



ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware Product Backgrounder

Built for those who enjoy knowing that they have complete control over the security of their PC, ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware delivers Active Protection in the form of real-time blocking. Sleek performance, an elegant user interface, and ease of use wrap around powerful technology and exclusive functionality. Going beyond simple detect and remove capabilities, ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware puts the power in your hands to take a pro-active stance against the intrusive and malicious spyware that threaten your PC and your privacy.

About Spyware

Spyware is broadly defined as software that takes advantage of a user's computer to benefit a third party. The name spyware comes from the surveillance characteristics of many spyware programs, which often record information about a user's computer and transmit it to a remote server or intruder. Spyware can cause computer slowdown, crashes, virus and worm infection, and even hard drive erasure, as well as collecting sensitive information like passwords, logins and banking/credit card details.

Spyware is often associated with Adware and browser hijackers, which display advertisements and secretly change browser settings, respectively. An example of Adware is a pop-up generator, which opens advertisements in pop-up browser windows, even when the user isn't searching the Web. Pop-up generators are often difficult to manually locate and remove. More malicious spyware, in the form of Trojans and Keyloggers, can be deployed to capture screen shots and keystrokes which can then be transmitted to third parties without the users knowledge.

Is Your Computer Infected with Spyware?

If your computer is doing any of the following most likely you have spyware on your system.

- You are noticing unexplained slowdowns and crashes, particularly when searching the Web or operating a security or anti-virus program.
- Your Web browser opens to a strange homepage, returns unexpected search results, or directs you to unsolicited websites.
- You find that your mouse, keyboard, monitor, or CD/DVD drive is unresponsive or performing erratically.
- Pop-up or pop-under browser windows are opening when you are not surfing the Web, or are opening so often as to be distracting.
- Your security or anti-virus programs are not working, and/or you cannot visit security-related websites (e.g. www.paretologic.com).

- A program or application that you have attempted to uninstall reappears when you restart your computer.
- Your PC seems to “have a mind of its own” and is difficult to control.

Spyware Online Threats

According to the Anti-spyware Coalition,

“spyware has quickly evolved from an online nuisance to one of the most dire threats facing the Internet. As users struggle to maintain control over their computers, many find themselves trapped in a cyclical battle against programs that install themselves without warning, open dangerous security holes and reinstall themselves after they've been deleted. The worst of these programs allow online criminals to hijack users' sensitive personal information at will. As the threat has grown, so has the need to mount a coordinated defense against these unwanted programs and their adverse effects.”¹

Spyware is now a bigger threat than computer viruses. According to the Computer Security Institute (CSI) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Computer Crime and Security Survey, 99% of companies use antivirus software, but 82% of them were still hit by viruses and worms.² A recent study by Forrester Research, an independent research firm, states that a clear majority of North American computer users (60%) fail to scan for spyware at least once a month. Furthermore, 45% of users don't even know what spyware is, much less how to protect against it.

Of large concern is the ability for Spyware to infiltrate a system and monitor the user's actions through keystroke loggers or screen captures whereby user information and identity are at high risk. System Monitors range in capabilities but may record some or all of the following: keystrokes, screen captures, e-mails, chat room conversations, instant messages, Web sites visited, programs run, time spent on Web sites or using programs, or usernames, passwords or other types of data in transit. The information is typically either stored for later retrieval or transmitted to the remote process or person employing the Monitor.³

Unfortunately, spyware – software that installs surreptitiously without the user's knowledge that may capture keystrokes, personal information, and marketing data and then report that information to a third party – is far more likely to intercept information that could steal your identity than viruses. While viruses and other malware caught by anti-virus software are usually intended to replicate and “take over” computers for use by the virus writer, spyware and keystroke loggers (typically called “keyloggers”) operate silently in the background, reporting the information to a third party.

¹ Anti-Spyware Coalition Definitions and Supporting Documents, <http://www.antispywarecoalition.org/documents/definitions.htm>

² Computer Security Institute & Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2003). Computer crime and security survey.

³ Anti-Spyware Coalition Definitions and Supporting Documents, www.antispywarecoalition.org/documents/definitions.htm

Keyloggers have existed in some form for many years. The growth of spyware in this decade has resulted in a mass propagation of the technology. In an article on the spread of spyware infections via the Internet, the respected Internet research firm Gartner Group reported. "At mid-2004, Gartner customers are seeing a surge in manifestations of 'spyware,' invasive methods to steal user privacy that disrupt users and their workstations at home and at work. Customers report that the cleanup effort may take a few hours, but that in no time at all, the same systems are infected again."⁴

Evolution of Online Threats Requires Real-Time Dedicated Spyware Protection that is Comprehensive, Reliable and Fast.

In today's world of technology anti-virus software does not protect Internet users from spyware. ParetoLogic has responded to the need for dedicated anti-spyware software that is comprehensive, reliable, and fast by developing **ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware**. ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware features Active Protection and state-of-the-art detection and removal of spyware in real-time. ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware is fast and has one of the largest detection and removal databases in the industry.

Regular use of ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware will provide ongoing protection against spyware, keyloggers and other forms of malware. ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware is designed to detect in real-time potentially unwanted applications downloading to your PC without your knowledge, alert you and provide effective blocking options for immediate protection.

Best of Breed Dedicated Spyware Protection

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware is a best of breed dedicated anti-spyware application that is focused on detecting and removing online threats providing increased protection. Extensive resources have been allocated to developing the most comprehensive and reliable anti-spyware software resulting in one of the largest threat databases in the industry.

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware Takes Internet Security to the Next Level with Active Protection.

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware now provides Active Protection in the form of real-time blocking to ensure your PC is protected at all times. Active protection establishes a safeguard that automatically detects a potentially unwanted application that is attempting to download to your computer, alerting you to the threat and providing you with effective blocking options.

Reliable Detection and Removal of Online Threats

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware will provide you with an accurate and reliable diagnosis of your computer system by providing you with scan results of the online threat's including the vendor, type of threat (e.g., file, folder or registry key), category of threat (e.g., Trojan, monitoring tool, adware, etc.), the location of the threat on your system, as well as the severity of the threat. All files are removed and quarantined until you decide to delete them.

⁴ Gartner, "A Field Guide to Spyware Variations," John Girard, July 2004

Comprehensive Protection that is Customizable

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware will check for updates online upon startup to ensure you have the most comprehensive and up to date online threat protection. These updates are provided free of charge for the life of your ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware subscription.

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware with its state-of-the-art detection and removal will allow you to control when to scan your system and what threats ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware scans for. At anytime you can conduct a manual scan of your system or you can automate the scan to suit your personal security needs. You can also customize your scan to scan all or some of the following: browser hijackers, registry, active processes, host files, system folders and selected folders.

Online Threat Protection that is Quick to Download and Fast to Detect Threats

As ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware is a 4.0 MB file it is quick to download and install protecting you from spyware within a few minutes. As well, ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware is fast to scan and detect spyware threats and does not take up computer resources like larger files do. Therefore, ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware does not bog down your system while scanning so there is no system downtime.

ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware Key Features and Benefits:

- Active Protection (Real-Time Blocking) establishes a safeguard that automatically detects a potentially unwanted application that is attempting to download to your computer, alerting you to the threat and providing you with effective blocking options.
- Customizable scanning processes, allow you to choose the depth of scan including scanning for running processes, registry entries, files and folders.
- Scrupulous detection and removal of adware, spyware, pop-up ads, keyloggers, trojans, hijackers, malware, and other potentially unwanted applications.
- One of the largest and continually growing definition databases of known and emerging threats in the industry protects ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware users.
- Feature and definition database updates are delivered to you automatically ensuring that you have the very latest in spyware protection.
- Our Backup and Restore feature allows you to restore previously removed items so you never have to worry about inadvertently removing a desirable file.
- Cycle Detection – The first of its kind and exclusive to ParetoLogic Anti-Spyware! Cycle Detection prevents recurring loops where an alert message is displayed and pops up repeatedly, by detecting the loop and presenting the findings to you so that you stop the loop in its tracks.
- Automated functionality, including scheduled scanning, automatic restoration of your browser page, and automatic blocking and logging, simplify your security tasks and save you time.
- Customer Care and Support that is second to none ensures that you are never alone in your endeavour to secure yourself and your PC from spyware. We consider it a privilege to be of service to you and look forward to being a part of your PC security strategy.