

Re: toolbar addon and provider spying

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Hi Viktor,

This is amazing. Yes, I know quite a lot of people don't even read the license agreement or the privacy policy...

1 The first and foremost intention of the Google Toolbar was to bind customers to Google and to collect usage data "to improve the quality of Toolbar and other Google services", i.e. to log every Web page the user visits.

It seems normal to me that the toolbar is used to bind customers. It's a nice toolbar and it's a nice search engine. No problem there.

As for logging all pages one visits: this is spying.

* The Google Toolbar contacts our servers periodically to obtain automatic updates to the latest version, or as part of the uninstall process.

No problem with that. It's a way to make sure software is up to date.

5 Usage data is precious so it is worthwhile to give the Google Toolbar away for free. Google even pays 1 US \$ to Web publishers for every referred download of Firefox with the Google Toolbar installed. See also <http://explorerdestroyer.com/>
I consider such commercial campaigns funded by Google to be unfair.

I have a serious problem with this kind of nearly religious warfare against IE. I can imagine that someone prefers IE (I do) and someone else FF or a different browser. No problem with that. If a software doesn't suit your needs or expectations, don't use it. But this kind of considerations has nothing to do with quality of software.

Re: toolbar addon and provider spying

Kind regards

Hans

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