

## **OVER HALF OF LAPTOPS AND PCs HAVE BEEN INFECTED WITH A VIRUS**

### **Lloyds TSB Internet banking offers free security scans for home computers**

Over half (54 per cent) of PCs and laptops have been infected with a computer virus and three quarters of PC owners are worried about the threat of viruses according to new research\* by Lloyds TSB Internet banking. Despite this, nearly one in 10 computer owners admit they don't regularly update their anti-virus software and a further one in 20 don't know whether or not they have anti-virus protection on their PC.

To help make it easier for PC owners to keep their computers safe, Lloyds TSB in conjunction with leading Internet security provider Zone Labs, is offering visitors to lloydstsb.com a free PC security scan which will identify any potentially suspicious spyware. Lloyds TSB is also offering its customers a 20 per cent discount on Zone Labs software: ZoneAlarm Security Suite. PC owners can either download the software on a free trial basis for 30 days, purchase the software on a CD, or buy it over the counter at Staples, using the printable voucher to claim the discount.

The vast majority (94 per cent) of people surveyed thought it important to regularly update their anti-virus software whilst only two per cent thought that it wasn't important.

Matthew Timms, Internet banking director, Lloyds TSB said: "Although most people realise the importance of installing anti-virus software and keeping it updated, many don't get around to doing it, or buy it and then don't install it."

Timms continues: "The impact of a computer virus can be extensive and in some cases result in a compromise of PC security. The free security scan we are offering will identify any potentially suspicious spyware customers may have on their computer and give them the opportunity to purchase and update their security software conveniently and at a reduced price."

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## **OVER HALF OF PCs AND LAPTOPS INFECTED WITH A VIRUS.../2**

### **Further survey findings**

Of those who rarely update their anti-virus software, the main reasons given are outlined below:

- It's too expensive (13 per cent)
- I didn't know that it was necessary (8 per cent)
- I didn't know anything about it (6 per cent)
- I can't be bothered (6 per cent)
- I don't know what to buy (3 per cent)
- It's too difficult to install (3 per cent)

Three quarters of people surveyed are concerned that a virus will infect their PC and of those, 17 per cent are very concerned. Only 11 per cent are not at all worried.

**-ends-**

### **Notes to Editors:**

\* Research conducted by Tickbox.net with 1400 people in February 2005.

### **For more information:**

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