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Digital Times is a "for eCommerce newsletter reporting on the development and/or availability of interactive products and services."  
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## Running Windows?

How NoT to handle a **crash** caused by viruses and worms

or, I ' m 2 1 , 0 0 0 e m a i l s b e h i n d !

**SPAM!~#%**

Dear readers = I didn't really mean to, but for September's edition of the newsletter I tested numerous worm, **VIRUS-killer and SPAM capture solutions**, as my computer crashed on Thursday, August 28. Three visits to the tech(s) and \$600 later, I can write about it.

**NOT Recommended: McAfee Virus Protection and Firewall.** This software was the final blow to my computer.

**Recommended: Norton AntiVirus 2004.** Upgrade \$49.95, Full Version, \$69.95.

**Recommended: Spamnix.** Free 30-day trial. For Eudora, Eudora Pro email client.

**Recommended: SpyHunter, \$29.99:** This is an amazingly small and efficient program by Enigma Software. The trial version will check your system and quickly scan the memory, boot records, registry and files for parasites. I ran it and it listed parasites in the memory, boot record, registry, and several cookies. The infection locations, point of origin and danger levels were listed. **There is a FREE 30-day trial, so get going!** I knew my computer had been taken over, as I was receiving several hundred spam emails a day from people in my own address book. At about that moment, I responded to a banner ad by McAfee, advertising their personal firewall and virus protection. Maybe it was coincidental, but shortly after paying the \$59.95 online, downloading and executing the McAfee software, my computer crashed. I unplugged my computer and the numerous peripherals attached to it, and took it to the computer shop, asking them to **uninstall McAfee and clean the files and operating system.**

There were a lot of affected computer(s) to fix, and I didn't get it back until Tuesday. After hooking everything up again, I ran SpyHunter. **SpyHunter found parasites in memory, boot record, registry and several files.** I ran PC-cillin, an anti-virus program the tech had installed on my system and it showed no infections or intrusions. I printed the SpyHunter list and PC-cillin list, unhooked the peripherals and sent the computer back with a friend, along with a note for them to uninstall PC-cillin. The tech(s) insisted they cleaned the system of viruses;. After hooking everything up again I discovered they had NOT uninstalled PC-cillin!

The next day, Thursday, I paid my \$29.95 online and registered **SpyHunter**. After all, critters in the Registry are NOT a good thing! My software incompatibility fears were realized as **I found the registered version of SpyHunter was in conflict with PC-cillin, which the tech(s) had NOT removed.** I tried to uninstall PC-cillin, to no avail. My system froze up with every uninstall attempt. Yep - I unhooked the peripherals and my boyfriend returned the computer for the third time - the tech removed PC-cillin. After work I hooked everything up, defragmented the hard drive(s), re-installed the full version of SpyHunter [a piece of cake this time] I scanned for viruses. Then I installed my newly purchased Norton Internet Security 2003 Personal Firewall, email scanner and anti-virus software, Version 9.05.15. **It perused my computer for "Internet enabled programs" and choked after finding 98!** Then, **the software faulted during the 'live update' of Symantec Redirector**, which apparently controls how email is received and redirected before and after scanning. At this point I knew I had about 9,000 email(s) to retrieve [it had been a week by now]! **My outgoing email was sent, but no-one was receiving it.** Seeking support, I went to the Symantec website and could I find NO OPTION to email anyone for support; I tried the 800 and 900 number pay-by-the minute or pay-by-the-incident support but no-one answered, as it was after 5:00 o'clock on a Friday night. Their website had a ton of 'technical white papers' for me to weed through. I tried that, then ran 'live update' several times. I still got the error message, so decided to **uninstall the faulty Norton Internet Security 2003.**

On Friday, in anticipation of downloading the 10,000+ emails by now and re-infecting my computer, I installed my OLD Symantec AntiVirus 2002, then upgraded to a purchased copy of Symantec AntiVirus 2004. **Next step was to find a SPAM KILLER.** Went to my favorite download site, TUCOWS and found **SpamNix** for my mail client, Eudora Pro. SpamNix starting working right away, sending about 75% of my SPAM to a special folder it created. I can look through all of the emails it assigned as SPAM and re-tag them as "good." Norton AntiVirus 2004 is working well and simultaneously, deleting viruses in email attachments and alerting me to emails that are suspicious. I wish it would simply delete the viruses and then create a report about it, but it doesn't. The alert message doesn't go away until I click "finished" - a real pain, as it prevents the downloading of the rest of

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### Digitally Cool

Digital Vinyl CD-R -

Create a groovy, "45-rpm record look" disc

with your InkJet Printer!  
By Verbatim.



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transparency adapter is included), or bulky items such as books and magazines. The window lets you see items as they are scanned.

Price: \$200 street  
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The information contained in Digital Times is a combination of original editorial content and information pulled from wire services, research and various online resources.

#### Not Recommended:

**PC-cillin.** Did NOT find all the parasites, worms and Trojan horses. Incompatible with other program(s). Apparently requires a technician to uninstall.

**Norton Internet Security 2003.** Complex program promising sophisticated protection. Faulty 'live update' feature and lack of needed technical support.

**Useful:** [Abacre I-Worm.Sobig Virus Remover 1.0](#)

I tried this. It goes to your ISP's mailbox and removes Sobig infected email before you download it to your computer. Free 2-day trial.

**For Outlook Users:** [JUNK MAIL KILLER by Motino](#).

09/20/03 Update:

A few days ago I had to have my entire inbox deleted as I had accumulated 22,000 unread messages and knew I could never catch up. Spamnix is catching about 99%, but receiving @ 1500 SPAM emails per day is making

it impossible. I am constantly tagging "new" SPAM to catch.

How are you handling this serious invasion? New variations of the viruses are coming...we will publish a story by one of YOU on your experiences and recommendations.

Send your story to: [editor@digitaltimes.com](mailto:editor@digitaltimes.com)

-editor

#### How It Works

Traditional keyboards can cause discomfort or pain. That's why the \*new orbiTouch Keyless Keyboard doesn't build on any of the traditional keyboard concepts. The orbiTouch's award-winning design offers an entirely new method of input.

#### \*New OrbiTouch ergonomic keyboard



#### A keyboard plus mouse

The orbiTouch creates a keystroke when you slide the two domes into one of their eight respective positions. You type the different characters by sliding the domes to create letters and numbers. The orbiTouch has an integrated mouse, so once you've mastered the layout, it's even easier to use than a traditional keyboard. Want to see for yourself? Check out the orbiTouch in action. To Purchase Online:

<http://www.keybowl.com/kb/index?page=buynow>

#### About the Manufacturer

Keybowl, Inc. started in 1994 with the mission of developing new technologies and products for the emerging ergonomic and disability keyboard markets. Keybowl Inc.'s guiding principles are to raise people's awareness of typing related ergonomics and to research, design, develop and bring to market computer input devices that incorporate the latest in advanced ergonomic design.