



# The Krypton Edge

February / March 2007

Volume 1, Number 3



## Welcome!

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*"Anything you're good at  
contributes to happiness."  
- Bertrand Russell*

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### IMPORTANT DATES:

**Feb. 11** - 49th Annual  
Grammy Awards  
**Feb. 14** - Valentine's Day  
**Feb. 18** - Chinese New Year  
- The Year of the Pig begins!  
**Feb. 25** - 79th Annual  
Academy Awards  
**Mar. 3-4** - Total Lunar  
Eclipse  
**Mar. 11** - Daylight Savings  
Time starts early this year!  
**Mar. 17** - St. Patrick's Day  
**Mar. 19** - Partial Solar  
Eclipse

**It's tax season!** Don't forget that ALL TAX-RELATED MATERIALS should be treated as EXTREMELY SENSITIVE. They often contain the combination of your name and social security number, which is the #1 target of identity thieves.

Always keep an eye on your documents! Don't leave them out of your sight or hand them to anyone besides your certified tax professional (if he or she uses a receptionist or lets you mail or drop off documents, use security envelopes to protect your information). When you're finished and have securely filed your copies, make sure you shred (with a cross-cut shredder) any extra copies that are left over.

You can visit the [Identity Theft Resource Center](#) for more information and tips on how to keep your data safe.

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## News

**NEW! Now you can get a FREE Privacy Policy for your business, PLUS** a free seminar for all of your employees (at your convenience) about the dangers of Identity Theft and how to protect themselves. Not a bad deal for free!

For a limited time, Krypton is able to offer these professional seminars, at the conclusion of which you'll be given a Privacy Policy for your business that meets all the necessary regulatory standards, and which you can freely modify and tailor to your specific needs. Any business of any size can take advantage of this offer, no strings attached. So call us today!

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## Security Tip of the

# Month

## Six Ways to Fend Off Spam

It's easiest to stop any problem before it starts -- and "Spam", or unwanted email advertisements, are no exception! Here are six ways to prevent spammers from getting the e-mail address you want to keep spam-free.

1. Consider "masking" your e-mail address. Whenever you write it, especially online in forms or postings on websites, translate it into a form that a human could read, but a robot looking for email addresses would miss. For instance, "[johndoe@myisp.com](mailto:johndoe@myisp.com)" could be masked as "[johndoe@removethispart.myisp.com](mailto:johndoe@removethispart.myisp.com)" or "johndoe-at-myisp-dot-com".

2. If you don't want spam in an email inbox, try to keep that email private -- don't let it "get out" on the Internet! Good ways to do this are:

\* Use a separate screen name (not your email address) for online chatting / posting / blogging / etc.

\* Consider creating "disposable e-mail addresses" for public postings in newsgroups or on Web sites, or for online purchases. There's a website at <http://www.spamgourmet.com> that allows you to create disposable addresses on-the-fly that it will forward to your real address for only a limited time.

\* Or, if you don't want to use disposable addresses, at least consider using one e-mail account for personal correspondence and another for public use. You can check your "public" account less often and ignore the spam, and only give your "private" email to real people you want to correspond with.

3. Use a unique e-mail address, containing both letters and numbers. Spammers often use "dictionary" programs to automatically generate likely email addresses: If yours is easy to guess, like [jsmith@something.com](mailto:jsmith@something.com), you're likely to get random emails.

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## Hang onto those disks!

[Security Products Magazine reports](#) that a survey conducted by

Vontou Inc., polling 115 large companies, shows that over half of them have lost data due to misplacing removeable media, such as floppies, CDs and USB mini-drives.

This was in spite of 95% of the respondents listing "data loss prevention" as a "high priority" for their companies, and 82% having budgeted money specifically to tackle the problem.

What might they be doing wrong? We can only speculate, but here are some common mistakes that can help greatly lessen your chances of being counted among those unlucky respondents:

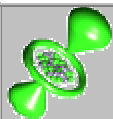
SECURELY ERASE OR (better yet) DESTROY all old media. Invest in a secure-deletion program (they're cheap) that will overwrite all data with random "noise" data to prevent it being recovered ("undelete" is a simple computer command!). If you're tempted to keep discs or thumb-drives around for backup reasons, remember that removable media does not make a reliable backup or long-term storage method. Consider secure offsite storage such as that offered by [Krypton Document Solutions](#), and get rid of those old disks! (That doesn't mean "throw them out", either -- people do go through the garbage. I recommend hitting all old disks and drives with a hammer before tossing them. It's utterly secure, and good stress-relief too!)

PASSWORD PROTECT removable media so that no-one can access it except authorized individuals. Use passwords on sensitive individual files as well. You can spend half a second now typing in a password, or weeks, even months or longer, later, dealing with the loss of sensitive data!

Remember the principle of LEAST REQUIRED ACCESS from our last newsletter? Make sure that removable media contains ONLY the file(s) that need to leave the office, not whole databases or large amounts of files. Just because the disc has the room doesn't mean you *have* to use it. :-)

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**We promise** that our newsletter will not come too often and clutter up your mailbox, and that we will never give, sell or disclose your email address to anyone. We think you'll find our free publication extremely useful and interesting, **but if for any reason you'd rather not receive it, simply reply to this email and let us know.** Thanks!



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