

UK infrastructure under Trojan attack

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The UK's key computer systems are being targeted by Trojan software apparently originating from the Far East, according to the National Infrastructure Security Coordination Centre (NISCC).

Both the UK government and private companies are being targeted, and an NISCC bulletin lists 76 Trojan programs that have been detected. The organisation claims that the IP addresses on the emails often come from the Far East.

"Trojan capabilities suggest that the covert gathering and transmitting of otherwise privileged information is a principal goal," stated the bulletin.

"The attacks normally focus on individuals who have jobs working with commercially or economically sensitive data."

The bulletin also warned that firewalls and antivirus software do not protect against the Trojans as they can be modified by security code to avoid signature traces.

"We see more than a dozen new pieces of malware capable of stealing highly valuable and sensitive information every day," said Carole Theriault, security consultant at Sophos.

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