

Home page being redirected to www.incredifind.com

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.inetexplorer.ie6.browser/2004-02/0756.htm>

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Date: 02/02/04

Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2004 15:32:25 -0800

Here's the details of what I found and how I fixed the problem. I hope it helps.

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Problem:

Internet Explorer home page is reset to an undesired site (e.g. www.adfreesearch.com) every time after reboot.

Cause:

Executable file called winlogon resides in

C:\windows

and/or

C:\documents and settings\all users\start

menu\programs\startup

(or higher up this tree)

Description:

The file may be identified thru properties as approx 114K in size and was previously named rslocal.exe.

It is difficult to identify and eliminate because it masquerades as the Windows system program that resides in C:\Windows\system 32 and is needed to run Windows. The legitimate file is identified as a Microsoft product at version 5.x with a size of 504K in my XP and 177K in my 2000 system. Since both programs start at boot up they will be found in the processes running list in Task Manager and the pretender can't be shut down because Windows thinks it is the critical task with the same name.

Solution:

1)Rename the intruder (e.g. winlogonoff.exe) at all locations.

2)In XP, run the System Configuration Utility (msconfig) and deselect any lines relating to winlogon under Startup

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tab. Return to the General tab and select Normal Startup before closing with <OK>.

3)Restart the PC.

4)Delete all instances of the intruding file (winlogonoff).

5)Empty the recycle bin.

6)Set the Home Page as desired (Tools>Internet Options, General tab).

7)Restart the computer and check the system has been cleaned.

>-----Original Message-----

>I had some spyware on my computer and I have been able to

>clean everything but this problem: My home page is set to

>MSN.com but when I open a browser, it is trying to open

>www.incredifind.com and no matter what URL I insert, it

>still defaults to this address. I have no idea how to

>correct this problem. Can anyone give me a heads up?

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>I would greatly appreciate it!!!

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>Thanks in advance.

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