

Update: Blaster and Welchia Virus Worm Attack 8/28/03

Below are several message updates related to the Welchia worm remedial activities in progress. Thanks to all of you for the tremendous effort to date, which has been highly successful with WMS and most critical network services restored statewide. Please continue to be patient as the OFT Coordination Center gets to your requests for network scans and technical support. Any questions can be directed to your OFT Customer Relations representative, agency representative, or the Coordination Center at 1-800-603-0877.

1. Additional Resource for acquiring the Service Pack, Hot Fix, and Virus patch files.

In order to download a comprehensive Service Pack/Windows Hotfix/Virus Patch distribution package via the Internet, please enter <http://www.nysegov.com/viruspatch/viruspatch.zip>

in the address line of your Internet browser. When prompted, please select the "Save File" option as opposed to opening the file from its current location - the file should be saved to a local location known to you. The file is a **336Mb ZIP** file that will be copied to a %root%\viruspatch folder when extracted. Once extracted, the virus patch folder can then be copied to CD for further distribution or run directly from the destination folder. It is recommended that the READMEFIRST.TXT file be reviewed prior to installing/executing this series of patches.

2. Contacting the OFT Coordination Center if Weekend Technical Support Assistance is Needed

Please be sure to contact the Coordination Center ASAP, at **1-800-603-0877**, if you plan to work this holiday weekend applying upgrades and patches to State network connected equipment **and** will require OFT technical assistance. OFT will arrange for technical support staff availability by phone only for predefined LDSS needs, so it is critical that you make arrangements in advance, if OFT's weekend technical phone support from Albany is necessary.

3. Requesting a "Network scan" when server and PC upgrading is completed

After you have applied the CD service pack upgrade, patch, and anti virus files to your Windows 2000 and NT 4.0 servers and networked PCs, you need to contact the OFT Coordination Center at 1-800-603-0877, and request a scan of your site for any remaining vulnerability, and to have the site certified as cleaned and patched. If you are a large site, and have applied the CD successfully to all Windows 2000 PCs, and would like to have a network scan done by the Coordination Center while you continue to upgrade your NT 4.0 PCs, please also contact the Coordination Center. ***When a state Windows2000 or NT 4.0 PC has been successfully upgraded, patched, and cleaned by your county LAN Administrator, that PC can be logged on to the state network and used by the worker for any tasks such as Outlook e-mail, Attachmate access to WMS, etc. while your site is waiting for the state to conduct a network scan.***

8/29/2003

4. State Central Register (SCR) Child Abuse and Maltreatment Reports

Fax and verbal transmission of SCR child abuse and maltreatment reports will continue to sites until sites have been certified cleaned and patched by the OFT scan. This is to insure that no reports are lost if the site remains infected or has vulnerable machines which might require OFT to take the site down.

5. Warning on State PCs that you have recently Re-Imaged

Please remember that the various PC images that exist on reimaging CDs distributed in the past to LDSS LAN Administrators, have NOT yet been updated for the new service packs and virus software versions. If you or a technician reimages a State PC, you must insure that the worm remedial CD is applied afterwards. Otherwise, this PC will make your network vulnerable to future worm attacks.

6. Locally Networked PCs that are integrated (via an NIS) with the State Human Services Network need to be patched and cleaned

Counties that have had 'local Network to state Network integration services' (called NIS or NNI) completed in the past, must apply appropriate software upgrades and patches to local PCs as well. Infected and/or vulnerable local networks can be a threat to the State network, and if worm activity is detected these local to state connections will be closed.

7. PCs with Windows operating systems NT 3.51, Windows 95, and Windows 98, must not be attached to the State Network

These PC operating systems are no longer supported by manufacturers and cannot be certified as inoculated against current and future worm attacks. Although there is an exception with Windows 98 version SE2, that version will also soon reach end of life status for support. Do not attach these PCs to the state network. Questions about replacing Connections NT 3.51 Supplemental PCs, can be directed to your OCFS field contact, or the OFT Coordination Center.

8. WMS weekend availability

At this time, it is anticipated that WMS will be up for on line transactions until 7PM this Friday 8/29/03, as usual, and available 9am – 4pm Saturday 8/30/03, also for on line transactions. Note that any transactions that occur late Friday or all day Saturday will be processed at the next normal WMS Batch Update, which due to the Monday holiday is to occur Tuesday evening 9/2/03.