

Top US computer cos team up with govt to bust hacking

WASHINGTON, Jan 17: Some of the biggest names in cyberspace - IBM, Cisco, Microsoft, and Oracle - are teaming up with the US government to create a private - public dragnet to catch hackers before they cause costly damage to Internet sites, reports AP.

The not-for-profit partnership, announced Tuesday and including 19 top high-tech firms, will coordinate to share information among each other and with the government and respond to computer threats.

Called the Information Sharing and Analysis Center for Information Technology, or IT-ISAC, the group will force top companies that are usually fiercely competitive to work together.

"This initiative is done regardless of party or corporate

logo," Howard Schmidt, chief security officer at Microsoft Corp., said at the kickoff event.

With constant reports of security breaches where credit card numbers and computer software source codes are stolen by thieves, extortionists or just bored teenagers, the executives said they were forced to take a more active role. They will also share information with government computer cops.

"We are sending a strong signal to would-be attackers that we are not going to let you get away with cyberterrorism," said Commerce Secretary Norman Mineta, who will be transportation secretary in the Bush administration. "We stand united."

Mineta said that as a former executive at Lockheed-Martin, he knows how protective a

company can be about its information.

"The last thing that a corporate executive wants to do is share information about his own company with the competition," he said, calling the founding companies "courageous" for doing so.

To work together, the companies said they may eventually need some antitrust exemptions and would benefit from a bill in Congress that would exempt any data they shared with the government from freedom-of-information requests.

The executives said they had seen computer attacks increase threefold since the February 2000 incidents that choked top Web companies like the Yahoo! search engine and auction leader eBay.

If such a thing happened to-

day, they said, the companies could react more quickly.

"They'd work together to see where they could best stem the attacks," said Allan Schoenberg, spokesman for Internet Security Systems in Atlanta, which will provide a public Web site and analysis for the group.

But most of the work will be done before an attack occurs, the executives said, likening the group to a "virtual research university with an emergency room attached to it."

The IT-ISAC group will join the two other computer response teams funded with taxpayer money, both founded in the late 1980s. The Computer Incident Advisory Capability, run by the Energy Department, and CERT, run by Carnegie Mellon University and funded by the government.



FBCCI President Yussuf Abdullah Haroon presents a crest of Bangladesh Hardware and Machinery Merchants Association (BHMMA) to Shawkat Ali Khan, the newly-elected President of Dhaka Circle of the Association, at the installation ceremony of the Circle office-bearers in the city on Tuesday. - BHMMA photo

Exchange Rates

American Express Bank Ltd foreign exchange rates (indicative) against taka to clients

Currency	Selling TT & OD	Selling BC	Buying TT Clean	Buying OD Sight Export Bill	Buying OD Transfer
US Dollar	54.2500	54.2800	53.8150	53.6970	53.6250
Pound Stg	80.1110	80.1553	78.8874	78.7144	78.6089
Deutsche Mark	26.5338	26.5464	25.4818	25.4259	25.3918
Swiss Franc	33.4011	33.4195	32.7103	32.6386	32.5948
Japanese Yen	0.4646	0.4649	0.4566	0.4556	0.4550
Dutch Guilder	23.5492	23.5622	22.6155	22.5659	22.5357
Danish Krona	6.8854	6.8892	6.7406	6.7258	6.7168
Australian \$	30.5970	30.6139	29.2485	29.1843	29.1452
Belgian Franc	1.2865	1.2872	1.2355	1.2327	1.2311
Canadian \$	36.3728	36.3929	35.3465	35.2690	35.2217
French Franc	7.9114	7.9158	7.5978	7.5811	7.5709
Hong Kong \$	6.9692	6.9730	6.6859	6.6708	6.6615
Italian Lira	0.0268	0.0268	0.0257	0.0257	0.0256
Singapore \$	31.6844	31.7019	30.6953	30.6280	30.5889
Euro	51.8956	51.9242	49.8381	49.7288	49.6621
Saudi Rial	14.6031	14.6114	14.3006	14.2701	14.2509

Bill buying rates

TT Doc	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	120 Days	180 Days
53.7512	53.3665	52.9181	52.4696	52.0212	51.1243

US dollar London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR)

Buying(\$)	Selling(\$)	Currency	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	9 Months	12 Months
53.6250	54.2500	USD	5.90125	5.73875	5.58875	5.50875	5.45975
78.6089	80.1110	GBP	6.00000	5.87438	5.76000	5.69734	5.66719
Cash/TC	Cash/TC	EUR	4.81750	4.79875	4.69750	4.61938	4.58438

Exchange rates of some Asian currencies against US dollars

Indian Rupee	Pak Rupee	Thai Baht	Malaysian Ringgit	Indonesian Rupiah	Korean Won
46.425/46.432	59.17/59.27	43.01/43.07	3.795/3.805	9420/9455	1276/1280

Market Commentary as of January 17, 2001

As the supply of dollar was low, the liquidity in the inter-bank market decreased Wednesday, keeping the inter-bank USD/BDT market very active. The USD/BDT rates ranged between of 54.11 and 54.17. The average call rates remained steady at 6-6.5% per cent.

Yen rose to one-week highs against dollar Wednesday as market players took profit from the currency's big recent slide ahead of a confirmation hearing for incoming US Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill. Concern that O'Neill could tone down or even abandon Washington's longstanding strong dollar policy was said by traders to have helped yen rebound two per cent from recent 1-1/2 year lows it had hit against dollar on concerns over Japan's economy.

Swiss Franc opened steady against dollar and easier against the euro, shrugging off comments by Swiss National Bank Vice-Chairman Bruno Gehrig that the SNB's current interest rate target band was proper and advising a wait-and-see attitude on Switzerland's joining the European Union.

Sterling was soft across the board on Wednesday, holding near the three-week lows it had set against dollar amid speculation that British interest rates could soon be lowered.

At around 08:33 GMT, the exchange rates of major currencies against USD were GBP/USD 1.4715/1.4723, USD/CHF 1.6361/1.6366, USD JPY 117.39/117.44, EUR/USD 0.9408/0.9410.



Photograph shows heads of Creative Group and Azmat Group at the crest-awarding ceremony by Mercantile Bank Limited with its managing director, deputy managing director and other officials.

Mercantile Bank awards its top client exporters

Mercantile Bank Limited has handed foreign exchange business worth over Tk 1,614 crore during the year 2000, says a press release.

On January 15, 2001, the bank honoured Creative Group and Azmat Group by presenting crests for their highest export performance through the bank's main branch.

The crests were handed over by M Taheruddin, Managing Director of the bank.

S M Nurul Alam Chowdhury, Deputy Managing Director, A K M Shahidul Haque, Company Secretary, Nabi-Ul-Saleem, Branch In-charge, and other executives and officers of the branch along with some valued clients also present on the occasion.

Daewoo Motor workers strike to protest layoffs

SEOUL, Jan 17: Most workers at troubled Daewoo Motor Co's main assembly plant returned to work after a brief strike Wednesday to protest management's layoff plans, labour union leaders said, reports AP.

"Apparently, they were afraid that they will be subject to layoffs if they joined the strike. The union leadership is very disappointed," said Choi Jong-hak, a union spokesman.

Most of the 6,500 workers at Daewoo's main plant in Bupyeong, 30 kilometers (18 miles) west of Seoul, walked off their jobs at noon, but returned to work in a couple of hours, Choi said.

Operation at other Daewoo Motor assembly lines remained normal.

Company officials had vowed to punish strikers.

"Layoffs as part of restructuring is a matter both sides should discuss, not an excuse to strike. We will sternly deal with it," said Lee Chang-won, a spokesman for Daewoo Motor.

Lee said the two-hour stoppage at the Bupyeong plant caused a production loss of 100 passenger cars worth 1 billion won (dhs 833,000).

Also on Wednesday, some 800 Daewoo Motor workers and supporters held a two-hour rally near the main government complex in downtown Seoul.

"Stop layoffs! Protect our livelihood!" the protesters chanted, pumping clenched fists into the sky. They wore red headbands and black vests with similar slogans printed on them.

Helmeted and holding plastic shields, thousands of riot police

stood guard. Workers threw chunks of ice at the police, then dispersed voluntarily without a serious clash.

AP launches four new pickles

The prospect of the agro-processing industry is bright in the country, Industries Secretary Al Amin Chowdhury expressed the view while speaking as chief guest at the launching of four new pickles of AP (Dhaka) Ltd at Dhaka Club in the city Monday.

The pickles are of mango, garlic, green chilli and olive, says a press release of the company.

The function was presided over by Managing Director of AP and former Minister AFM Fakhrul Islam Munshi.

Editor of The Financial Express Moazzem Hossain, Producer of BTV Shahida Arabi, Director (Operation) of AP Md Rafiqul Islam and noted singer Ruxy Ahmed spoke on the occasion.

The industries secretary said the quality of food items being produced in the country should be improved.

The neighbouring countries are advancing faster than Bangladesh in this connection. We should be prepared as a competitor, he observed. Delicious food items are the symbol of sound health, Chowdhury noted.

Moazzem Hossain said AP is a well-known industrial unit in Bangladesh. The four new and improved pickles are great in taste and satisfaction, he added.



Industries Secretary Al Amin Chowdhury speaks at the launching ceremony of the new and improved AP pickles at Dhaka Club in the city Monday.

DHL boosts its investments in Japan

DHL Worldwide Express has stepped up its Japan investments to bring greater benefits to customers, says press release.

The company has opened two service centres in busy business areas of Japan where demand for fast, secure international air express services is high.

Strategically located in the busy business areas of the city of Hiroshima (West Japan) and the city of Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture (northeast of Tokyo), the two service centres greatly enhance service coverage for the neighbouring areas where production of high-tech, automobiles, electrical appliances and precision machinery is concentrated.

Customers are able to enjoy faster, customised express logistics solutions. Shipments collected before pick-up cut-off times will be uplifted on planes departing on the same day, thereby improving transit times by up to one day. Shipments for London and New York, for instance, will be delivered on the next business day. Shipments destined for key Asian destinations such as Hong Kong, Taipei, Seoul and Singapore would be delivered the next morning on the back of DHL's Asian Air Network, which connects 15 major Asian cities.

The new service centres also feature the unique "drive-in" system whereby loaded vehicles drive directly into the service centre, from there shipments are processed immediately without delay.

Lankan rupee stays blind to bright deficit forecasts

COLOMBO, Jan 17: A slightly brighter set of deficit forecasts by Sri Lanka's central bank is unlikely to put much buoyancy into a rupee struggling to keep its head above water, dealers said today, reports Reuters.

The central bank said on Tuesday sustained export growth and higher foreign direct investment would help the country bridge its trade and balance of payments deficits this year.

But dealers said pressure remained on the rupee amid fresh signals by the bank that dollar reserves were precious, after the bank last Friday effectively devalued the rupee by two per cent.

The bank said the move was to give the market more leeway after the rupee hit the bottom of its stipulated trading band against the US unit in the previous day's session.

After a market holiday on Monday to mark the Hindu Thai Pongal festival, the bank left the trading band unchanged on Tuesday.

Dealers said that may have been a signal from the bank

that it did not want continuous devaluations of the rupee, but on Tuesday the rupee clung to the bottom of the trading band with few sellers willing to part with their dollar holdings.

The rationale spelt out for the latest movements on the band reflects that the bank is unhappy to sell dollars from their counter," said one dealer who declined to be identified.

"It could make the market push for a further downward adjustment on the rupee," he said.

The central bank has effectively devalued the rupee in the past by changing the band's width as the country struggled with a worsening balance of payments situation.

A jump in the country's petroleum import bill and increased military spending amid an upsurge in the war against separatist guerrillas from the minority Tamil community chopped away 16 per cent of the rupee's value last year.

It closed at a record low of 85 to the dollar on Tuesday.

The country's total foreign exchange reserves at end-October were \$2.3 billion, down

nearly 14 per cent from the end of 1999.

Although the rupee's weakness gave a boost to exports, estimated to have climbed 20.6 per cent last year, most exporters have held onto their dollar earnings.

Tuesday's central bank statement forecast exports to rise by 10 per cent this year, with imports increasing only a marginal three per cent.

It said the trade deficit would narrow to \$1.5 billion, from a revised estimate of \$1.8 billion for 2000.

The bank also said a more than doubling of foreign direct investment to a forecast \$474 million from \$202 million last year would help improve the country's balance of payments situation.

It forecast the balance of payments deficit to fall to \$228 million in 2001 from \$516 million last year and \$263 million in the previous year.

It also said the improved external payments situation would help ease interest rates that have been pressured up about seven percentage points over the past year.

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা

প্রকৌশল বিভাগ-২
নগর ভবন

আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিচ্ছন্ন রাখুন
আপনার শিক্তকে টিকা দিন

পুনঃ দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের অধীন নিম্নবর্ণিত কাজের জন্য প্রকৃত প্রস্তুতকারী, খ্যানা নামা সরবরাহকারী, স্থাপনকারী স্থানীয় এজেন্ট, অভিজ্ঞতাসম্পন্ন পারদর্শী প্রতিষ্ঠান, আধুনিক ওয়ার্কশপের অধিকারী, আদানকারী এবং ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের তালিকাভুক্ত বাংলাদেশ সরকারের লাইসেন্স বোর্ড হতে প্রাপ্ত বৈদ্যুতিক লাইসেন্সধারী ঠিকাদারগণের/প্রতিষ্ঠানের/এজেন্টের নিকট হতে বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং-২৯১১তে সীলমোহরকৃত বামে দরপত্র আবেদন করা যাবে। দরপত্র আগামী ৩১-০১-২০০১ইং/১৮-১০-১৪০৭ বাংলা তারিখ বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকার সময় বিভাগীয় কমিশনার, ঢাকা, জেলা প্রশাসক, ঢাকা এবং ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের সকল প্রকৌশল বিভাগ কর্তৃক দরপত্র গ্রহণ করা হবে। একই দিনে বেলা ১২-৩০ ঘটিকার সময় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। শতকরা হিসাবে দর অর্কে এবং কথায় উভয়েই স্পষ্টভাবে লিখতে হবে, অন্যথায় দরপত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য করা হবে। কোন দরপত্র প্রাক্কলিত মূল্যের উপর ৫% (শতকরা পাঁচ ভাগ) অধিক নিম্নদরে এবং ৫% (শতকরা পাঁচ ভাগ) অধিক উপরদরে দাখিলকৃত দরপত্র সরাসরি বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। প্রতিটি কাজের ক্ষেত্রে সিডিউলের সাথে সংযুক্ত শর্তাবলী পূরণকারী দরপত্র প্রদানকারী ঠিকাদারগণের মধ্যে একাধিক রেসপনসিভ ঠিকাদার সর্বোনিম্নদর প্রদান করলে, সেক্ষেত্রে নিয়মানুযায়ী লটারির মাধ্যমে ঠিকাদার নির্বাচন করা হবে। প্রত্যেক কাজের জন্য ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের মেয়র মহোদয়ের অনুকূলে বাংলাদেশের যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার এর মাধ্যমে বায়নার ঢাকা প্রদত্ত দরের ২.৫০% হিসাবে দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হবে। ঢাকা বিভাগীয় কমিশনার, জেলা প্রশাসক, ঢাকা-এর কার্যালয় ও ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের সকল আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা ও সকল নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় এবং প্রধান কার্যালয়ের হিসাব বিভাগের হিসাবরক্ষক (পোস্টার)-এর নিকট হতে প্রতিটি সেট নির্ধারিত মূল্যের বিনিময়ে করপোরেশনের চালান মারফত (অফিসরহিত) চেভারের সিডিউল ও শর্তাবলী ক্রয় করা যাবে। এতদসংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত বিবরণ অফিস ডাকালাইন সময়ে নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর বিভাগ-২ এর দপ্তর হতে জানা যাবে।

দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ কোন সিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হবে না। কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন অথবা সমুদয় দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

ক্রমিক নং	কাজের নাম	প্রাক্কলিত টাকা	বায়নার টাকা	সময়সীমা
১।	Supply & installation of Repeater-cum-Base Station and related accessories for Wires Control Room of Dhaka City Corporation (২য় অফিস)	৳ ৫১,৯৭,৮২/-	৳ ২,৫০%	৭০ দিন
২।	ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের মটরকা রেডিয়ার্স পি-১০০ আইসিএইচ-১৬, ফিলিপস পিআরপি-৭৪, ওয়াকি-টকির ব্যাটারি ক্রয় করণ (২য় অফিস)	৳ ১১,৭৪,৩০০/-	৳ ২,৫০%	৪৫ দিন

নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী
বিভাগ-২
ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা।

ডিফেন্স/পিআরডি/২৯৪/০০/০১
তারিখ-০৪

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department
Office of the Executive Engineer
District-Sylhet

Memo No LGED/EE/SYLHET/15-266/2000-2001/84 Dated: 07-01-2001

Tender Notice

No 44/2000-2001

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for execution of the following schemes under RDP-3, Project in LGED Sylhet from the valid enlisted contractors/construction firms of LGED Special, LGED 'A' Class & RDP-3 prequalified licence holders in Bangladesh Form No 2911 along with additional terms and conditions attached with this tender notice and tender schedule for the work. Tender schedule could be purchased from the offices of the Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet PD RDP-3 LGED Dhaka, Executive Engineer, LGED, District Moulvibazar, Habiganj/Sunamganj and the office of the undersigned up to 31st January, 2001 during office hours. Tender will be received up to 1-30 pm on 1st February, 2001 in the specified tender boxes of the abovementioned offices and the boxes will be opened at 2:00 pm the same day in presence of the tenderers or their authorized representatives (if any). Details terms & conditions and schedule can be seen in the office of the undersigned if necessary.

Group No	Name of the scheme	Estimated cost (Tk)	Price of tender document	Completion date
28/2000-2001	Improvement of RHD-Hydaribazar Road (Ch. 750m-1750m)	21,95,000/=	750/=	90 days
29/2000-2001	Improvement of RHD-Hydaribazar Road (Ch. 1750m-2470m)	15,80,000/=	750/=	90 days
30/2000-2001	Improvement of RHD-Parubazar Road (Ch. 0.00m-1000m)	21,95,000/=	750/=	90 days
31/2000-2001	Improvement of RHD-Parubazar Road (Ch. 1000m-1780m)	17,12,000/=	750/=	90 days
32/2000-2001	Improvement of Kanighat-Suraighat Road (Ch. 0.00m-1250m)	17,25,000/=	750/=	90 days
33/2000-2001	Improvement of Horipur-Shaheberbazar-Salutikar Road (Ch. 5900m-6650m)	17,75,000/=	750/=	90 days
34/2000-2001	Improvement of Horipur-Shaheberbazar-Salutikar Road (Ch. 6650m-7400m)	17,75,000/=	750/=	90 days

Executive Engineer
LGED, Sylhet

Shipping Intelligence

Chittagong port

Berth position and performance of vessels as on 17.01.2001

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Southern Queen	GI(Copra)	Sing	Aeka	28/11	-
L/2	Ban Ann (Liner)	GI	Sing	Prog	16/01	26/1
J/3	Ravidasa(E/L)	E/L	Mong	SLL	14/1	18/1
J/4	Ava	Rice(P)	Yang	MTA	3/1	19/1
J/5	Banglar Mookh	Wheat(P)	Mong	MSA	14/12	21/1
J/6	Oriental Queen	C. Clink	Pilok	RML	31/12	16/01
J/7	Pavonis	Wheat(P)	Mumb	SMSL	28/12	22
J/8	Tia Estela	Urea(Bic)	Basu	PANA	CCNL	18/1
J/9	Banganj	Urea (Bag)	Sing	PSAL	6/1	20/1
J/10	Jon Jin	C. Clink	Indo	NWSL	4/1	17/01
J/11	Banglar Moni	Cont	Sing	BSC	16/1	19/1
J/12	Osg Alpha	Cont	Sing	RSL	13/1	21/1
J/13	Kola Cahaya	Cont	Sing	Pil(BD)	9/1	19/1
CCT/1	Banglar Robi	Cont	Sing	BSC	12/1	20/1
CCT/2	Qc Teal	Cont	Mong	QCSL	15/1	18/1
CCT/3	Kota Naga	Cont	Sing	Pil(BD)	12/1	20/1
RM/15	Alam Tabah	-	-	-	-	21/1
CCJ	Agios Panourios	C. Clink	-	Seacom	14/1	21/1
TSP	Crystal Ace	R. Phos	Sing	Total	30/12	23/1
RM/3	Andhika Adiparwa	CPO	Sing	Seault	15/1	17/1
RM/6	Hadra	HSD	Juba	ECSL	12/1	19/1
DOJ	Banglar Shurabh	C. Oil	-	BSC	R/A	17/1
DDJ/1	Seabulk Command	-	K. Dia	IBS	R/A	-
CUFLJ	Mary Nour	Cement	Lang	BSL	7/1	21/1

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Banga Lank(Cont)4/1	17/1	-	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Sittwe	17/1	-	Everett	H.R. Coal	-
Triumph Chittagong(72)2/1	17/1	Yang	RML	GI(St. Coal)	-
Arabella (Cont)8/1	17/1	-	QCSL	Cont	Sing
Beluga	16/1	Yeman	OTBL	-	-
Marigold-1	16/1	Sura	OTBL	-	-
Thios Mitsos	17/1	Kaoh	OTBL	Demolition	-
Spring Ocean	18/1	-	Everett	Hr Coils	-
Noumea Express	18/1	Sing	Aeka	GI(Copra)	-
Topaz (liner)	17/1	-	Prog	Gimauze	-
Banga Biroi (Cont)8/1	19/1	-	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Tiger River(Cont)8/1	19/1	-	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Feng Kang Shan(Linter)	19/1	Pre	Bdship	GI	-
Kota Singa	19/1	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont	Sing
Kuo Hsiung(Cont)	20/1	-	Prog	-	-
Srutosa	20/1	-	SBS	Cont	Sing
Kranj (72)/8/1	22/1	-	Prog	Proj. Mat	-
Al Muartaba	16/1	Pipa	Cla S. Ash/GI	-	-
Andhika Adikarya (62)16/1	2				