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# IPRO 311: Misuse Detection



# Spring 2007 Team

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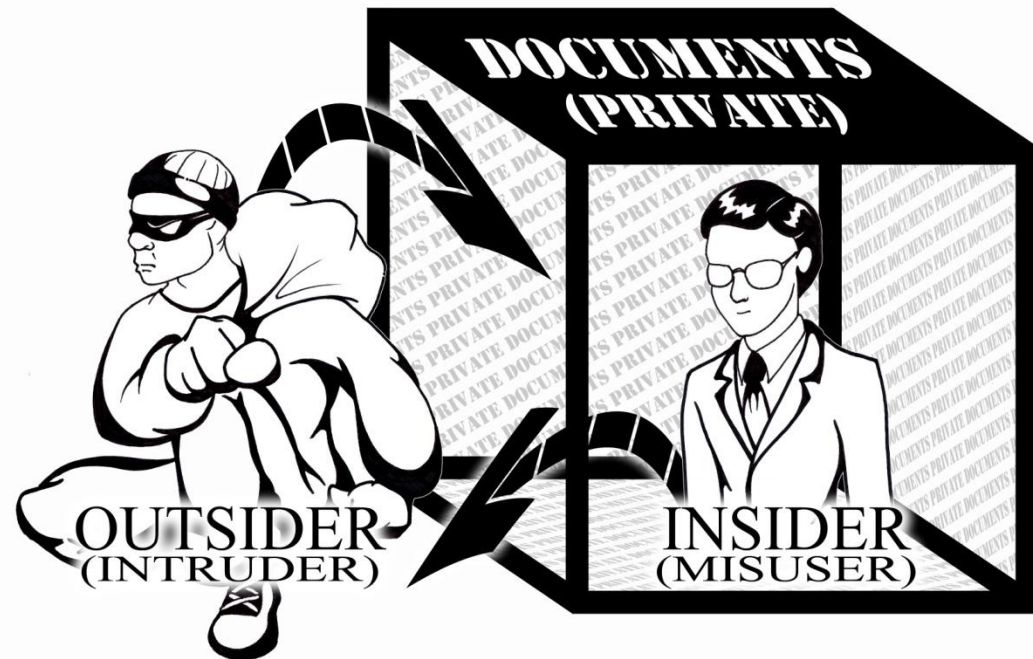
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# Problem and Solution

- Problem:
  - Computer misuse “insider problem”
- Solution:
  - Build Misuse Detection System





# Overview

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- Misuse vs Intrusion
- Current Defenses
- Building a Misuse Detection System
  - Test Data
  - How the Detection System Works
  - Results
- Summary



# Misuse Detection: US Gov't

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## **Problem statement:**

The Computer Misuse Act of 1990 defines three major offenses as “computer misuse”

- Unauthorized access to computer material (that is, a program or data).
- Unauthorized access to a computer system with intent to commit or facilitate the commission of a serious crime.
- Unauthorized modification of computer material

**80% of all computer crime** is due to insider misuse rather than hackers or viruses.



# Ethical Issues

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- Protect companies' rights and employees' privacy
- Controversial data are gathered: keystrokes, website content, email
- Misuse detection software offers corporate protection as well as employee privacy



# Current Defenses

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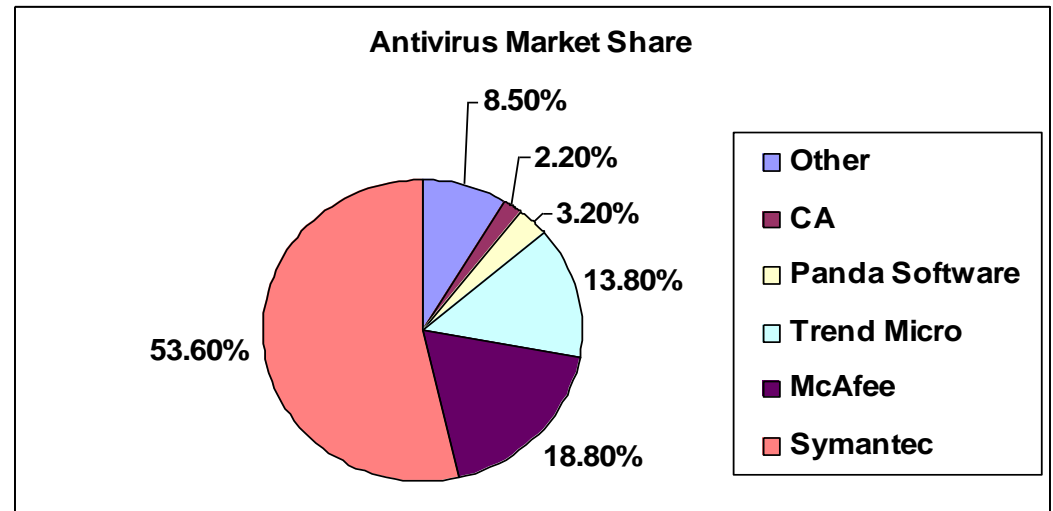
- Outsider Defenses
  - Virus Checking
  - Virtual Private Network (VPN)
  - Intrusion Detection Systems
- Insider Defenses
  - **No Automated Misuse Detection Systems**
  - Audit Tools
  - Policies

# Virus Defense

A \$4 Billion Industry

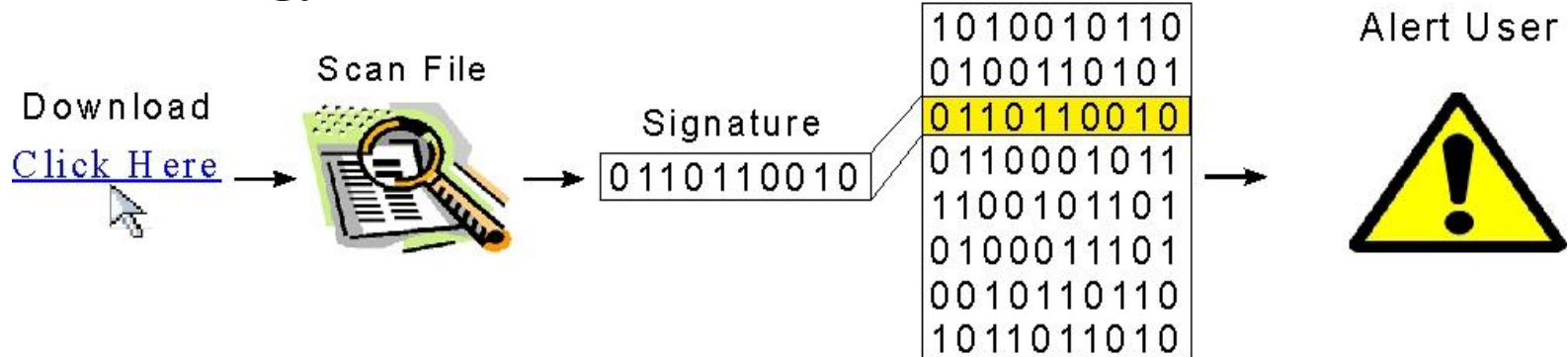
## Virus (definition):

A self-replicating computer program



Source: Gartner IT Research, 2006 Press Release

## The Technology:





# Virtual Private Networking

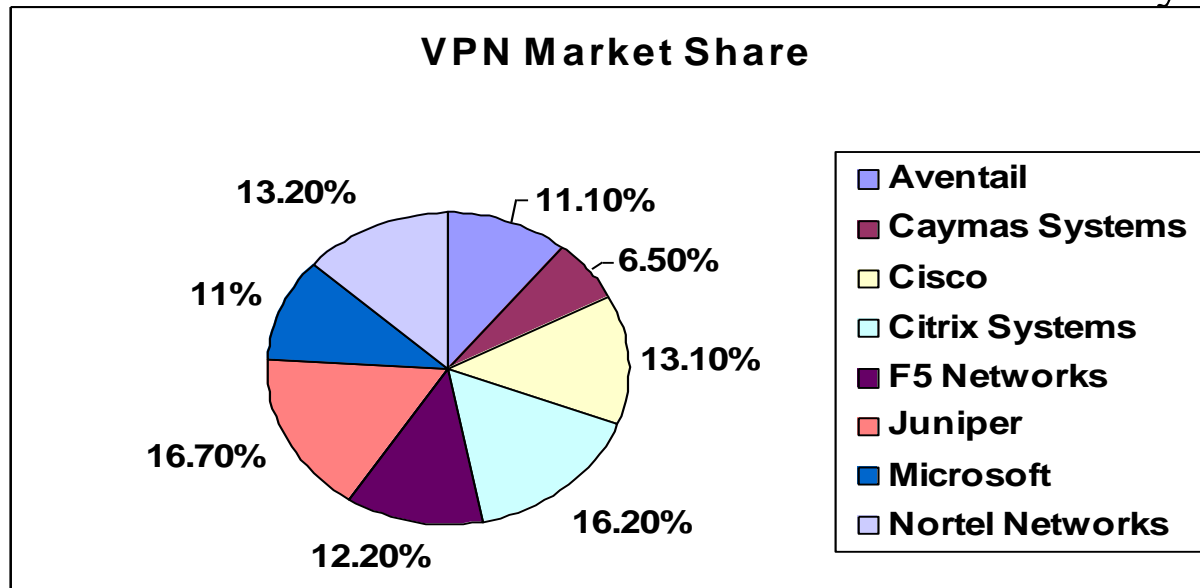
A \$466 Million Industry

## The Problem:

How to communicate  
securely over the Internet?

## The Technology:

- User authentication
- Message encryption
- Network flexibility



Source: Forrester Research, Inc., SSL VPN Appliances, 2006

# Intrusion Detection Systems

A \$972 Million Industry

## The Problem:

How to protect a sensitive network resource from outsiders?

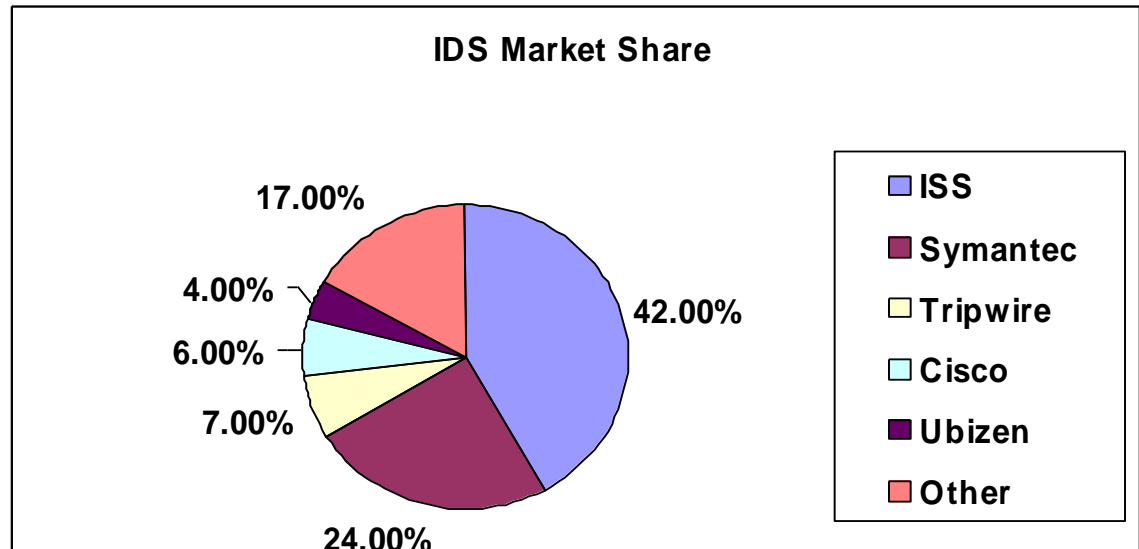
## The Technology:

### Detection Systems (Passive)

- Detect malicious traffic
- Analyse application data
- Log information

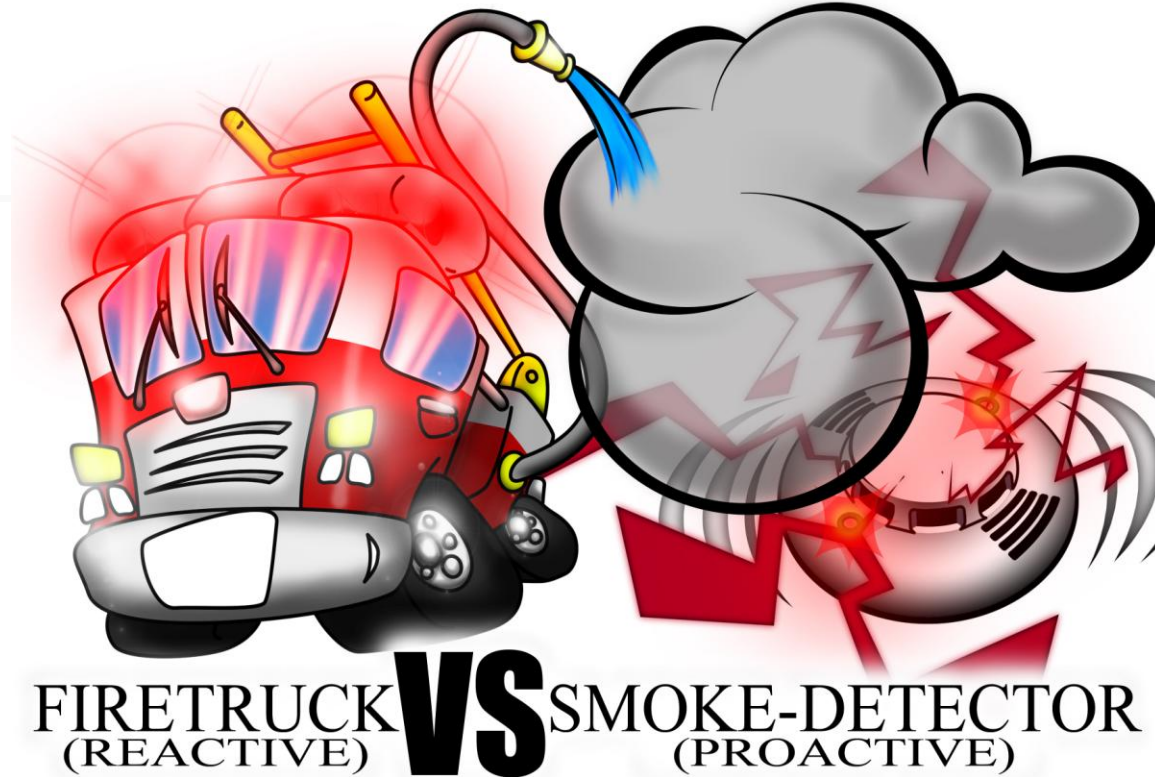
### Prevention Systems (Reactive)

- Next generation IDS
- Added ability to block attacks



Source: IDC: Intrusion Detection & Prevention Software 2004-2008 Forecast

# Our Solution



Build a **proactive** misuse detection system.

All current misuse tools are **reactive** -- after it has happened we find out how much damage is done.



# IPRO 311's Solution to Misuse

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- Step 1: Build misuse dataset
- Step 2: Build misuse detection prototype
- Step 3: Measure accuracy of the prototype



# Step 1: Building a Misuse Test Dataset

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- Option 1: Real-world dataset
- Option 2: Human generated dataset



# Real-World Dataset

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- Log of all user activity in real corporation with misuse flagged
- Corporate non-cooperation
  - Sets may contain critical corporate data
  - Embarrassment over internal misuse



# Human Generated Test Data

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- Assign a query topic to each member
- Every member issues ~20 queries per week
- Queries logged on remote server with other data
- Goal is to emulate a real data set
- Privacy of user protected



# Methodology

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- 12 students were assigned query topics to issue and write about
- Students wrote 168 reports on assigned topics
- 5 students were assigned misuse
  - Off-topic searches, opening documents, copying data, high network traffic, etc.
  - Playing games, slacking off
- Tasks delegated based on expertise





# Data on Misuse Dataset

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- User reports: 168
- Size of user activity: 11.8 GB
- Number of queries tracked: 1339
- Number of keystrokes: 95,419
- Hours spent querying: 72



# Validity of Misuse Dataset

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- Created and ran algorithms to detected misuse
  - Compared query data to generated user profiles
- The algorithm determined misuse with an accuracy of 80%



# Misuse Detection System

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- Algorithm:
  - Assigned specific users to “misuse”.
  - Ran those logs against “normal” logs to find discrepancies.
  - Ran queries against initial user profiles
  - Examined the results to identify misuse.



# Summary

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- Before this IPRO, no misuse dataset existed
- Students spent ~1300 hours building the misuse dataset
- Students researched topics relevant to information security
- An 11.8 GB dataset exists and can be distributed