

Top Security launches free email service following €15 million investment

-World's First Web-based Secure Email Service from a Security Company-

As hackers, cyber criminals and 'malware authors' become increasingly sophisticated in their quest to corrupt, infect and steal via e-mail, Irish owned international security firm, Top Security today launched a free web-based email service which provides the ultimate in email security¹. Called *Topmail*, and available at www.topmail.ie, the service is aimed both at the home and small business user looking for a highly secure and easy to manage email account.

The new service uses Top Security's proprietary managed email filtering service called Blockmail, which was developed by its IT managed services arm, at a cost of €15 million. Blockmail deploys on three levels of anti-virus and three levels of anti-spam, as well as strong content filtering, updating every 7 minutes to protect against fast-breaking, evolving threats.

Unlike other web mail services, Topmail also offers this highly advanced and accurate security add-on for free. The service is fully automated, meaning that even the most inexperienced email users can easily activate it and its accompanying security features. For the small business user the added expense of a managed services or web hosting company, or the costs incurred in purchasing additional hardware or software for security purposes, is also eliminated.

Topmail comes to market after 18 months of development and testing and is the world's first web-based secure email service to be provided by a security company. Founded nearly 30 years ago, Top Security is now one of Ireland's leading traditional and IT security companies with 2,000 employees and operations in Ireland, the UK and South Africa.

Speaking of the service Founder and Group Chairman of Top Security Emmet O'Rafferty says, "It is important to note that Topmail is our own product and we are not reselling another web mail service under our name. Core to the Topmail service is its simplicity and effectiveness. It offers a means of communicating securely via email without the worry of spam and viruses² or receiving offensive and sometimes disturbing content- material that can often disable, if not destroy, a person's PC or laptop in one simple click. For the home and small office-home office user, this can lead to serious headaches given that they often don't have the IT skills to prevent or fix these problems. Then there's the additional worry of younger users at home having access to unsuitable content. While there is no substitute for a parent's watchful eye, Topmail provides peace of mind that the emails they are accessing are 'harmless'-something other free web-based email services can't do."

Simple to set up, users just log onto www.topmail.ie and follow a few simple steps to activate a free account. Features include a 24/7 global email monitoring service; a unique *@topmail.ie* email address; a free 100MB mailbox; unlimited sending and receiving of emails and the ability to download to Outlook, Outlook Express or any other mail client program.

"Round the clock security support, cutting edge technology and multi-million euro infrastructures ensure that Topmail is one the most secure web based email services in the world today," says O'Rafferty. "In addition, Topmail is compliant with most internal office policies regarding the internet, as well as being above international best practices regarding inappropriate content."

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Editor's notes:

1. According to an IE Internet Annual Security Review (2006), approximately one in every two emails sent to Irish email inboxes was recorded as spam, with an average of 15 per cent of emails sent infected with a virus. In addition, research group Behaviour & Attitudes also reported (2006) that more than 15,000 Irish internet users may have had their identities stolen through sophisticated phishing scams.

2. According to a recent study from electronic security specialists Sophos, nearly 60 per cent of PC-users receive at least one phishing e-mail every day.

About Top Security:

Top Security has more than 25 years of experience in both traditional security services and specialised IT security products and services for the consumer and business market. Founded in 1979 and headquartered in Ballymount, Top Security continues to develop highly specialised solutions for its clients, across a wide array of security needs, including; Alarm Monitoring, CCTV & Industrial Monitoring, Security Services, Security Guards, Mobile Security Patrols, Key-holding & Retail Security.

Through its IT arm, Topsec Technology, the company provides and develops its own online and IT security measures including email content filtering (Blockmail), a free web-based email service (TopMail) and personal security using phone technology (TopLocate). Additional business services include firewall security, VPNs and intrusion detection as well as data communication, internet access and provisioning.

With more than 2,000 employees and operations in Ireland, the UK and South Africa, Top Security clients include State and semi-state bodies, large corporations, property companies, multinationals and residential customers nationwide. Top Security's commitment to integrity, the highest standards and providing customer value continues to distinguish it as one of the most trusted and respected security providers in the industry.

More information can be found at www.topsecurity.ie