

Super Defence for Palm OS!

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Kaspersky Labs presents Kaspersky Palm Security, a full-scale defence for Palm OS

Cambridge, UK 16th April 2002 – Kaspersky Labs, an international data-security software developer, announces the release of Kaspersky (TM) Security for Palm OS, the world's first full-scale defence system for handheld and mobile devices operating on Palm OS.

At the moment, Palm OS is one of the most widespread platforms, with more than 16 million users around the world preferring this operating system. This system is utilised in Palm, Handspring Visor, Sony Clie, HandEra, Symbol, and Supra handheld and also in Kyocera and Samsung cell phones.

At the same time, Palm-devices are actively used for storing important confidential information of different types varying from personal address books to top-secret contracts/agreements and sensitive financial records. It is clear that this information is constantly subject to the risk of being destroyed or stolen in the case of loss or attack by malicious programs. Unfortunately, standard security measures available in the system by default do not correspond with contemporary defence needs for personal and corporate information, requiring perfecting. In order to remedy this problem, Kaspersky Labs has specifically developed a full-scale defence suite for Palm-device defence. The suite provides reliable control over third-party access to a protected device, averting possible information leakage (Kaspersky Security for Palm OS) and thwarting virus attacks (Kaspersky Anti-Virus for Palm OS).

Kaspersky Security for Palm OS is comprised of two functioning modules that are fully compatible with a Palm OS Security standard utility. The first module controls access to a device using a reliable password structure on the system level. The high effectiveness achieved via the use of the powerful cryptographic HASH function MD-5 is vastly superior in reliability than similar technology available in Palm-devices alone. For extra defence, a series of additional features have been integrated: password deletion from the system memory after loading; a user-defined automatic-blocking mode; a function for thwarting unauthorised access (also via a debugging mode); and a hidden password-entry mode. An optional Extra Security feature provides an increased protection against unauthorised access. By using this feature, data on a Palm-device is automatically destroyed following the third incorrect password-entry attempt.

The second module included in Kaspersky Security for Palm OS is for authorised access on the application level using encrypted data. In this way, any attempt at accessing information by bypassing a password is thwarted (for example, by hooking up a memory chip to another Palm-device). For extra defence, Kaspersky Security deciphers data only upon program start-up, after which, in real time, it enciphers data once again.

The data-protection function can be activated for either all or user-defined applications. Upon user request, XOR or RC 4 encryption algorithms can be chosen. The first delivers quick working speed, while the second increases data protection while slightly slowing down a Palm-device. RC 4 is currently one of

the most reliable encryption algorithms that has thus far displayed an inability to being hacked, making it widely used and de facto one of the information-protection standards.

In future Kaspersky Security for Palm OS versions, an embedded information enciphering extension card, the installation of specific passwords for each application, control over the use of the infrared port (IrDA), special features for centralised network control over Palm-device defence, an alternative means for password entry, and an expanding of the encryption algorithm card are planned for inclusion.

Kaspersky Anti-Virus for Palm OS delivers excellent defence for Palm-devices against malicious programs. The program features anti-virus filtration, including data-storage scanning (also extension card), and a virus interceptor for HotSync and Beam data-transmission technologies.

The current product version has an added perfected-scanning function for extension cards, increased program working speed thanks to the optimised technology scanning of objects, and an embedded module for automatic anti-virus database updates integrated into the Kaspersky Control Center.

“This unique defence system for Palm-devices—practically excluding the possibility of unwanted access to mobile phones or handheld devices—gives users a high level of data confidentiality and protection against malicious programs,” said Denis Zenkin, Head of Corporate Communications at Kaspersky Labs.

The suggested retail price for Kaspersky Security for Palm OS is US.95 (EUR 22,69).

From April 15th through June 15th all Internet purchasers of Kaspersky Security for Palm OS will receive free of charge Kaspersky Anti-Virus for Palm OS.

About Kaspersky Labs

Kaspersky Labs is a fast growing privately owned data-security software development company with offices in Moscow (Russia), Cambridge (United Kingdom) and Pleasanton (United States). Founded in 1997, the company concentrates its efforts on the development of world-leading data-security technologies and software. The company's flagship software product is Kaspersky Anti-Virus that provides comprehensive virus protection for a wide spectrum of customers from home users to enterprise-wide networks. Kaspersky Labs markets, distributes and supports its software and services in more than 50 countries worldwide.

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