

Virus Bulletin Uses Abusix Threat Intelligence for Testing Security Products

Industry

- Security Vendor

Background

- Virus Bulletin is a security information portal, testing and certification body with a formidable reputation for providing users with independent intelligence about the latest developments in the global threat landscape.
- A little known fact is that Virus Bulletin receives real-time spam corpuses for their testing from Abusix's Threat Intelligence.

Situation

- Through their VBSpam test, a comparative test for spam filters, the performance of the world's leading spam-filtering technologies are tested in real time against live feeds of current spam, malicious emails, newsletters and legitimate emails.
- To get accurate test results of product performance in the ever changing threat landscape, Virus Bulletin needed a service that would provide a false-positive free, real-time corpus of spam messages.

Partnership

- Virus Bulletin partnered with Abusix to obtain data from Abusix's spam feeds to test the effectiveness of various internet security products.
- The spam feeds come from Abusix's Threat Intelligence, where 12+ billion threat indicators are processed every day and in real-time.
- The feed is 100% pure spam, false positive free, allowing Virus Bulletin to use the data with confidence in their testing.

Results

- Using Abusix's diverse spam streams, Virus Bulletin can test the efficacy of a vendor's internet security product against many types of spam, providing greater accuracy to its test results.
- Through Abusix and Virus Bulletin partnership and collaborative efforts, anti-spam and antivirus product vendors are able to rely on and trust the reports and the VBSpam certificate they receive.

The Customer

Virus Bulletin is a security information portal, testing and certification body with a formidable reputation for providing users with independent intelligence about the latest developments in the global threat landscape. Since 1989, Virus Bulletin has provided an online platform where a community of researchers and security experts publish articles containing information on cyber security in order to share their expertise and contribute to making the web a more secure place. Furthermore, the Bulletin presents information from experts about the latest cyber threats and techniques that organizations can use to defend against cyber-crime.

Beginning in the late 1990s, the firm added testing of the latest cyber threats to its repertoire which, in turn, provided actionable intelligence for Virus Bulletin's readers. In the process they realized that there was an even higher demand in the market for testing of vendors' security products. The rest is history. Today, Virus Bulletin's security software testing and certification services have become their main point of focus, and what they are most well-known for.

The Situation

Virus Bulletin's VBSpam certification is a world-leading test of enterprise email security solutions, putting the leading solutions on the market to the test against the latest waves of spam and malicious email campaigns.

Through their VBSpam test, a comparative test for spam filters, the vendor security products are tested in real time against live feeds of current spam, malicious emails, newsletters and legitimate emails to determine which of these are catching the spam and which are able to accurately identify legitimate emails.

To get accurate test results of product performance in the ever changing threat landscape, Virus Bulletin needed a service that would provide a real-time corpus of spam messages – a feed that is specifically designed for tuning and testing anti-spam filters.



The Partnership

Virus Bulletin partnered with Abusix to obtain data from Abusix's spam feeds to test the effectiveness of various internet security products. The feed is 100% pure spam, false positive free, allowing Virus Bulletin to use the data with confidence in their testing.

The spam feeds come from Abusix's Threat Intelligence, where 12+ billion threat indicators are processed every day and in real time. The spam streams are useful to Virus Bulletin not only because the amount of data is huge but the type of spam is also diverse.

Here's how the Virus Bulletin and Abusix partnership works:

1. Abusix sends its black spam feed to Virus Bulletin.
2. Virus Bulletin uses the data to test against and evaluate anti-spam and antivirus products.
3. The anti-spam and anti-virus vendors use the results to improve their products.

Together, Virus Bulletin and Abusix are **making email a better and safer place for everyone.**



The Results

There are many different kinds of spam and it can vary greatly for different organizations. Abusix's diverse spam streams mean that Virus Bulletin can test the efficacy of a vendor's internet security product against many types of spam, providing greater accuracy to its test results.

Because of the collaboration between Abusix and Virus Bulletin, anti-spam and antivirus product vendors are able to rely on and trust the reports and the VBSpam certificate they receive.

"What I like about Abusix, they are people who truly care about security. They're not there to just sell a product or service...They really want to make the world a more secure place, something I appreciate and enjoy."

- Martijn Grooten, Editor at Virus Bulletin