

From: CD
Posted At: Wednesday, April 07, 2004 1:04 PM
Posted To: spywareworkshop2004
Conversation: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509
Subject: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509

Spyware applications (from: Claria (Gator), WhenU, 180Solutions, eBates, eZula's TopText, etc.) do one or more of the following activities:

- basically steal (that's how I see it) affiliate commissions by pushing up ads with their own affiliate links causing the real affiliate that referred the sale to lose their commission and have the commission instead diverted to the spyware company.
- use drive-by installers to install their spyware onto computers of unsuspecting users who have their activeX settings not set secured enough.
- use other bundled software to install their spyware with very little or no warning.
- make their spyware software nearly impossible to remove by the average computer user.
- use web site pages to push up their own ads, but do not compensate the site owner for lost traffic nor do they get their permission to use their site to push up their popup ads or to insert their text ad links.
- push competing ads up over web site owners' web sites. the ads are not initiated by the web site owner nor do the spyware makers have the permission to popup ads over the owners' web sites.