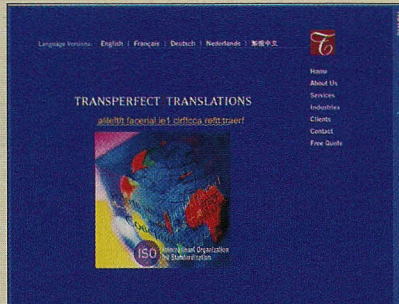


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NEW TRANSLATIONS

TransPerfect Translations announced the creation of a document management division. The translation company now will provide full-service copy, imaging and



printing support, along with its translation solutions, which include multilingual optical character recognition capability. Visit the Web site for a free quote. TransPerfect also announced it will make its translation services available for free to attorneys working on *pro bono* cases.

TransPerfect Translations
info@transperfect.com
www.transperfect.com

ENTERING A NEW MARKET

Northrop Grumman Corp.'s Information Technology sector introduced its electronic discovery solution to the commercial marketplace. Previously available only to defense and intelligence communities, the solution now can help law firms code all electronic documents in an outstanding lawsuit. Coding classifies documents for review in both native formats and OCR text. Pricing varies according to need.

Northrop Grumman Corp.
(800) 713-4000
www.northropgrumman.com

OFFICE PRO

Giardina & Associates introduced Office Tools Pro 2004 for legal professionals. New additions include a utility program, enhanced scheduling modules, an electronic filing cabinet and a remote time entry module. Office Tools Pro starts at \$299 per user and is free for the first 90 days.

Giardina & Associates
(888) 667-8440
www.officetoolspro.com

— Compiled by Kathryn Feather

Four Unite Against Spam

Microsoft, Yahoo, EarthLink and America Online file lawsuits against spammers.

By Jamie Ann Tyo

With new technologies come new problems. Nothing illustrates this better than the ubiquitous, never-ending slew of spam clogging Inboxes throughout cyberspace. In the past year, the spam problem became so prevalent a U.S. federal law was passed to restrict the flow of unsolicited e-mail (see "Act Against Spam," February/March 2004 *LAW OFFICE COMPUTING*). Critics of Can-Spam call it ineffectual, but several upcoming lawsuits might create some much-needed backbone for the law.

In March, EarthLink, Microsoft Corp., Yahoo and America Online announced a coordinated effort to fight spammers, filing six lawsuits that name some of the largest spam operations as defendants, according to the companies' attorneys.

"The reason for doing so is simple: Spam has become an industry-wide problem affecting all of us together in the same way, and therefore we firmly

"Microsoft wants to make money by sending spam and by receiving it. Yahoo appears late to the party for some reason and has not even figured out yet who it wants to serve with the summons," said Timothy Walton, a California attorney specializing in Internet and spam disputes. "I think the suits are meant to advance the ends of these ISPs, but are not really going to put a dent in spam."

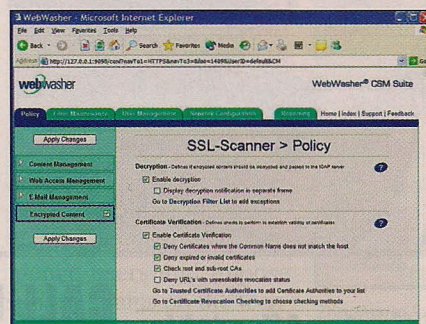
As the lawsuits progress, many of the spam-afflicted will be waiting to see if there is less unsolicited e-mail popping up in their Inboxes. According to a survey by the Pew Internet & American Life Project, passing the Can-Spam Act itself did little or nothing to decrease spam. The survey found 19 percent of respondents with work-related e-mail accounts noticed more spam since the act passed, while 53 percent noticed no change.

"The recent legislations provide guidelines but come with no actual enforcement," said Frances Shlosstein, vice president of business development for Webwasher, an anti-spam product. "We don't believe it will inhibit, in the near future, the growing volume of spam."

Walton said he thinks some regulation could help slow spam, but the Can-Spam legislation, which requires opt-out options for spam recipients, falls short. "My preference would be a federal law that provides for real regulation, including a private right of action on the part of the recipient — the only potential plaintiff that can really stave off a claim of consent," he said.

In the meantime, rather than waiting for ISPs or the federal government to tackle the problem, most computer users take up the battle themselves.

"We recommend an integrated filtering solution that includes spam and e-mail filtering to address the annoyance and bandwidth problems caused by spam," Shlosstein said. "We also recommend coupling this with antivirus and [Secure Socket Layer] filtering to provide the security protection against viruses, blended threats and spyware." **LOG**



Webwasher provides a spam filtering solution.

believe it requires commensurate, industry-wide solutions. And the new federal Can-Spam law truly enhances this level of cooperation," said Randy Boe, executive vice president and general counsel at America Online, in a March 10 speech announcing the suits. "We are fulfilling a commitment and completing a mission on behalf of our members and customers, our industry colleagues, the lawmakers in Congress who gave us this new law and each other."

However, as lofty as the ISPs' intentions sound, some industry experts are not convinced they are working solely on behalf of the consumer.