0423016

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS:	Deborah Platt Majoras, Chairman
	Orson Swindle
	Thomas B. Leary
	Pamela Jones Harbour
	Jon Leibowitz

In the Matter of

- 3. Respondents develop, advertise, sell, license, and distribute various software products, including "InternetALERT." InternetALERT is software that monitors Internet traffic entering a consumer's computer and provides alerts when an attacker attempts to access the computer from the Internet without the consumer's knowledge or permission. InternetALERT is offered for sale, sold, distributed, and licensed by respondents primarily through respondents' Web site <a href="https://www.bonzi.com">www.bonzi.com</a> at the price of \$49 for a one-year subscription.
- 4. Respondents promote InternetALERT software on the Internet through banner, button, and pop-up ads, which, when clicked, transfer consumers to one of several Web pages



advertising the software. These click-through Web pages, or landing pages, link to the respondents'

Web site <a href="www.bonzi.com">www.bonzi.com</a>, where consumers can download InternetALERT from the Internet. Respondents also promote the software during the software's installation process.

5. Respondents have disseminated, or have caused to be disseminated, banner, button, and pop-up advertisements for the InternetALERT software, including, but not limited to, those attached as Exhibits A through C:

Exhibit A

Exhibit A, button ad located at <a href="www.mallbusters.com/internet\_alert.htm">www.mallbusters.com/internet\_alert.htm</a> (as of July 3, 2003).

# Exhibit B



Exhibit B, banner ad located at <a href="www.myconsumerguide.com/internet\_alert.htm">www.myconsumerguide.com/internet\_alert.htm</a> (as of May 5, 2003).

# Exhibit C

Exhibit C, pop-up ad located at <a href="www.bonzi.com/internetalert/ia99.asp">www.bonzi.com/internetalert/ia99.asp</a> (as of April 1, 2003).



this has happened or any way of stopping it! Well not anymore!

#### YOUR COMPUTER'S ADDRESS IS: [IP Address]

## What Can Happen To Me?

Steal Your Credit Card & Personal Information!

Read Your E-Mail!

Plant a Virus or Worm!

**Steal Online Banking Information!** 

Delete files from your computer!

**InternetALERT** is an absolute '<u>MUST</u>' for anyone connecting to the Internet! It will notify you if someone is breaking into your computer, stop them dead in their tracks, and even build a visual map showing you the Attacker's ISP (Internet Service Provider) location! You can now connect to the Internet with the comfort and security of knowing that no one from the Internet can access your computer without your knowledge or permission!

\* \* \*

**InternetALERT** is easy-to-use! Once installed, you can go about your work without a worry. It runs silently in the background protecting you. Every time you turn on your computer, **InternetALERT** starts working automatically, only leaping into action when suspicious connection attempts are made to your computer.

\* \* \*

### **Download & Protect Yourself Against Internet Attackers Now - \$49 (1 Year Subscription)**

For a limited time, you may now download and start protecting yourself against Internet Attackers for only \$49 per year!

\* \* \*

You're now minutes away from protecting yourself!"

Exhibit D: Web pages advertising InternetALERT entitled "Protect Yourself From Internet Intruders!," located at <a href="https://www.deals-and-links.com/internetalert.htm">www.deals-and-links.com/internetalert.htm</a> (as of July 3, 2003). See also www.bonzi.com/internetalert/ia99.asp (as of April 29, 2003); www.bonzi.com/defaultbody.htm;

www.internet-alert-pc-protection.com/index.asp?Campaign=2000 (as of July 3, 2003).

7. Respondents have disseminated, or have caused to be disseminated, various statements on their Web site <a href="www.bonzi.com">www.bonzi.com</a> during the InternetALERT software's download process, and through a message alert during the software's uninstall process, including, but not limited to, those shown in Exhibits E and F:

#### Exhibit E

#### InternetALERT® Download

## Make Your Computer Safe & Secure In 5 Minutes . . .

\* \* \*

You're now minutes away from protecting your system against malicious attackers! Simply complete the secure form below and then press the 'Protect' button. You will be granted **immediate access** to the full version of Internet**ALERT** and in minutes make your computer safe and secure against Internet attackers!

\* \* \*

Protect My System Against Attackers – Download Now!"

Exhibit E: Form entitled "InternetALERT Secure Order Form" that initiates the download process for InternetALERT software, located at <a href="https://secure.bonzi.com/secure/securedownloadia9sub.asp">https://secure.bonzi.com/secure/securedownloadia9sub.asp</a> (as of July 3, 2003).

#### Exhibit F

#### InternetAlert - WARNING

WARNING: Your (sic) are about to Disable InternetAlert. Your computer will no longer be protected against outside harmful attacks. Are you sure you want to disable InternetAlert?

[Yes] [No]"

Exhibit F: Message displayed during the uninstall process for the InternetALERT software (as of July 3, 2003).

- 8. Data enter and exit a computer connected to the Internet by using gateways known as communications ports. These ports enable a computer to establish connections to other computers and to exchange data and are used to handle common network services, such as Web browser or email client services. Ports that are being used are "open" and "listening" for communications, for different periods of time, depending on the type of service they are handling at the time. Internet attackers seek to identify which ports are open on a computer through "port scanning" or other techniques, and may be able to enter a computer from the Internet by using one of a computer's open ports.
- 9. InternetALERT monitors and provides alerts to consumers on certain communications ports conceriit ication5x7pes to cgin cunauthorizd arces.s ino conputer tnternetALERT mautoaytcatllymonitorsd aupto enleve communications

14. The acts and practices of respondents as alleged in this complaint constitute unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce in violation of Section 5(a) of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

THEREFORE, the Federal Trade Commission this seventh day of October, 2004, has issued this complaint against respondents.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark Secretary

**SEAL**