

Computers

National Computer Security Day November 30th

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On November 2, 1988, Cornell University researchers uncovered an unknown virus lurking in their computer systems. Within four hours of discovery, the "Morris worm" virus invaded several other university systems as well as the ARPANET, an early version of today's internet. Six days later, two computer experts with the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency recommended assembling a "National Computer Infection Action Team" to respond 24/7, 365 to these kinds of attacks. On November 14, the Software Engineering Institute, a research center connected with Carnegie Mellon University, set up the Computer Emergency Response Team. According to a 2004 "Networld" article, "November 30 was chosen so that attention on computer security would remain high during the holiday season - when people are typically more focused on the busy shopping season than thwarting security threats."