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BITS Releases Recommendations to Reduce Malware

Washington, DC—June 16, 2011— Today BITS, the technology policy division of The Financial Services Roundtable, released its “*Malware Risks and Mitigation Report*,” to assist financial institutions and related industry stakeholders to identify and address malware threats.

Malware is malicious computer code with which hackers try to infect a computer system, compromise its security controls and steal information. According to Symantec’s May 2011 Intelligence Report, approximately one in every 168 emails contained malware in April.

“Financial institutions are constantly sharpening their strategies to protect their information and systems from malware in its many forms,” said Greg Rattray, senior vice president and BITS security program lead. The BITS report outlines current malware threats, threat vectors and mitigation strategies for enterprises, and provides a perspective on the effect of malware on the cyber ecosystem.

“Taking an ecosystem view is imperative,” Rattray said. “Our security work focuses on collaboration between financial services and others to protect the cyber ecosystem, a critical endeavor for the industry, the economy and for national security.”

While the BITS Malware Report focuses on how enterprises safeguard against malware, consumers also can contribute to securing cyberspace and protect themselves from fraud by installing and updating anti-virus and anti-spyware software, using firewalls, keeping software up to date, securing your wireless router, and only doing business online with trusted firms and on sites with secure web connections, evidenced by <https://> in the browser.

[BITS Malware Report](#)

About BITS

BITS addresses issues at the intersection of financial services, technology and public policy, where industry cooperation serves the public good, such as critical infrastructure protection, fraud prevention, and the safety of financial services. BITS is the technology policy division of The Financial Services Roundtable, which represents 100 of the largest integrated financial services companies providing banking, insurance, and investment products and services to the American consumer. For more information, go to <http://www.bits.org/>.

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