



## MESSAGELABS CONVERGED THREAT ANALYSIS

PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION AGAINST  
BLENDED WEB, EMAIL, AND IM THREATS

## STAY ONE STEP AHEAD OF INTERNET CRIMINALS

Historically, cyber-criminals have launched attacks through single Internet protocols. For example, they may have distributed a trojan virus via email or embedded in a malicious website. This meant organizations were able to protect themselves from these single protocol threats by using point security solutions for each protocol used to deliver malware. However, as threats evolve and attacks increasingly leverage multiple protocols, the approach to IT security also needs to evolve to ensure systems are not compromised.

Today's cyber-criminals launch coordinated attacks across different protocols such as email, Web and instant messaging (IM). By leveraging multiple techniques and protocols rather than a single approach, they are often able to bypass point solutions and harm systems or steal sensitive data. Examples of these techniques include:

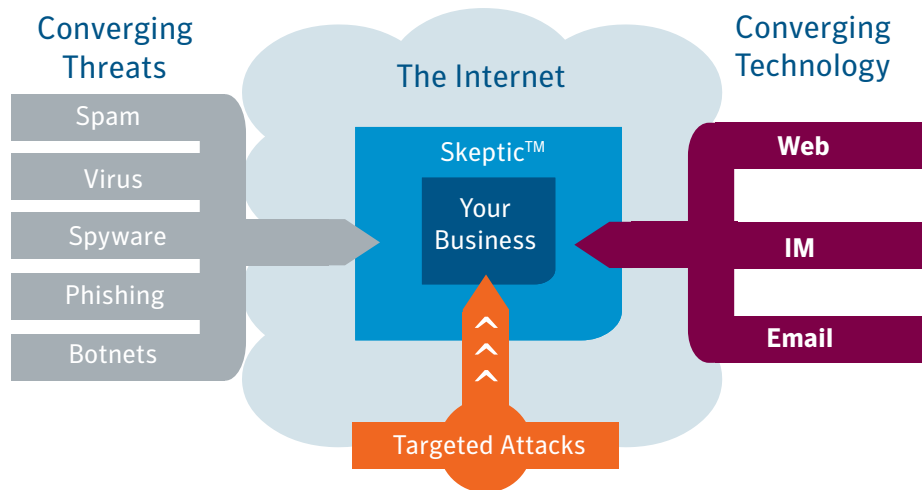
- An email containing a link to an infected website that once visited, installs a virus.
- Spam messages containing a tiny precursor virus that attaches itself on a user's PC in order to complete its installation over the internet.
- An IM suggestive 'conversation' that appears to be a real person but is, in fact, a 'bot' (an infected PC under the criminal's control) which sends an invitation to view pictures on a website containing malware.

MessageLabs Hosted Security services are underpinned by MessageLabs Converged Threat Analysis which provides 360-degree protection against these blended threats. We are the only hosted security provider to offer integrated protection across such a wide range of Protocols: email, Web, and IM. And because our proprietary heuristic technology Skeptic™ underpins all of the MessageLabs Hosted Security services, we can successfully gather, compare and apply information gathered on threats to each of these protocols. This provides our customers with unmatched zero-hour and emerging threat detection.

## PROTECTION FROM THE MOST INSIDIOUS THREATS

MessageLabs Converged Threat Analysis is designed to give customers unique and essential protection drawing on extensive threat research and investment.

- **Skeptic™** analyses traffic across different protocols – email, Web and IM – to detect blended threats. When a threat is found in one medium, Skeptic™ can instantly defend customers against the same threat in all the others. This provides protection to MessageLabs customers no matter the form of initial delivery or ensuing forms of delivery the threat may use.
- **Multi-protocol protection** - MessageLabs Converged Threat Analysis draws on an array of technologies to detect threats in email, Web and IM. This knowledge is shared across our services. For example, malware detected in our Hosted Web Security service allows us to quickly and accurately block bad links in our Hosted Email or IM services. Conversely, if Skeptic™ detects a bad link or malware in email traffic, our Web Security services are updated to ensure the highest level of protection.
- **Shared knowledge** - The automatic sharing of knowledge gained in one protocol across all other protocols enables increased accuracy in MessageLabs Converged Threat Analysis. Security solutions that only focus on one protocol such as email or Web or those that cover both without any underlying integration, may not fully protect your business from malware designed to slip past single protocol security.



- **Link following** - Thanks to Skeptic™, MessageLabs services are able to follow the Website links in every email and IM you receive and block any malware detected on the destination site.
- **Global threat view** - When it comes to detecting new threats, the large size of our customer base (over 21,000 at the time of writing) is a huge asset. We secure more than 3 billion email connections and 1 billion web requests every day for business all over the world. As the leading provider of hosted security services, we are more likely to see emerging threats earlier than smaller, non-global providers.

## BUSINESS BENEFITS

- **Accuracy** - We are the only hosted security vendor to offer this integrated protection across such a wide variety of protocols.
- **Potential cost savings** - In-house costs can be high as securing web, IM and email traffic often requires multiple solutions from different vendors. In addition, these may not be able to talk to each other and share information in the way that MessageLabs services are able to. Our services allow you to receive comprehensive multi-protocol protection from a single vendor, managed by a single user interface. This makes managing defenses much easier in addition to providing predictable costs.
- **Minimize risks** - MessageLabs services deliver clean email, IM and Web pages to your system. We filter out malware and spam at the internet level before it reaches your network and systems. This minimizes risk by keeping malware and spam from entering your environment, lightens on-premise security resource demands and protects bandwidth otherwise occupied transporting unwanted data.
- **Global infrastructure and support** - With data centers across four continents, two network operating centers and thousands of mail servers; our infrastructure is powerful, scalable and resilient. It is backed by 24/7 phone, email and web-based support in 12 languages.
- **Industry-leading Service Level Agreement** - Because of MessageLabs powerful global infrastructure and multi-layered protection including Skeptic™ technology, we can provide multiple service performance levels with money back remedies. The MessageLabs SLA offers performance levels covering spam and virus accuracy, latency and email delivery.
  - o Average Web content scanning time within 100 milliseconds
  - o Email Delivery - 100% email delivery
  - o Latency – average email scanning time within 60 seconds
  - o AntiVirus Effectiveness - 100% protection against known Web viruses & 100% protection against known and unknown email viruses.
  - o AntiSpam Effectiveness - 99% spam capture (95% for email with Asian characters)
  - o Service Availability - 100% for both Email Security and Web Security services.

## SUMMARY

Effectively defending your organization from multi-protocol and targeted attacks requires a solution that goes beyond the limitations of point solutions which can miss these attacks or respond well after a threat has inflicted harm.

MessageLabs Converged Threat Analysis provides a level of security and accuracy that these solutions cannot deliver. Our global views of multiple protocols, use of proprietary Skeptic™ heuristic technology and position as a leader with over 10 years of observation on the threat landscape make MessageLabs a strong counter-measure to the growing delivery of blended threats.

Begin a free trial today of MessageLabs Hosted Email and Hosted Web Security services:

<http://www.messagelabs.com/trials/free>

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