US cyber policy to blame for virus attacks

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Editor's note: The massive global cyberattack that began on Friday has once again set off alarm bells for global internet security. The virus called "WannaCry" used the EternalBlue developed by the United States' National Security Agency that was stolen by the hackers. What measures should China take for its cyber security? And what should individuals do for self-protection? Two experts share their views with China Daily's Zhang Zhouxiang on the subject:  
   
WannaCry seems rather destructive but regular computer users can easily escape its attack. The loophole in the Windows operating system, which the ransomware uses to attack computers, was already plugged up by a patch released by Microsoft in March. As long as users update their computers' operating system on time, they will be safe from the attack.  
Therefore, for individual users, the WannaCry attack should be a lesson never to be forgotten: Update your operating system or your anti-virus software made by registered companies. Virus developers and anti-virus agencies have been racing against each other to develop counter software, and this race will continue.  
Computer users are also advised to not click on any link from unidentified sources, as WannaCry spreads via e-mails. As soon as a user clicks on the dangerous link, the computer starts to download the virus and gets infected by it. So computer users should not click on any link that's without an identified source.  
Some argue that the ongoing ransomware attack highlights the necessity of developing our own operating system, which is definitely necessary, but not because of the attack. We need to develop our own operating system because it will be more controllable. Reports in the past have pointed out that Microsoft is known to leave open "backdoors" in its Windows system, which could pose a threat to China's cyber security.  
But there is no evidence showing a self-developed operating system is safer than Windows. Even those computers running on self-developed operating systems will have to regularly update and install anti-virus software.

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201705/18/WS59bbe3b2a310ded8ac18a05d.html