

The ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct establishes essential ethical standards for computing professionals. This case study on malware disruption highlights Rogue Services, which facilitates client activities involving malware and spam while also hosting some legitimate web-based retailers. Rogue's commitment to customer autonomy has led to the hosting of these malicious activities, despite pressure from major Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and international organizations. Furthermore, jurisdictional limitations hinder effective government intervention against such services.

Rogue's actions violate several principles outlined in the ACM Code:

Principle 1.1 emphasises the importance of contributing to society and human well-being, recognising all individuals as stakeholders in computing. By hosting malicious activities, Rogue negatively impacts innocent stakeholders and thus violates this principle.

Principle 1.2 stresses the importance of avoiding harm. Rogue's encouragement of destructive client actions directly contravenes this principle.

Principle 2.8 mandates that computing resources be accessed only when authorised or compelled by the public good. Since Rogue intentionally offered services to those exploiting system vulnerabilities, their inability to limit access to malicious customers constitutes a breach of this principle.

Principle 3.1 highlights the necessity of ensuring that the public good remains central to all professional computing work. In this case, Rogue's profit-driven interests have overshadowed the public interest.

The British Computer Society (BCS) Code aligns closely with these ethical principles, advocating for public benefit through integrity, competence, and diversity within its membership. This further supports the ACM's ethical standards focused on the public interest.

In conclusion, this case underscores the urgent need for global ethical standards to prevent harmful activities and uphold professional integrity across

borders. Establishing comprehensive guidelines can help ensure that computing professionals prioritise the well-being of society.

#### *References:*

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