

PORN WITH YOUR LATTE?

Submitted by: Lighthouse PR

Thursday, 1 June 2006

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Telindus' (<http://www.telindus.com>) investigation into wireless hotspot security shows just how easy it is to access illicit content

Odiham, UK – 1 June, 2006 – With over 100,000 Wi-Fi hotspots in the UK, it is relatively easy for the average laptop user to find a quiet place to get online. However, an investigation carried out by leading network solutions provider, Telindus, shows that many hotspots offer little or no protection from adult and illicit content.

Telindus' researchers visited a number of public hotspots across central London with one mission in mind – to access pornography and malicious web content. To its amazement, 80 per cent of hotspots visited allowed researchers to access adult content and all gave access to bomb-making sites.

“To say we were gob-smacked is an understatement,” said James Walker, mobility specialist at Telindus. “We were expecting to uncover a few surprises, but nothing in the league of what we found. You wouldn't expect café owners to leave porn mags on tables so how come they let us access adult content using their hotspots?”

Armed with a set list of 12 sites and search terms, researchers visited a number of retail outlets using different hotspot providers.

All but one site visited charged for Internet usage. The findings were shocking:

- All locations allowed users to search for the terms “massage parlour London”, “escorts London” and “anthrax source”
- 80 per cent of hot spots gave access to adult sites such as www.adultwork.co.uk
- Researchers were able to download adult images sent to hotmail and gmail accounts
- All hotspots returned sites showing users how to make bombs and where to buy Viagra
- All Internet Service Providers (ISPs) made provisions for acceptable usage policies (AUPs) in their terms and conditions, but only one actually blocked sites that researchers tried to access

“Retailers need to review their use of public hotspots immediately in the wake of these findings,” added Walker. “Although the ISP may publish an AUP, it is obvious that they are not doing anything to enforce them and it is the retailer who is ultimately legally responsible for what its patrons access over the web. We police Internet access at home and in the workplace, so why not in public areas? Imagine your child popping into a coffee shop or fast food chain with their laptop and being able to access adult content. Surely it shouldn't be allowed?”

To arrange a time to talk with James about this topic, please contact Lighthouse PR on 020 7494 6579.

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About Telindus (<http://www.telindus.com>)

The publicly listed Telindus Group (Euronext Brussels, ticker TEL) is a one-stop service partner, solution provider and manufacturer for fixed and mobile networks.

Telindus, the Integrator, has extensive expertise, encompassing consulting, integration and managed services, in all areas of modern telecommunications applications and technologies for local area networks (LAN), metropolitan area networks (MAN), wide area networks (WAN), virtual private networks (VPN), network access and security, surveillance and networked applications.

Telindus is a manufacturer of broadband access and video surveillance solutions. Combined with a large networking product portfolio from strategic suppliers and partners, Telindus is the best route to leading edge technology and best of breed products and services for both operators and enterprises.

Since its foundation in 1969, Telindus has made significant investments in establishing a solid footprint of networking and security expertise in Europe and beyond. With a full operational presence in as many as 15 countries across Europe and South East Asia and employing almost 2.300 people, Telindus provides customers with both business and technology focused solutions. Telindus' own products are distributed by an extensive network of agents across the globe.

Telindus has its corporate headquarters at Heverlee, close to the university city of Leuven, Belgium.

For more information on Telindus' networking solutions and services, please visit www.telindus.com.