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# The Corporate Spyware Problem

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# How Did Spyware Evolve?

- First there were sneaker-net attacks
  - Then virus attacks
  - Then the Internet and more virus attacks
  - Internet spawned a barrage of advertising
  - Online advertising techniques morphed into adware and spyware
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# What is Spyware?

- Adware?

- Usually installed on purpose
- Intents hidden by confusing EULAs
- Possibly steals information

- Spyware?

- Installed without user's knowledge
  - Usually steals information
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# How Does Spyware Get In?

- **Complacent end-users**
    - Security unaware
    - Open email attachments and visit web sites
      - Social engineering methods
    - Install software without reading EULAs
  - **Infected email attachments**
  - **Visiting bogus/infected web sites**
  - **Un-patched systems!!!**
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# Spyware Effects

- Computer performance
  - Network bandwidth
  - Regulatory compliance
  - Loss of productivity
  - Loss of sensitive data
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# How Do To Combat It

- Regular patching
  - Antivirus and anti-spyware tools
  - User education
  - More regular patching
  - Read the EULAs before installing software
    - If the EULA is 106 pages long, there must be something wrong!
  - Acceptable use policy
  - Oh yes – and regular patching!
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# Questions and Answers

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