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Subject: Is Filter Action sometimes ignored

Posted by [Earl](#) on Wed, 22 Mar 2006 23:04:48 GMT

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I've been adjusting the order of the filters and decided to put the Spam Trap first. If I have a message that the spam trap returns accept/delete, it still gets forwarded to the next filter (attachment filter), which returns accept/deliver, but then the next line says "Incoming mail action: accept/delete".

From the log (date removed to make it format a little better):

16:52:04 Session 0: (Spam Trap) Learning message as spam

16:52:04 Session 0: (Spam Trap) Executing: sa\sa-learn.exe -c "sa\ruleset" --spam

C:\WINDOWS\TEMP\SALearn0i.msg

16:52:23 Session 0: (Spam Trap) Command line exit code is 0

16:52:23 Session 0: (Spam Trap) Filter result is accept/delete

16:52:23 Session 0: (Attachment Filter) Filter result is accept/deliver

16:52:23 Session 0: Incoming mail action: accept/delete

16:52:24 Session 0: 250 OK

16:52:24 Session 0: QUIT

Why is the attachment filter running if the spam trap says to delete it?

Part II

Is there a preferred filter order? Why?

Thanks, Earl

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Subject: Re: Is Filter Action sometimes ignored

Posted by [support](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 2006 12:12:22 GMT

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This is working as intended. What happens is that the attachment filter scans mails "on-the fly", while the spam trap needs to collect each and every line of a message before it can begin to learn a message and finally delete it. Hence, both filters get to see the message, in the end it is deleted.

This almost answers Part II: Put those filters first, that best reduce the number of incoming messages at comparatively low cost (CPU/memory usage-wise).

We recommend the following filtering order:

1. attachment blocker
2. delay filter
3. 3rd party virus checker

4. spam trap, if configured
5. SpamAssassin

Where to put the virus checker is debatable, it depends on the scanner's performance. Some would put it last instead of third. Placing it third keeps the SpamAssassin database clear of virus and worm messages.

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Subject: Re: Is Filter Action sometimes ignored

Posted by [Jorge](#) on Mon, 19 Jan 2009 17:57:00 GMT

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I am afraid that the answer by Customer Service is either incorrect, or there is a bug in the software. I am using the very latest version as of this date, and I have the same exact issue. The messages sent to honeypot addresses are NOT deleted. They all get tested by the rest of the filters, and many of them end up in my inbox if the other filters fail to catch them.

There is a "Use filter output" option in the Spam Trap that supposedly allows you to set an action for positive matches, but unless I am doing something wrong, the option is useless. I try code 0, 1, etc. and the policy action is ignored. Running the test spam always yields no action.

Can someone PLEASE tell me how to properly configure the Spam Trap?

Beyond training the Bayes database I don't want any of those messages to go any further wasting resources, since they are 100% spam. They should be deleted immediately after training the Bayes db.

Thanks.

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