



## **THE MALWARE REPORT**

### *Learn How to Keep the Whole Family Safe Online*

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#### **The Malware Report Transcript**

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Matt Grant: Hi, this is Matt Grant, and you're listening to The Malware Report with Randy Abrams. Hi Randy, thanks for being here.

Randy Abrams: Hey Matt. It's great to be back.

Matt Grant: I wanted to spend sometime today talking about something that you mentioned on an earlier podcast; the website was [www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org). Could you tell me a little more about this particular site?

Randy Abrams: Okay. For one thing, when you go on the website, it re-directs you to [www.staysafeonline.info](http://www.staysafeonline.info), but that's fine. One of the questions I often get is "How can I learn more?" or "I don't even know what I need to learn." Stay Safe Online is an excellent website for people to learn what they need to know. When you go on the website, it has different sections for different types of users.

- Matt Grant: Interesting. Can you give us a breakdown of those sections?
- Randy Abrams: Sure. For the home users, there's a self-assessment quiz so you can see how you are secured. There's a section on protecting your computer, safe and secure practices, protecting yourself, protecting your children and how to report and handle problems. There's a section on K-12 with information for educators on what to teach in the classroom, lesson plans and materials, a baseline national study for K-12, poster and video contests and information for administrators and policy makers as well. There's another section for higher education. There's also a small business section too, which a lot of people are interested in as well. The small business sections include "How to Protect Your Business" and "How to Protect Your Customers," which is important and essential to protecting your business and "How to Protect Your Employees." Problems with security can drastically affect a business through their employees. The business can be put at risk by harboring illegal content such as pirated MP3s. Employees can be a victim of a phishing attack or some other type of targeted attack where they either divulge confidential information unwittingly or they are infected and have illegal material which could end up getting them fired through no real fault of their own. There's a section for tools and resources such as free security check ups and the top eight cybersecurity practices and so on.
- Matt Grant: You bring up an interesting point, that a lot of folks don't really know the questions to ask. It's hard if you don't know the questions to ask to receive an answer. Is this a good website for folks to initially visit if they are trying to learn more about how to stay safe online or if they might have particular questions?
- Randy Abrams: Absolutely. It's a great resource for these people. When you get to the home page, they have the top eight cybersecurity practices with each one having a link. The link has "Protecting Your Personal

Information” and if you go into “Protecting Your Personal Information” then it gets into the “Why” and to how identity theft can provide instant access to your financial accounts, credit record and other personal assets. There’s a link to [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) where you can learn what to do if your identity is stolen. If your identity is stolen, you’ll want to know the site right away in advance instead of panicking on what to do. There’s another link to knowing who you’re dealing with online and that goes into a whole section on who you deal with online. Use security software as your first line of defense, that’s where I take the issue with them. I say education is your first line of defense, but since you’re already here, you’re already doing that. Keep your web browsers and operating systems up to date, another section on that. One of my favorites – use strong passwords or stronger authentication technology. Backing up important files is a lifesaver; learn what to do when something is wrong. Yeah, go ahead.

Matt Grant: I’ve got to imagine a lot of the folks visiting that site are not computer savvy. It breaks down to some of the terms we discuss often here on the Malware report such as phishing or Trojans; those things that maybe laymen folks don’t understand. Does it break those down?

Randy Abrams: It definitely breaks those down. However, if a user goes there and there’s something they don’t understand, they can always email me at [askeset@eset.com](mailto:askeset@eset.com) for further explanation.

Matt Grant: Fantastic. Now what about the site itself; who is it operated by and where is the content coming from?

Randy Abrams: This is operated under the auspices of the National Cybersecurity Alliance, which is an organization several companies sponsor specifically to promote cybersecurity. You might guess Microsoft has a huge interest in cybersecurity for their own business and so they contribute a lot to this site along with several other companies. The site also has an “About Us” link; you can view a variety of the board

members, staff members and partners. I can't recommend it enough to people to get more education because it's the most important line of defense. It's like your security software is your seat belt – if you're a bad driver, you'll get creamed. Being educated is how you drive safely online.

Matt Grant: Absolutely, good analogy. It sounds like the folks behind the site definitely have the knowledge to give the information they are giving. Well Randy, I certainly appreciate you talking to us today about [www.staysafeonline.org](http://www.staysafeonline.org) or [www.staysafeonline.info](http://www.staysafeonline.info). If you have additional questions, you can ask Randy at [askeset@eset.com](mailto:askeset@eset.com). This has been Matt Grant and you're listening to the Malware report.

[End of recorded material]