



Press release – Released for immediate publication

a-squared Free 4.0 removes the Conficker Worm free of charge!

The Conficker Worm has shocked PC security experts. Over nine million computers are supposed to be already infected. One million new computers are being added to this every day. The solution to the problem: The free program a-squared Free 4.0 checks whether Conficker is already present on the computer. In the worst case, the free program immediately removes the security risk.

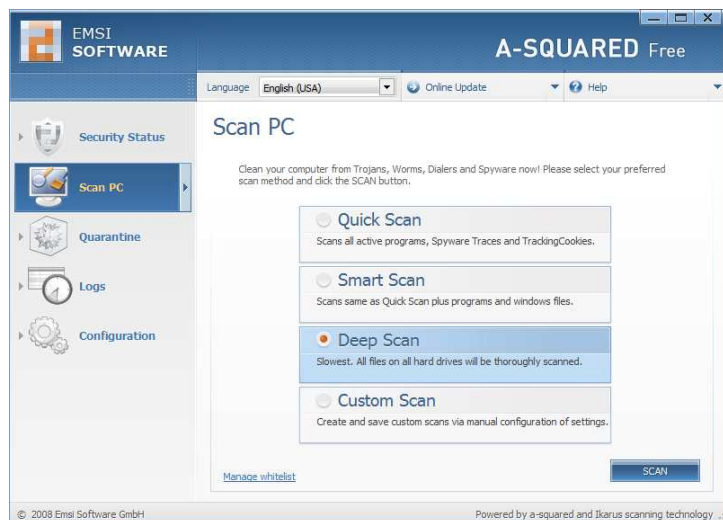
Salzburg, January 2009 - With a-squared Free 4.0, Emsi Software offers a free security solution for private users. In addition to their own Malware engine, this program uses another search engine from the virus experts Ikarus in parallel, thus offering double the level of security. This means that the program is currently capable of detecting and eliminating almost 2.6 million types of damaging software.

The latest computer news shows the importance of comprehensive protection for your computer. The Conficker Worm (also known as Downadup or Kido) is currently doing the rounds in the PC scene and is supposed to have already infected over nine million computers. The worm exploits a number of known security holes to gain access to computers. The concrete damage caused by Conficker is not currently known, but it is built in a modular fashion enabling it to subsequently load other programs from the Internet. This makes it capable of loading functions for mass attacks and sending Spam.

Christian Mairoll from Emsi Software says: "The worm spreads so quickly because it takes advantage of several weak spots at the same time. It uses a security hole relating to the Windows RCP service, which was already patched in November 2008, to send itself over the Internet. Once it has access to a network then it attempts to spread itself locally. To do this, a number of standard passwords are tested in an attempt to gain access to other computers in the LAN. It also copies itself via network shares and waits for a user to start, thus installing itself on the PC. In this way it is capable of penetrating and infecting networks that are well secured from outside attacks. An infected USB stick only needs to be briefly plugged into one computer in order to completely bypass all the external safety measures of a network (Firewall, Gateway, Scanner etc.) and infect the entire LAN."

a-squared Free 4.0: Locate and destroy the Conficker Worm

Online media sources already contain many step-by-step instructions on how to protect your computer. A much easier solution is to use the free software a-squared Free 4.0. It recognizes a Conficker infection in your system and can effectively eliminate it. These days this is certainly the most important issue for users who are shaken by the latest news.





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Christian Mairoll says: "Conficker is especially prevalent in company networks. Those who wish to avoid an infection in advance must install the Windows security update described in Microsoft Bulletin No. MS08-067. The automatic Windows update takes care of this, so systems that are not constantly updated have the greatest risk of infection. However, a patched system provides no protection from infection by USB stick. In this case we recommend our program a-squared Anti-Malware 4 that monitors the system via a background guard and immediately raises an alarm when Conficker is loaded into the system, by whatever means.

a-squared Free 4.0 (45 MB) is available free of charge for private users. The program runs under Windows XP, 2003/2008 Server and Vista. It no longer runs under Windows 98, ME and 2000. Its big brother a-squared Malware 4.0 costs €29.90 per year.

Emsi Software Homepage: <http://www.emsisoft.com/>

a-squared Free 4.0: <http://www.emsisoft.com/en/software/free/>

a-squared Anti-Malware 4.0: <http://www.emsisoft.com/en/software/antimalware/>

ABOUT EMSI SOFTWARE

Emsi Software is a private company based in Austria. The rapidly growing company is a leading European supplier of behavioral analysis technology for analysis of software, especially Malware.

The company was founded in 2003 by Christian Mairoll, realizing his vision of a virtual company: The 15 company employees are distributed all over the world but work together as if they are sitting together in a real office. The technical vision is implemented by Georg Wicherski, who enjoys a high level of respect in the security sector as a co-founder of the "Nepenthes" Honeypot project and the mwcollect Alliance (an amalgamation of Honeypot networks for automated trapping of malignant software from the Internet).

The Emsi Software product range comprises the security programs a-squared Anti-Malware, a-squared Free, a-squared HiJackFree, a-squared Anti-Dialer and, since the end of 2007, Mamutu.

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