

4 August 2006

By: Marius Oiaga, Technology News Editor



Vista's Security Anatomy Dissection at Black Hat

The latest OS from Microsoft has the largest commercial penetration testing in history

No less than 3,000 experts will analyze Windows Vista's security anatomy at the Black Hat conference in Las Vegas. Beta variants of Microsoft's latest operating system will be sacrificed for dissection as Microsoft aims at identifying and repairing all the potential holes in the system prior to its official launching. Reports have already surfaced of Vista's network and user related vulnerabilities after an examination from Symantec, but Microsoft is looking to welcome further disclosures of missing pieces in its system's security puzzle in order to bulletproof Vista. Microsoft representatives present at the conference gave a detailed presentation of how the company's development strategy was overhauled in order to center on security aspects. Built around a backbone of security, the operating system's technical facets were presented in the course of a whole day to an audience of so called white-hackers. The discussions revolved around security engineering, the programs fundamental and kernel administration, networking technology, Wi-Fi, heap management enhancements and the integration of Internet Explorer 7 in Vista. "This is the largest commercial penetration test in history," claimed John Lambert, Microsoft group manager, addressing the amplitude of Vista's testing campaign. He also stated that the latest operating system is immune to the vulnerabilities that have affected its prior versions. The Redmond Company emphasized that it welcomes all the feedback related to Vista it can get.