




Brian Gongol's Security Update




Weekly Checklist for June 17, 2006

See www.gongol.com for updates throughout the week



Urgent This Week:

-  Remind yourself and your family to be vigilant about not responding to spam. A thousand people gave away their bank account numbers and passwords because they responded to an e-mail hoax claiming that their bank was on the verge of collapse. The e-mail had a keystroke logger attached, so when they went to the bank's website to check on their accounts, the crooks got their account numbers and passwords. Don't respond to spam and make sure your friends and family know not to respond, either.
 -  Get the Microsoft Update from this past week if you haven't already. It included about a dozen updates, including several that were labeled "critical." Go to <http://www.microsoft.com> to get the update.
 -  Firefox users who haven't upgraded yet to the latest release (version 1.5.0.4) should go to <http://www.mozilla.com> and get the update.
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Important to Do Every Week:

-  Run a backup of your important computer files and store it in a safe location.
 -  Update your anti-spyware software and run it. If you need free anti-spyware software, visit <http://www.safer-networking.org/en/spybotsd/> and download Spybot Search and Destroy.
 -  Update your anti-virus software and run it. If you need free anti-virus software, visit <http://free.grisoft.com> and download AVG Anti-Virus.
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Other Recommended Security Measures:

-  Set up a limited-access user account on your computer and use it for most purposes. See <http://www.gongol.com/howto/createalternateadmin/> for complete instructions.
 -  Use Firefox, Opera, Safari, or another web browser. See <http://www.gongol.com/howto/getanewbrowser/> for complete instructions.
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Other Helpful Links:

-  Listen to the WHO Radio Wise Guys Saturdays from 12:00 – 2:00 Central via streaming audio at <http://www.whoradio.com/> or on 1040 AM.
-  Get a professional website for under \$500 at <http://www.northernrepublic.com/>