# Monthly Anti-Spam Short Report



August 2010

## **IBM - IBM Lotus Protector for Mail Security**

Continuously ICSA Labs Certified Since:

Sep 2008

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Next Annual Test:	Ongoing

Was destined for a domain for which the device expects to receive e-mail; • Had RFC-compliant FROM and TO addresses.

Daily August 2010 Scores							Cumulative Aug 2010
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total Ham Sent = $71,507$
1 No results	2 Ham = 2194 Spam =20220 <b>EF</b> = 96.91% <b>FP</b> = 0	3 Ham = 2525 Spam =22360 <b>EF</b> = 96.32% <b>FP</b> = 0	4 Ham = 1748 Spam =15488 <b>EF</b> = 99.54% <b>FP</b> = 0	5 Ham = 2106 Spam =19095 <b>EF</b> = 98.25% <b>FP</b> = 0	6 Ham = 2537 Spam =22594 <b>EF</b> = 97.31% <b>FP</b> = 0	7 Ham = 2454 Spam =21331 <b>EF</b> = 98.72% <b>FP</b> = 0	Total Spam Sent = 641,144 Total Messages = 712,651 Total Ham Not Delivered 0 Total Spam Delivered 5,776 <b>Spam Effectiveness</b> <b>99.10%</b> <b>False Positives</b> <b>0.000%</b> <b>Characteristics of</b> <b>August Spam Test Set</b> • Totaled 12,100,725 e-mail; • Contained unique e-mail message bodies; • Was destined for a domain for which the device expects to receive e-mail;
8 Ham = 2044 Spam =18419 <b>EF</b> = 99.83% <b>FP</b> = 0	9 Ham = 2544 Spam =22993 <b>EF</b> = 98.94% <b>FP</b> = 0	10 Ham = 2488 Spam =21951 <b>EF</b> = 99.41% <b>FP</b> = 0	11 Ham = 2588 Spam =23243 <b>EF</b> = 99.36% <b>FP</b> = 0	12 Ham = 2422 Spam =21985 <b>EF</b> = 99.55% <b>FP</b> = 0	13 Ham = 2492 Spam =22482 <b>EF</b> = 99.68% <b>FP</b> = 0	14 Ham = 2477 Spam =22089 <b>EF</b> = 97.11% <b>FP</b> = 0	
15 Ham = 2417 Spam =21634 <b>EF</b> = 99.78% <b>FP</b> = 0	16 Ham = 2493 Spam =22563 <b>EF</b> = 99.67% <b>FP</b> = 0	17 Ham = 2565 Spam =22873 <b>EF</b> = 99.50% <b>FP</b> = 0	18 Ham = 2563 Spam =22334 <b>EF</b> = 99.69% <b>FP</b> = 0	19 Ham = 2506 Spam =22887 <b>EF</b> = 99.68% <b>FP</b> = 0	20 Ham = 2544 Spam =23395 <b>EF</b> = 99.76% <b>FP</b> = 0	21 Ham = 2573 Spam =23250 <b>EF</b> = 99.81% <b>FP</b> = 0	
22 Ham = 2063 Spam =18193 <b>EF</b> = 99.69% <b>FP</b> = 0	23 Ham = 2409 Spam =21698 <b>EF</b> = 99.59% <b>FP</b> = 0	24 Ham = 2352 Spam =21670 <b>EF</b> = 99.70% <b>FP</b> = 0	25 Ham = 2528 Spam =22594 <b>EF</b> = 99.56% <b>FP</b> = 0	26 Ham = 2409 Spam =21970 <b>EF</b> = 99.12% <b>FP</b> = 0	27 Ham = 2534 Spam =22124 <b>EF</b> = 99.69% <b>FP</b> = 0	28 Ham = 2252 Spam =19848 <b>EF</b> = 99.74% <b>FP</b> = 0	
29 Ham = 2132 Spam =18964 <b>EF</b> = 99.66% <b>FP</b> = 0	30 Ham = 2317 Spam = 21499 <b>EF</b> = 98.44% <b>FP</b> = 0	31 Ham = 2231 Spam = 19398 EF = 99.10% FP = 0					

### Temporary Spike in Relayed Spam

Because they are trivial to block, relayed spam messages don't get passed to antispam products under test. Even so, they do arrive at our spam traps. ICSA Labs typically observes about 500-1000 relayed messages each day. However, each day from August 11-13 there were over 275,000 relayed spam messages received at our spam traps.

### Increase in Duplicate Spam Messages

Similar to relayed spam messages, duplicate spam messages are also not used in ICSA Labs anti-spam testing. Only spam with unique e-mail message bodies are used in testing. This better measures the true effectiveness of the anti-spam product under test. On average each day there may be 30-50K duplicate messages sent. Beginning August 26th, ICSA Labs observed about a 400% daily increase in duplicate spam messages even as the total number of received spam messages remained relatively unchanged.

### Another Perspective on Spam Testing

ICSA Labs Sr. Technical Advisor David Koconis, principal architect and lead developer of the anti-spam test bed, will be speaking in September at the upcoming VB 2010 conference in Vancouver, BC, Canada. David will provide an in depth look at ICSA Labs' anti-spam testing program and our philosophy on how antispam products should be tested.