

What is WhiteIT and what does it aim for?

Why you probably want to be concerned about it
and similiar alliances.

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28c3 Chaos Communication Congress,
Berlin, December 27th 2011

Before the talk

- My name is Christian Bahls, i represent MOGiS, a German Association of victims of sexual abuse.
- Most of the information i present here is publicly available, it just has to be pieced together in the right way.
- First i planned to give this talk in German, but than realized the information might be useful to a larger audience.
- So please stay with me, even if you are not German. you should get some insight into what is going on.
- Especially you should listen up if you are a hosting-, service- or access-provider based or operating in Germany or the EU.
- One thing i want to make clear to not be misunderstood: I am not a fundamentalist. I am willing to cooperate with anybody who constructively works against child abuse and shows willingness to respect fundamental rights.

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Why? - And why now?

- First of all i want to lead a somewhat smaller live in the future.
- Perhaps finish my first doctoral thesis before KT finishes his second. (yes, i must have been proposing this for ages :)
- So this is my chance to make you aware of what is going on hoping somebody else will take the work up.
- Actually it's a little early in the process of WhitelT for awareness raising – but next years 29C3 would be too late.
- So going public now seems to be the best decision
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- Most of you might have come to know me as chairman of MOGiS e.V. during the German debate on Internet Blocking.
- A Few of you might be aware of my work on the EU child protection directive, (the Malmström proposal tried to introduce mandatory blocking infrastructure in all of the EU's member states)
- Together with EDRi we got the mandatory part removed and also got some judicial oversight into it.
- As MOGiS e.V. represents victims of sexual abuse, besides defending fundamental rights we are also working on child protection issues.
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- We agreed to take part under the specific conditions that we become part of the steering committee within WhitelT (Lenkungskreis, now Lenkungskreis+).
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WhitelT - So, what is it? - Structure

- WhitelT „Bündnis gegen Kindesmissbrauch und dessen Darstellung - vor allem in der digitalen Welt“ (which translates as „alliance against child abuse and its depiction - especially in the digital world) is an alliance of more than 30 parties, from
 - Industry (Avira, Computacenter, Fujitsu, IBM, Intel, itWatch, Microsoft, Oracle, Software AG, Symantec)
 - Science (Hasso Plattner Institute, University of Hannover)
 - NGOs (Ärztekammer Niedersachsen, Auerbach Stiftung, BITKOM, eco, fsm, Initiative D21, Innocence in Danger)
 - and (of course) governmental organizations (Ministries, BKA [federal LEA] and LKA [state level LEA])
- It was founded in late 2009 (after #zensursula in Germany)
- It cooperates on projects working against the dissemination and (re-) distribution of Child Exploitation Media (CAM)
- It has a staffed office at the Lower Saxony's Ministry of Interior (WhitelT-Geschäftsstelle)
- It also has a supporting association, the WhitelT-Supporters.

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WhitelT - So, what is it? - Structure - A deeper Look

- **WhitelT current (official) structure has three major parts**
 - The steering committee (Lenkungskreis+) which determines the direction of WhitelT
 - The program management board, managing the projects initiated by WhitelT members
 - The White office (Geschäftsstelle) which is meant to coordinate the interaction.
- WhitelT Supporters is an association of WhitelT members to organize (financial) support for WhitelT projects.
- Also there is a Bund-Länder-Projektgruppe (BLPG) „Bundesweite Hashwerte-Datenbank Kinderpornografie“ at the federal BKA (Referat SO12) feeding into WhitelT (and also being fed back).

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- Also there is a Bund-Länder-Projektgruppe (BLPG) „Bundesweite Hashwerte-Datenbank Kinderpornografie“ at the federal BKA (Referat SO12) feeding into WhitelT (and also being fed back).

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- research into the „market“ for Child Abuse Material (by the Leibnitz University of Lower Saxony)
- some preventive measures (help for (potential) abusers - „Kein Täter werden“, Charité [therapy limited to pedophiles])
- improving help for victims (esp. improved networking, by Innocence in Danger and the Auerbach-Stiftung)
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- reporting integrated in client software („jetzt-löschen“-button)
- dedicated interface for processing notice-and-takedown requests, especially with regard to foreign hosting providers (coordination with INHOPE and NCMEC)
- compliance-detection and enforcement in the network and the client (Compliance-Scanner by Avira and Symantec, Scanner for graphics adaptors by itWatch)
- analysis of state and federal legislation with regard to data protection, telecommunication regulation, privacy issues and constitutional rights
- planing of new legislation (interaction with the private sector, but also: covert investigations / verdeckte Ermittlungen [§110a StPO ?V-Männer?])
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CAMnet - Child Abuse Media Metainformation Network

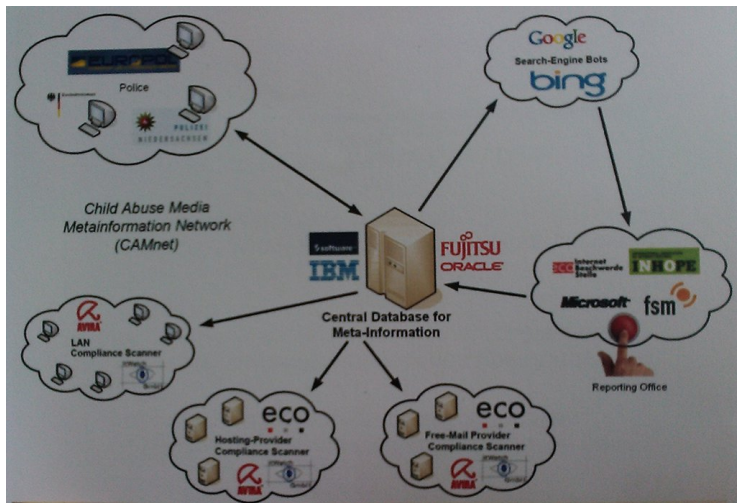


Abbildung: How CAMnet is envisioned

CAMnet - What i think is wrong with that vision

- First and foremost: i am all against throwing around images of children being sexually abused even if done by the police.
- Even more so when the data crosses jurisdictions or is being stored in international databases
- Also i become even more skeptical if metadata is involved
A data leak can really compromise a victim permanently.
- Hashes might be less sensitive, though they can be used to find that content if either the database used is large enough (search engine) or one has enough clients to do the search (botnet)
- Additionally i believe it to be wrong to work on measures to scan customer data without the involvement of a larger audience in the discussion.

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Besides general questions wrt. the legal assessment of hashes and information associated with it, a legal opinion is being sought on:

- whether hashes can be exchanged with EU and non-EU LEA
- whether hashes can be disseminated to interested third parties (AV vendors and search engines for example)
- whether there is the willingness of service-providers to use scanners to search their customers data (email, hosting, cloud, etc) and how this activity by the providers is to be assessed:
 - whether the scanning by the providers violates fundamental rights (esp Art 10, 13 German constitution [Grundgesetz]),
 - and whether changing the providers terms and conditions can accommodate for this fact.
- whether and how unwilling (host-, email-, cloud) providers can be forced to cooperate
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- whether and how unwilling (host-, email-, cloud) providers can be forced to cooperate
- whether and how current legislation has to be changed to accommodate for all of this.

Spotlight: Microsoft / PhotoDNA

- Microsoft has PhotoDNA which is claimed to reliably detect images even when distorted or changed otherwise.
- Facebook implements its content-filtering using PhotoDNA.
- PhotoDNA is based on Research by Digital Forensics expert Prof. Farid of the Dartmouth College.
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- Using the title „Bestrebungen und technische Realisierbarkeit gegen Missbrauch der Kommunikationsstruktur“ / „efforts and technical realizability against misuse of communication infrastructure“ the lecturer (from Symantec) was asking:
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Spotlight: Symantec - Data Loss Prevention

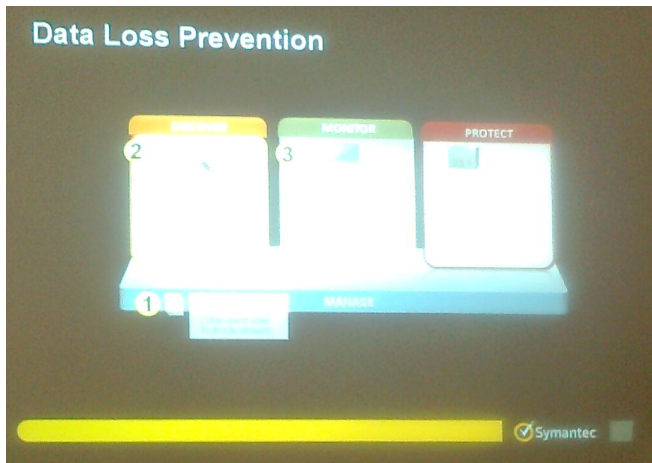


Abbildung: Symantec DLP as advertised in a workshop against the distribution of child abuse material online [Watch the Video if you want to see more :)]

Spotlight: Symantec - Global Intelligence Network

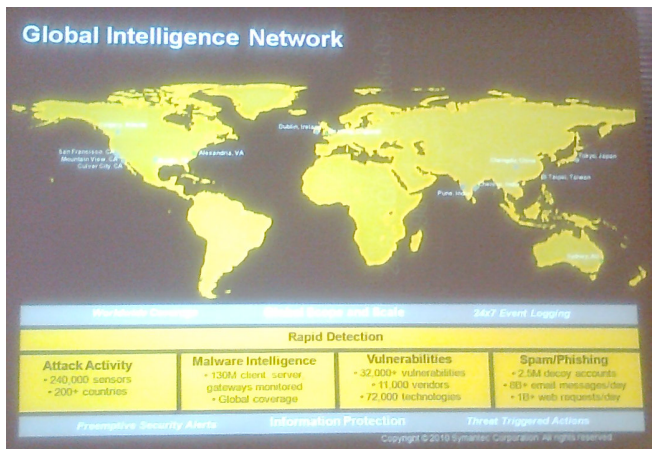


Abbildung: Symantec gets some extra points for mentioning its intelligence capabilities at the same workshop

Spotlight: Symantec - What has DLP to do with CAM?

- So the Talk explicitly referred to child abuse material online while mentioning Data Loss Prevention, Copy Prevention, Ownership Detection and Identity Management.
- But: What does DLP have to do with Child Abuse Material? Similar questions do arise for Copy Prevention, Ownership Detection and Identity Management.
- Either the sales representative was completely misguided or Symantec tried to enlarge its market-share by advertising its technology to governmental organizations for law enforcement.
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So some questions about Norton Symantec's strategy arise:

- Does Norton Symantec work on Deep Packet Inspection technology for law enforcement purposes?
- Since Verisign recently became part of Norton Symantec:
Does Verisign hand out certificates to governments to enable their LEA to do active man in the middle on end users?
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At the moment the several movement to control the Internet are gaining enormous momentum.

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- Its planed actions include:
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 - Blocking the access to child pornography
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- The coalition formed by the commission to support that plan has 27 founding members: Apple, BSkyB, BT, Dailymotion, Facebook, Google, Hyves, KPN, Liberty Global, LG Electronics, Mediaset, Microsoft, Netlog, Nintendo, Nokia, Opera Software, Orange, Research In Motion, RTL Group, Samsung, Sulake, Telefonica, Teliasonera, Telenor Group, Tuenti, Vivendi and (not surprisingly) Vodafone.
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If you want to help even after this talk

If you want to help with some open source intelligence after this the talk, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/whiteit> and follow the instructions there.

Where can you get involved with the EU's coalition?

- The EU's coalition to make the internet a better place for kids has agreed to work on 5 concrete actions:
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 - Age appropriate privacy settings
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