SPYWARE

Spyware is software that permits advertisers or hackers to gather sensitive information without your permission. Types of information that is gathered includes the Websites visited, browser and system information, and your computer IP address.

You can get spyware on your computer when you visit certain websites. A pop-up message may prompt you to download a software utility that it says you need, or software may be downloaded automatically without your knowledge.

When spyware runs on the computer, it may track your activity (e.g., visits to websites) and report it to unauthorized third parties, such as advertisers. Spyware consumes memory and processing capacity, which may slow or crash the computer.

Recommended protection

Good antivirus and endpoint security solutions can detect and remove spyware programs, which are treated as a type of Trojan. Make sure it is always updated.
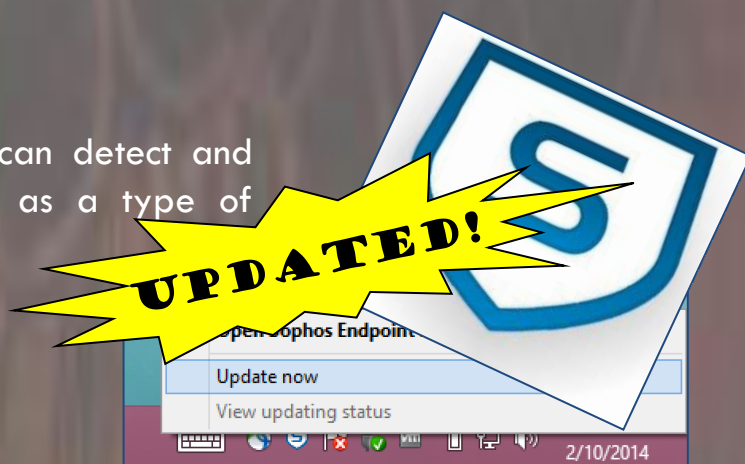
For comments or inquiries email infosec@pjlhuillier.com

-- End of Transmission --

Information Security: It's a Shared Responsibility

REFERENCES:

➢Sophos Ltd. (2012). Threatsaurus: The A-Z of computer and data security threats.
➢http://support.onshore.com/?q=wiki/spyware
➢http://itsecurity.vermont.gov/Security_Tools/Anti-Spyware
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