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April 14, 2004

Federal Trade Commission  
CAN-SPAM Act  
Post Office Box 1030  
Merrifield, VA  
22116-1030

Re: CAN-SPAM Act Rulemaking, Project No. R411008 To the Commissioners,

I appreciate your efforts to curb the problem of unsolicited bulk email. The proposed requirement for merchants to maintain suppression lists will hurt me, an honest non spamming Internet News service that protects consumers!

There are so many problems with this idea and damage can be caused to my newsletter subscribers who depend on me to keep them informed of the latest Internet scams. This will hurt my subscriber list...by lack of information. I must urge you to come up with another solution. After my comments I OFFER SOLUTIONS AT THE END OF THIS LETTER THAT WILL MAKE THE FTC NATIONAL HEROES OF THE YEAR IN LESS THAN 2 WEEKS!!

Requirement of the use of suppression lists will destroy protection services such as my warning list for the [www.mlmwatchdog.com](http://www.mlmwatchdog.com) on the Internet.

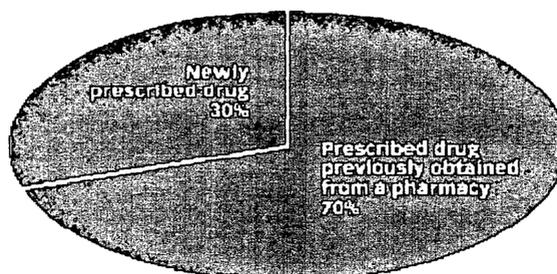
Additional concern is for harm to other publishers such as mine that promote consumer protection and awareness. I do not SELL anything, no back ends or tricks. My list is by subscription and I maintain a global unsubscribe list. A suppression list could hurt me badly. A person might join the suppression list to NOT get spam BUT...They Still Want my NEWSLETTER! The suppression list will knock them out.

There's also the potential for significant harm to consumers, because a suppression list will not properly define or classify their intent when they unsubscribe from a list.

This will also be a joke because the hackers will be inside a suppression list stealing names to spam. I believe the FTC itself said you didn't want to run a DO NOT SPAM list because of security.

Research shows that 75% of illegal spamming right now and 75% of the spam I get (over 200 a day) are U.S. Pharmacies advertising for drugs on the Internet. Why? The money margins are big! How to stop 75% of Internet spam? Form a task force of FTC, FDA and State Attorney Generals... The rest is easy! Follow the money trail. Shut down or fine the Pharmacies that are paying the spammers and you will be the HEROES of the century during an election year!

**Type of Prescription Obtained by Online Prescription Drug Purchasers in the US, March 2004**



Note: ages 18+  
Source: Harris Interactive, March 2004

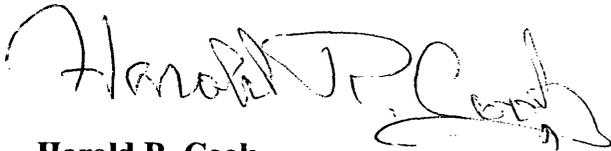
Go to the root of the problem, piece by piece please and be NATIONAL HEROES at the same time. Anytime you want drug spam for tracking I will be glad to send you 100-150 \$%#@\* DRUG spams I get a day!

**FAST SOLUTIONS OFFERED:**

(1) If you would like I can put together a volunteer group to track and document which pharmacy the spam directs potential customers to!

(2) In fact having "owned" several pharmacies complements of the U.S. Army I would be glad to run around the country with a "strike force" as mentioned above. Improper documentation on pharmaceuticals (I have never seen a pharmacy that had all its paperwork straight)! Shut them down until reinspection (could take 2 weeks to get back). About two weeks of that and the spam on the Internet would be reduced 60% when the word got around that "WE NOTICED YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE SPAMMING." When in doubt call in the Army..... (retirees) :-)

Sincerely



Harold R. Cook

