Niladri Sengupta

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Ms. Laura McHugh

Professor of Technical Communications

Algonquin College, Room B311A

1385 Woodroffe Ave.

Ottawa, ON, K2G 1V8

Dear Ms. McHugh,

Attached is a copy of my completed report of comparing four identical computer systems under different Firewall settings: Strength of different types of Firewall. The format chosen for this for this report is Comparative with Recommendation.

Ever since I was 9 years old, I was hacked, dealt with viruses and unauthorized breach in my desktop computer. Since my very first computer breakdown (due to a virus), I have been trying to find the most suitable and safe way to browse the web.

Breaching through someone’s computer to access unauthorized data is becoming more common these days. Programmers are building the proper software and tools to avoid and block these malicious attempts. Firewall is a gateway or a passage where the downloaded content of the internet is passed and scan to make sure it is not a virus, worm, unprivileged access, etc. If a threat is detected the Firewall either removes the threat or asks the user for further instructions. Even with the default Firewall in many operating systems, hackers and viruses still manage in infiltrate a system, which is one of the reasons users now these days add an anti-virus program on top of the Firewall. In my report, I plan to take a few identical computer systems with different layers of Firewall added to each one of them respectively (from least secure to most secure settings). After that, I plan to infiltrate each machine with malware and show the damage each machine has faced.

The readers of my report will come to understand the risks and benefits of different types and/or levels of Firewall. Computers are not as safe as they use to be a few years ago. Security breach in the virtual world is becoming more common than ever. There’s no such thing as absolute security in the virtual world, it can always be breached. Which is why every person should know how to secure their machine as much as possible.

I sincerely hope that the reader enjoys this report and I would like to thank NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) for spending a lot of time testing and strengthening the security and validity of routers. There is a saying in the programming world; the most secure computer in the world is the one which is not plugged-in.

Through completion of this report, I have gained knowledge about more secure Firewalls settings than I had known previously. I have gained a deeper understanding of the security system in computers. For further questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact me through the following email: seng0011@algonquinlive.com

Sincerely,

Niladri Sengupta,

Computer Engineer Student

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