

Re: Newsgroups: MS should WARN us FIRST not to use real email addresses here!!

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- *From:* "Dan" <smooth@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 16 Dec 2006 22:26:14 -0500
-

Ya, i thought the same of your responses.
so long

"Dudley Henriques" <dhenriques@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:OLOE4mYIHHA.2456@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Never mind Dan. It's not nearly important enough to warrant the responses
you're making.
Best to you and so long.
Dudley Henriques

"Dan" <smooth@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:eLZEOcYIHHA.1124@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

So let's see here: I purchase and use a product from Microsoft, and it is
NOT their responsibility to provide me with proper instructions on how to
use it??! And as it is their product (OE) that I used to set up a
newsgroup account on worse yet, THEIR network! (msnews,microsoft.com)
yet
you still contend they had no responsibility to provide PROPER
instructions through the help files??! Even though it is their setup
protocol written into the program? I have no control over how they write
their programs, so I have no control over how they have arranged the
setup protocol, which tricks users into entering their email address,
which I'm sure you must agree is totally unnecessary to participate here.

And who exactly is responsible to advise me in setting up my newsgroup
account on THEIR program, on THEIR network????????? Am I supposed to
be
born with that knowledge?? I simply followed the instructions included in
the program. THEY (MS) omitted the fact I should enter a false address to
avoid it going public. You wrote, "it is your opinion that Microsoft
should supply this" well, its THEIR program, on THEIR network, so who
exactly do you propose should supply this?????????????????????
You didn't point me in the direction of where I was supposed to find this
supposedly so common knowledge of SAFELY setting up a newsgroup
account

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when doing so, so I must assume that it is your opinion that everyone must be born with this great knowledge as you were, I guess.

NOTHING changes the fact that the setup protocol in THEIR program should not even ask for the user to enter an email address if it is not necessary for participation here!! Let alone for them to make it public without EXPLICIT warning FIRST, AND WITHOUT EXPLICIT PERMISSION!!

From the research I have done since, it seems that these newsgroups are responsible for a HUGE percentage of the spam, viruses, trojans and worms out there, due to this practice of tricking users into entering an unnecessary email address instead of a simple user name. If MS was serious about wanting to stamp out these threats, they would make the necessary changes. It does seem they want to get big in the security software industry now, doesn't it!?

This IS my opinion, though that does not exclude it from also being fact, which it may be. I would certainly welcome your challenge to change this opinion by providing me provable facts, such as how exactly I should have known in advance that the instructions in OE were not complete. Is it your contention that the computer manufacturer should have put a great big sticker on the computer warning NOT to enter an email address when signing up for newsgroups because it isn't necessary anyway??? If you are here to be useful, then tell me where I missed this information which you seem to believe is so obvious. If I was not tricked, and indeed I somehow missed the warning, or misread the instructions, please, show me where, and I will humbly apologize to you!

Otherwise, the reason for my post here was to be helpful to others, so they can avoid the same pitfalls.

D.

"Dudley Henriques" <dhenriques@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:OI7Iz7XIHHA.1124@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Sorry, but nothing in your "War and Peace" post here changes the fact that it's not Microsoft's responsibility to advise you how to set up your newsgroup account. Everything in what you have written suggests that it is your opinion that Microsoft should supply this and that is fine. It's an opinion. If that's the way you see it, you are certainly entitled to that opinion and I will be the last person to try and change it. I learned a long time ago that people who write "opinions" as long

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as yours seldom really want those opinions challenged or changed.
The very best to you, and I sincerely hope you don't get all that much
Spam from the robots. If it's any consolation, the filters are much
better now than they used to be. You should be ok I think.
Take care,
Dudley Henriques

"Dan" <smooth@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:OmcOZaXIHHA.2232@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

With all due respect to you Dudley, if any is even warranted in this case:

I do not believe for one minute that I am blaming the wrong people at all. I attempted to solve my problems thru my computer manufacturer and Microsoft without any success... Their answers: "I don't know"

I searched the internet, found a suggestion to try getting advice on these newsgroups. Excellent suggestion, Mr. Hagen was able to provide a solution to one main problem, and I was able to deduce thru reading here, that the other problems were not due to OE, but rather other problems in the system 'spilling over'

While you may know that there is no reason a real email address should have to appear (and perhaps you knew this since you were born thru divine revelation), you'll have to excuse me if my mind reading capabilities were a bit off the day I set up OE for these

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newsgroups. Of course I am being
sarcastic to make a point here. I do
'understand' what you have
written, so
please take a moment to think thru what I am
about to say.

First, as a newer user 9 months ago, I was
doing everything I could to
'research and educate' myself, in order to use
my system safely. While
setting up to receive these newsgroups thru
OE, the setup asked me to
enter
my email address. Someone who has never
used these newsgroups before
would
not know in advance that entering a false
email address would still
allow
interaction. Indeed, most other sites on the
internet would deny you
access
until they confirm you email address, and
these same sites do not make
your
email public, hence the use of usernames.

While setting up and using the 'help' files
and instructions, not once
did
it indicate that a REAL email address could
or should be substituted in
order to thwart this KNOWN PROBLEM!!!!
As it is a KNOWN PROBLEM, one
should
expect the necessary information to be
contained in the help and
instruction
files. And by reading the help files and
instructions I believe I have,
in
your words, "taken the trouble before
posting to take the necessary
steps to
insure it doesn't appear on a forum." and "to
take the time to learn
what
has to be
learned before arriving on Usenet."

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As these newsgroups came as a function of the OE software, I believe it should be incumbent on the manufacturer to provide the necessary information to protect our systems and security, which they did NOT! Had they included this information about this KNOWN problem while I was "taking the time to learn what has to be learned", I could have avoided this trouble. The option to enter a false address was never presented to me. That IS NEGLIGENCE. A simple warning about this KNOWN issue during setup would be SIMPLE for MS to provide, unless of course they want this behaviour to continue, so they can of course sell us additional software to thwart the spammers! Hmmm!

And, do you believe for one moment that it is absolutely necessary for these newsgroups to have to show the text of the email address used during setup? As I am looking at yours as I type, I will use it as an example, "From: "Dudley Henriques" <dhenriques@xxxxxxxxxxx>" Not for one moment do I believe that is necessary for these groups to function properly. I repeat, this is a KNOWN ISSUE. A simple update to the software these groups run on could replace these email addresses with user names for safer computing. It really should be a simple fix. AND I bet I'm not nearly the only one who has experienced this. REALLY, what is the use of having a false email

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address
here?? "dhenriques@xxxxxxxxxxx" goes no
where, right?! So what is the
purpose of it even having to be there???
Wouldn't a simple username
after
the 'From' be enough here?!!

Knowing this problem exists and NOT
fixing it on MS's part IS
negligence.
They release patches for nearly every other
security problem that is
found,
so why ignore this simple solution to thwart
the badguys?! Then its
not a
problem anymore. I do blame MS here (I
don't know of or use any other
company's newsgroups, but I would expect
the same of them). If they do
not
want to provide a warning in the setup
process, instructions or help
files,
then there should be NO REASON to even
ask for an email address during
setup, since a valid address is obviously not
necessary for this
application
to function, and therefore the necessity of
having to enter an email
address
at all (real or false) is misleading to the user,
and ONLY serves to
assist
the spammers in their quest!

As you felt the need to express your opinion
here under this thread, I
hope
my response will give you pause to consider
the logic of my arguments
above.
If I am wrong about the set up instructions in
OE, please tell me where
I
may find the message that I may input a real
or false email address
when I
am asked to enter this during set up, and I

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will gladly apologize for
my
ignorance. Otherwise, I will continue to
believe that the fact an email
address is even asked for during setup
instead of a username only, IS
indeed
an unnecessary hole in the security of the
software that should be
patched,
especially since the address serves ZERO
useful function. And I will
still
contend that despite my attempt at due
diligence, the lack of a warning
or
proper instructions or notification to this
KNOWN problem IS what has
caused
this problem. I guess if I had been gifted
with ESP, I may have felt
the
need to surf the net for 30 hours until I came
across something that
warned
that newsgroups ask you on setup to input an
unnecessary email address
that
may or may not be real. Shame on me for
thinking that the software that
came
with my computer from a well known
company like MS would include any
necessary instructions in its help files to
prevent me from operating
the
software in an unsecure way, let alone to be
mislead into entering an
email
address that is not even necessary.

But since it seems that you do possess these
psychic abilities, could
you
please provide me with the winning numbers
for this Wednesdays Ontario
Lotto
6/49 Draw?? That way I never have to
bother you again as I will just
hire
someone to find the solutions I need. Maybe

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I can find and afford a
psychic
for that position!!

But seriously, I do hope my explanation here
will give you cause to
rethink
your previous position, and consider that
most of the people who come
here
looking for answers, do so because of
inexperience, and are also being
mislead into opening a hole in their own
security. And perhaps the MS
MVP's
who read this may see the logic as well, and
report back to MS that
this
really should be fixed to improve security
for everyone. I've spent
hours a
day for the last 9 months surfing the net at a
myriad of sites, signed
up to
many of them and provided the 'necessary'
or 'requested' sign-up
information, but I can confidently say that
every single piece of spam
I am
bombarded with daily has originated from
my sign up HERE as my 5 other
email
addresses have never received a single piece
of spam over the same
time. I
simply believe this is a big enough problem
that people should have the
right to be informed directly by the software
maker or network owner,
or the
request for and use of an email address (real
or false, and both
unnecessary) during setup of the newsgroups
be stopped.

As I see that your email address is not real, I
must assume that you do
not
like spam either.

It also doesn't take very long to just check

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any number of the posts
here from people just looking for help, to see
that they have also made
the same mistake of using their real email
address. I'm sure they were
tricked into entering it the same as me, and
they will learn the same
lessons the hard way. All because in their
search for good help, the
"vehicle didn't have a seatbelt WARNING,
so to speak". Go ahead check
the posts. Do you think all these people just
should have had this
inherent knowledge of how this all works?!
They have been tricked, same
as me, and some don't even know it yet!!

A Christmas Wish for safer networks for all
of us,
D.

"Dudley Henriques"
<dhenriques@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
message
news:etb5CVVIHHA.960@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I think you might be
blaming the wrong people
here. I respectfully
suggest that you consider
doing some boning up on
Usenet before blaming
Microsoft for something that
is not their fault.
There is absolutely no
reason why your real email
address should have
to appear on a newsgroup if
you don't want it to appear
and more
importantly in this case,
have taken the trouble
before posting to
take the necessary steps to
insure it doesn't appear on a
forum.
The use of actual email
addresses on Usenet is now
and has always been
an option of individual

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choice. There is absolutely no reason for Microsoft to suggest to anyone how they should set up their Usenet account. That option is up to YOU and no one else. It is incumbent on YOU , NOT Microsoft or anyone else for that matter, to take the time to learn what has to be learned before arriving on Usenet.

Microsoft is not in the Usenet business. How you set up OE to handle newsgroups is entirely your choice and your personal responsibility.

Don't blame Microsoft for your own lack of understanding. I respectfully suggest that you do your homework concerning Usenet.

There are ample sources available from which to obtain this knowledge.

If you intend using Usenet, by all means, learn how to protect yourself.

When it comes to being on line, don't wait to get nailed, then blame

Microsoft for your troubles. Believe me, Microsoft gets blamed for enough already without you blaming them for things over which they have no control.

:~))

Not meant to be a flame here....just some "friendly" advice

:~))))))))))

Dudley Henriques

"Dan"

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<smooth@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in message
news:OokpDZUIHHA.536@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

This is not a
request for
assistance,
but rather a
warning for
newer
users here,
to hopefully
prevent you
from the
same
frustrations
I
have
experienced
as a result
of using this
forum.

Let me say
that I have
found this
forum
EXTREMELY
helpful for
solving
problems.
Bruce
Hagen, if he
is still
around, did
an excellent
job
assisting
me. He also
alerted me
to the fact
that my real
email
address was
available to
all on this
forum,
BECAUSE
MICROSOFT
FAILS
TO WARN

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&
INSTRUCT
USERS
WHEN
SETTING
UP
OUTLOOK
EXPRESS
TO USE
THESE
NEWSGROUPS,
that you
should
NOT, I
repeat NOT,
NOT, NOT
enter your
real email
address!!!!!!!!!!

When I set
this up, it
required me
to enter an
email
address in
order
to post here.
Nothing
warned me
that my
REAL
address
would be
easily
accessible
to all here,
NOR did
instruct me
that I could
enter a
false
address to
thwart the
spammers
when
entering the
REQUIRED
email
address
during

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sign-up!!!!

Had
Microsoft
offered this
very simple
instruction
in the
beginning,
I am
absolutely
convinced
that I would
have
NEVER,
EVER,
received
ANY
SPAM!!!!
This is on
their
network
afterall, and
their
NEGLIGENCE
to
provide this
security
information
has caused
me a great
deal of
headache,
that now
seems will
NEVER go
away,
making me
wish I had
never, ever
used this
newsgroup
in the first
place!!!

Thank you
to Bruce
Hagen for
recognizing
and
informing

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me about
this
dangerous
security
breach. It
would have
been better
if Microsoft
were
RESPONSIBLE
enough to
have given
this
information
in the
newsgroup
setup
instructions
and
process!!!!

The
RESULT of
this
NEGLIGENCE
on
Microsoft's
part is that
after just
a few
postings
before
Bruce's alert
to me, I am
now
bombarded
on this
email
account
daily for the
last 9
MONTHS
by
spammers,
and ONLY
on
this
account. I
have
NEVER
received

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spam on
ANY
OTHER
email
account I
have. Many
of these
spams have
been
VIRUSES
&
WORMS!!!!
And luckily
my
Anti-Virus
scanners
have been
able to
remove
them.
Although I
immediately
followed
Bruce's
intructions
to change
the email
address
displayed, it
was too
late, and I
don't think
there is
anyway for
me
to remove
the previous
postings
with the real
email
address. So
Microsoft
has left me
with breach
in security
which it
seems I can
NEVER fix,
unless I
CANCEL
this email

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account.
That is
really
SAD!!!
and worse
yet, it was
TOTALLY
UNNECESSARY!!!

If Microsoft
were
honestly
SERIOUS
about
network
security,
they would
alert ALL
people to
this security
breach
before
allowing
them to use
these
newsgroups!!

I don't even
want to
imagine
how much
worse this
would be if
Bruce
had not
alerted me
to this issue
at all, but I
hope this
message
will
possibly
assist others
in avoiding
the
headaches I
have had.

And Thanks
A Lot
Microsoft...

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I thought
your
mission was
to provide
solutions to
the masses,
not to cause
extra
problems...
but what do
I
know
anyway.

Best of
Luck to All,
Sincerely,
D.