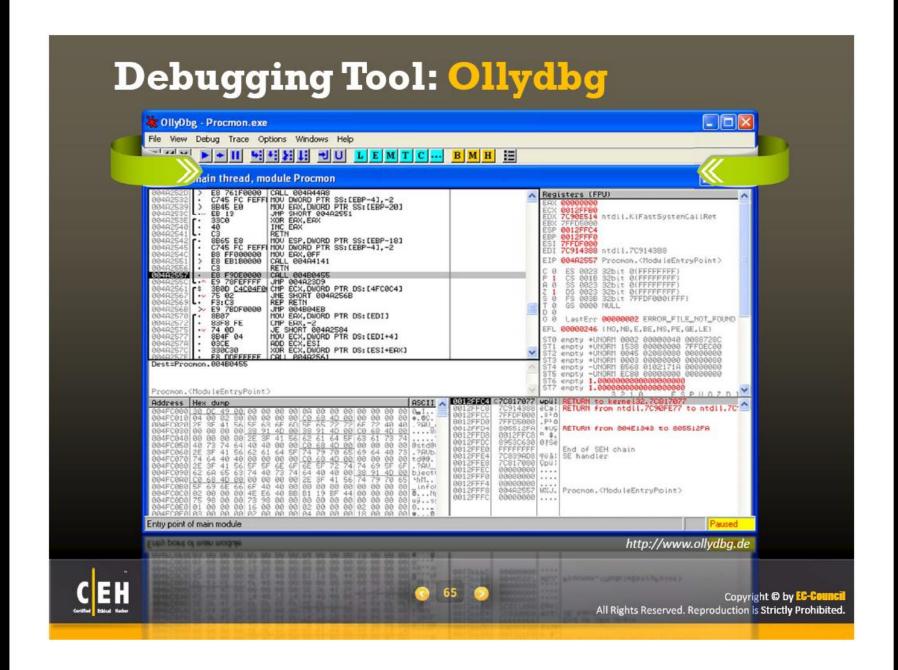






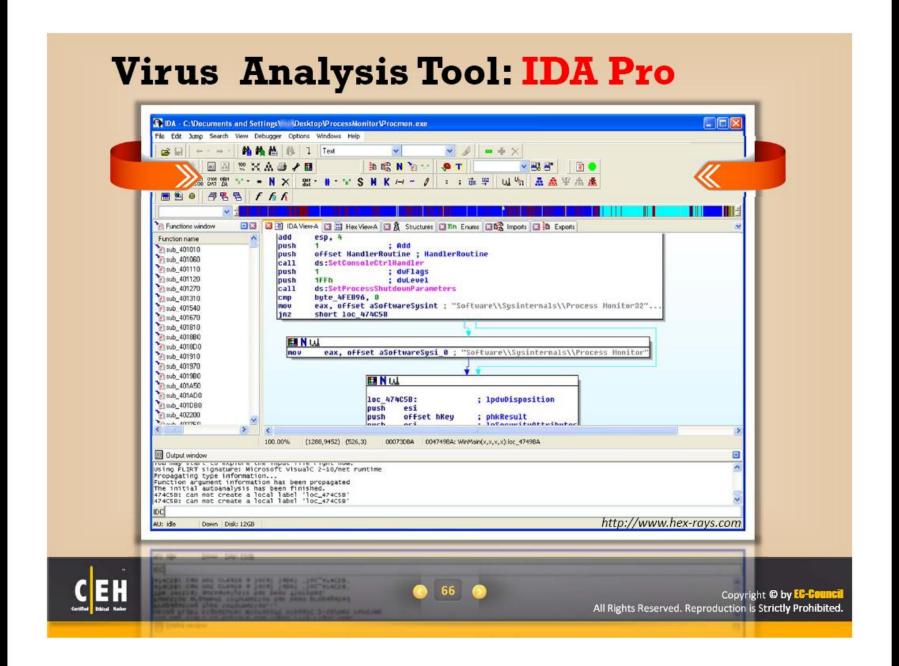






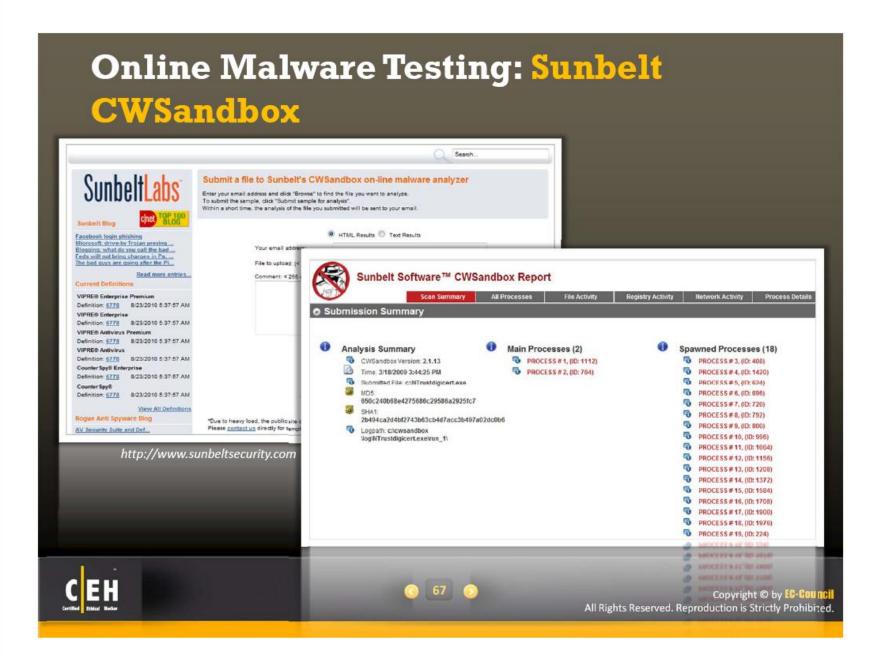






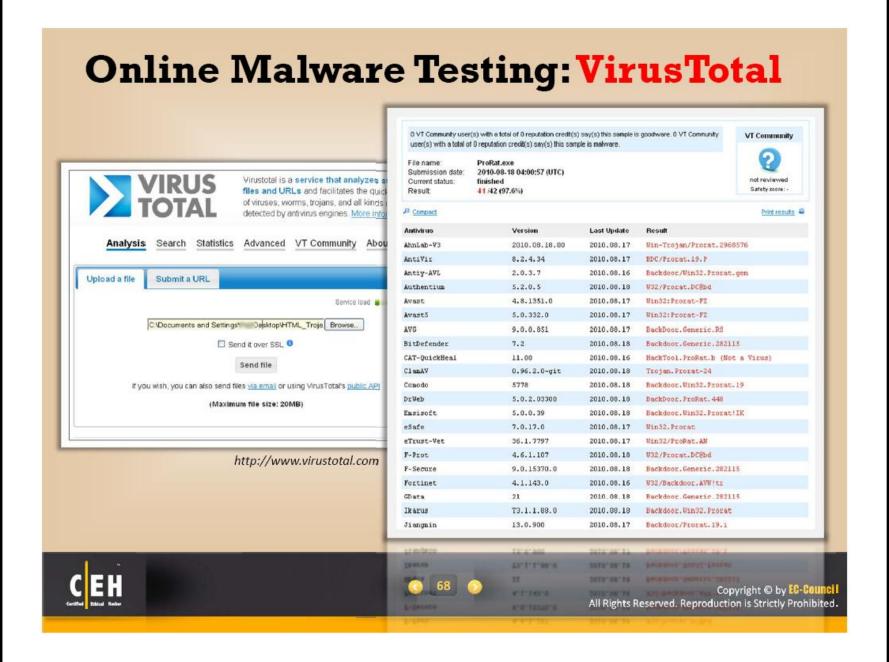
















#### Online Malware Analysis Services



Anubis: Analyzing Unknown Binaries

http://anubis.iseclab.org



Avast! Online Scanner

http://onlinescan.avast.com



**Malware Protection Center** 

https://www.microsoft.com



ThreatExpert

http://www.threatexpert.com



Dr. Web Online Scanners

http://vms.drweb.com



**Filterbit** 

http://www.filterbit.com



Avert(r) Labs WebImmune

https://www.webimmune.net



Kaspersky File Scanner

http://www.kaspersky.com





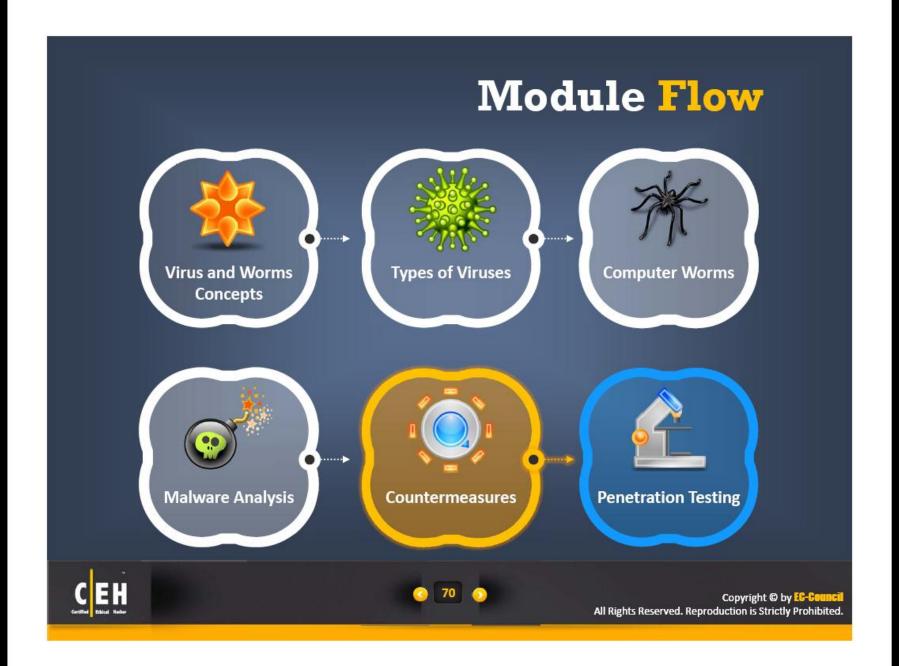


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#### **Virus Detection Methods**







Once a virus has been detected, it is possible to write scanning programs that look for signature string characteristics of the virus



#### Integrity Checking



Integrity checking products work by reading the entire disk and recording integrity data that acts as a signature for the files and system sectors



Interception



The interceptor monitors the operating system requests that are written to the disk







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#### Virus and Worms

#### Countermeasures









### Virus and Worms Countermeasures Install anti-virus software that detects and removes infections as they appear Generate an anti-virus policy for safe computing and distribute it to the staff Pay attention to the instructions while downloading files or any programs from the Internet Update the anti-virus software on the a monthly basis, so that it can identify and clean out new bugs Avoid opening the attachments received from an unknown sender as viruses spread via e-mail attachments Possibility of virus infection may corrupt data, thus regularly maintain data back up Schedule regular scans for all drives after the installation of anti-virus software Do not accept disks or programs without checking them first using a current version of an anti-virus program 73 Copyright © by EG-Counc All Rights Reserved. Reproduction is Strictly Prohibited.







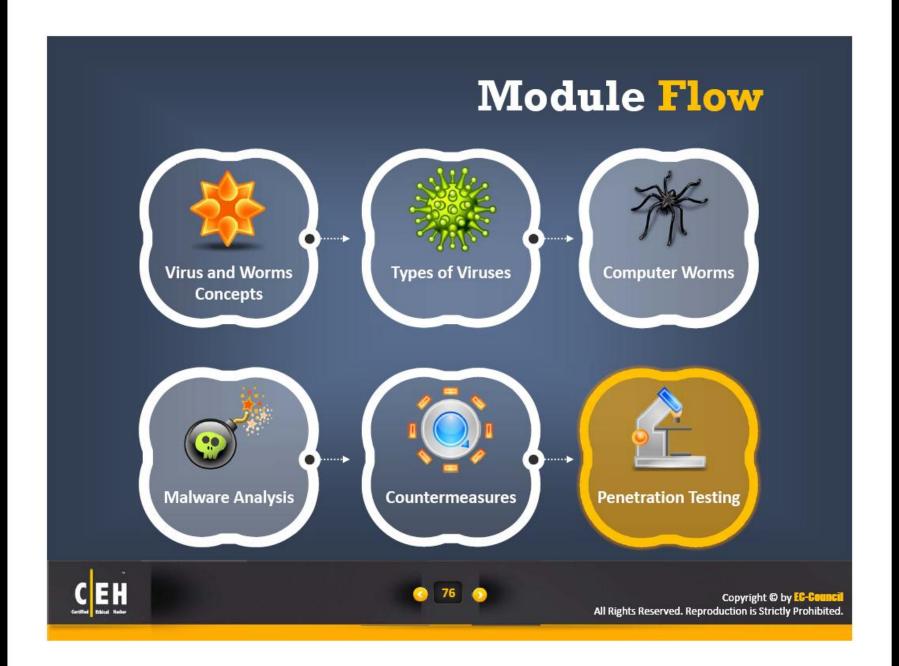






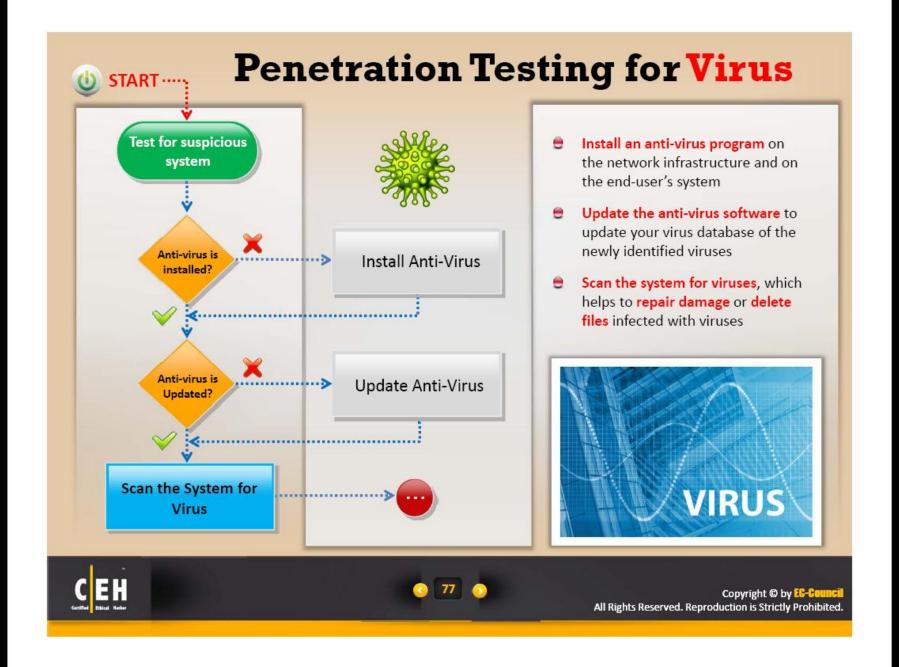






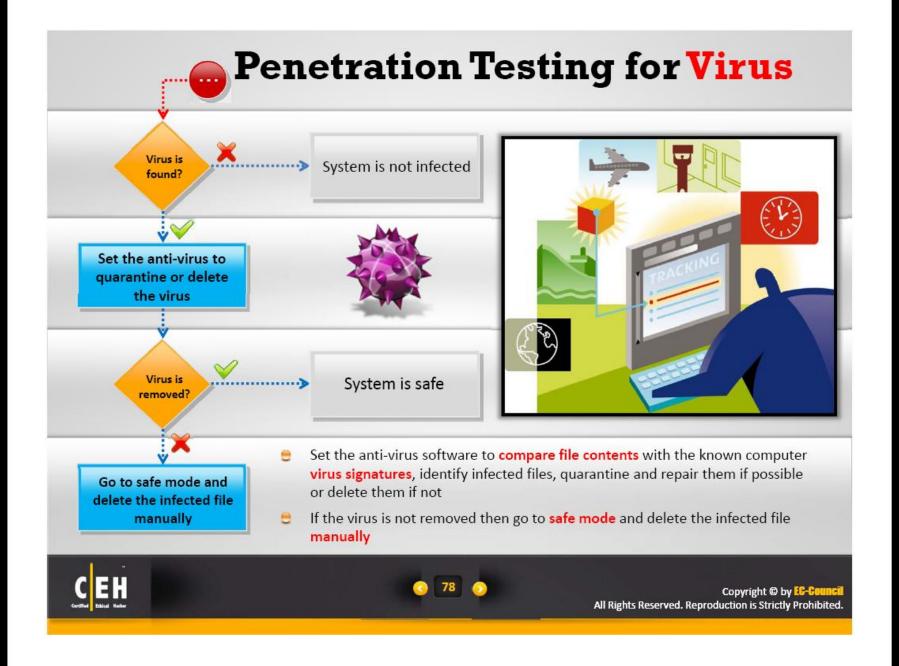






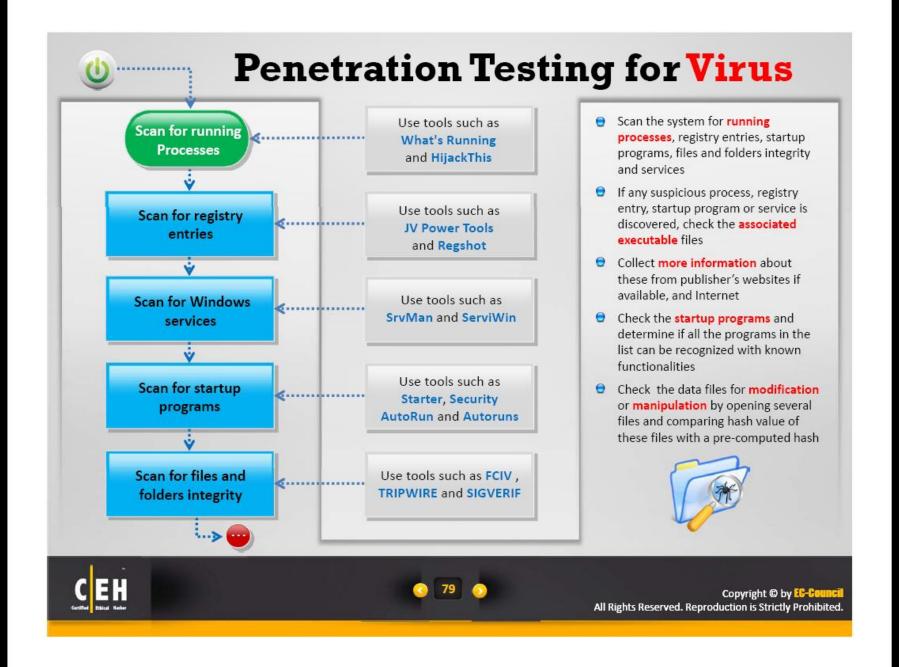






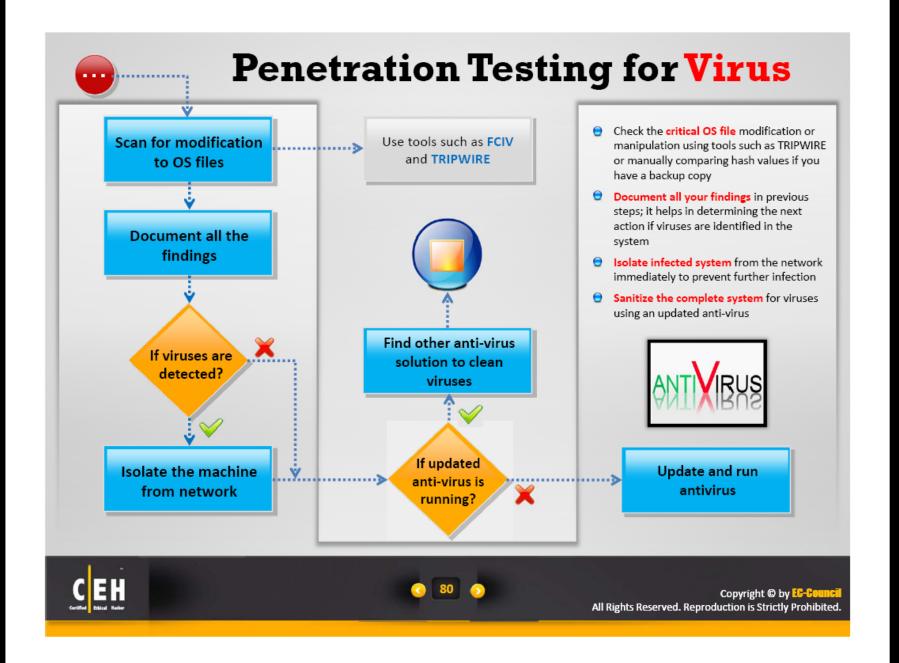
















# **Module Summary**

| 0    | Virus is a self-replicating program that produces its own code by attaching copies of itself into other executable codes whereas worms are malicious programs that replicate, execute, and spread across the network connections independently without human interaction  |
|------|---|
|      | Some viruses affect computers as soon as their code is executed; other viruses lie dormant until a pre determine logical circumstance is met  |
|      | Viruses are categorized according to file they infect and the way they work   |
|      | Lifecycle of virus and worms include designing, replication, launching, detection, incorporation and elimination stages   |
|      | Computer gets infected by Virus, worms and other malware due to not running the latest anti-virus application, not updating and not installing new versions of plug-ins, installing the pirated software, opening the infected e-mail attachments or downloading files without checking properly for the source |
|      | Several virus and worm development kits such as JPS Virus Maker are available in wild that can be used create malware without any technical knowledge   |
|      | Virus detection methods include system scanning, file integrity checking and monitoring OS requests   |
| 0    | Virus and worm countermeasures include installing anti-virus software and following anti-virus policy for safe computing  |
|      |   |
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# Quotes

I think computer viruses should count as life. I think it says something about human nature that the only form of life we have created so far is purely destructive. We've created life in our own image.

 Stephen Hawking, Theoretical Physicist and Cosmologist





