Fighting Cyber Crime in Malta

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Cyber Crime Unit
Society moves forward..

- 20.1% of population have internet access
- 7.8% - broadband
- 12.3% - narrowband
- 934 million internet users worldwide
- Projection 2005 – 1.07 billion!
Towards new realities.

The concept of cyberspace has developed from science fiction into a socially constructed reality.

- New distinctions between acceptable and deviant behaviour
- New public demands for regulation
- New types of risk communities now accompany the old
New legal framework

- Computer Misuse
- Data Protection
- Electronic Commerce
- Child Pornography
- Cyber Crime
- Convention
Striking back

- Punishment sufficient to deter would be offenders
- Different punishment scales
- Protection against ‘persons of trust’
Police Cyber Crime Unit

- Assist in the investigation of all crimes in which computer and computer systems are used as a target of an attack, and/or used as the medium to launch any attack on any entity.
- Be in a position to collect and preserve evidence and to present same evidence before judicial authorities.
- Be in a position to provide a 24x7 level of support to international law enforcement agencies.
Cyber Crime – The Impact

- Damaged reputation
- Loss of revenue
- Reduced financial performance
- Loss of productivity
- Loss of trust
- Potential business closure
Case Study

19 year old student surfs the Net for help
- Obtains tool
- Distributes ‘trojan’ files
- Receives documents at concealed email address
- Hits jackpot!

Ease of communication
- Instant availability of malicious tools
- Ease of obtaining victim information
- Lack of ‘security’ awareness
Police CCU continued…

- Develop a network amongst the local ICT industry striving to harness support in combating computer related crime and generating awareness of good security practice.
- Be involved in a general drive to promote awareness amongst local communities particularly safeguarding against possible targeting of young internet users.
Initiatives

- Task Force – ‘Child Abuse Over The Internet’
- Active member in N.I.S.C.O.
- MCAST – student awareness programme
- I.S.P. User Group
- Education Department
Further initiatives

- Collaboration with International Law Agencies
- Participation in National Survey
- Improved community-policing communication
- Police training
The way forward

- Working together to generate good security practices
- Foster an environment of trust
- Strike a balance between law, order and individual rights.
10q 4 u r attention!

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That guy created a computer virus. The other one copied music CDs. And the one over there got caught stealing cable. Geez... What happened to real criminals like pickpockets, bank robbers and kidnappers?