

Eurovision Song Contest Shop Braces for Web Attacks

Submitted by: Media Link (Berkshire)

Thursday, 13 May 2004

Organisers of the 2004 Eurovision Song Contest Shop are bracing themselves for an onslaught of web-based attacks as the high profile event broadcasts to 100 millions viewers around the world this weekend. The international event, being hosted in Istanbul, will also be broadcast on the Internet. For the first time in its history all products including the CD and DVD with all competitors will be available worldwide through the Internet shop at www.eurovisionshop.tv, and with millions of visitors to the shop the organisers are taking no chances with security.

DataSmit and e92plus, computer security specialists in Holland where the web site is hosted, have installed advanced technology to block viruses and worms, and to prevent Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks that have become prevalent this year, taking down many high profile web sites. Organisers report that the technology has already intercepted over 4000 attacks, including all kind of Worms, Trojan horses, Buffer overflows, denial of services, http connect tunnels, and not to mention all the different port scans.

"The event has always attracted huge audiences on TV and this year it will also be broadcasted on the web, combined with the shop this is a very potent E-business opportunity," commented Frans Smit of DataSmit BV. "We are taking no risks with security and have installed technologies to ensure that attacks via the web and email servers do not take the site down. We are looking forward to a highly successful event and wish all the participants the best of luck for the finals."

Consultants from e92plus and DataSmit have installed SonicWall appliances to provide intrusion prevention and virus removal. A Virtual Private Network (VPN) facility is also included to allow for remote management of the appliances – another essential feature for the international effort.

UnityOne intrusion detection and prevention appliances from TippingPoint Technology have also been installed. The technology seven-layer packet inspection to cleanse Internet traffic and eradicate attacks before damage occurs. The appliances are installed between the Internet and the servers and do not require any network reconfiguration, making installation quick and easy.

Eurovision 2004

A record 36 countries are taking part in the Eurovision Song Contest this year. 2004 heralds a brand new format for the live contest: a Semi-Final on Wednesday 12 May and a Final on Saturday 15 May. The Semi-Final will comprise 22 countries. Ten of these will go on to the Final. The Final will comprise 24 countries: 10 qualifiers from the Semi-Final and 14 countries that have already secured their places in the final.

The 14 countries who already have a place in the final are: France, Germany, Spain and the UK (the contest's four largest countries the contest) and Turkey (the 2003 winner). They will also be joined by the nine top-scoring countries from the 2003 contest: Austria, Belgium, Iceland, Ireland, Norway,

Poland, Romania, Russia and Sweden.

Images of Eurovision 2004 are available at: <http://www.eurovision.tv/english/982.htm>

DataSmit BV

DataSmit B.V. is a Dutch company specialized in E-business development, hosting and data protection.

Customers range from Fortune 500 to small companies in Germany, Netherlands and Belgium.

The Eurovisionshop uses SmartStore E-business solution for the shop, SmartPay Internet payment and the SmartBanner partner program, all developed by DataSmit.

<http://www.DataSmit.nl>

e92plus is a specialist value-added distributor in all aspects of enterprise IT security, including; Firewalls, Antivirus, Encryption, Content Filtering, Bandwidth Management, VPNs, Fully Managed Security Solutions and Accredited Training. The company has distribution agreements with Barracuda Networks, eiQnetworks, Enterasys, FaceTime, NetSilica, ReefEdge, SonicWALL, Stonesoft, Trend Micro, TippingPoint and Vasco. The company has offices in UK, Ireland and The Netherlands.

www.e92plus.com

Contacts for further information:

Peter Linton

Media Link

+44 118 984 3386

peter@medialink.co.uk

Barry Mattacott

e92plus UK

0870 200 9292

barry.mattacott@e92plus.com

Frans Smit

DataSmit

+31 318489311

fsmit@datasmit.nl