Combat Cyberbullying

Protect yourself against cyberbullies by following these simple actions:

- **Ignore them**
  Stop communicating with them and pay no attention to their messages.

- **Take a break**
  Step away from the computer, and come back later.

- **Play games that limit cyberbullies**
  Play online games that offer features such as block or mute cyberbullies messages and vote them off.

- **Choose sites with strict rules**
  Opt for online games sites that have strict rules or active administrator who can ban cyberbullies promptly upon lodging a report.

- **Do not fight fire with fire**
  There is absolutely no need to reply cyberbullies messages or emails; report them to the online game administrator immediately.

- **Logs chats**
  Keep records of any chats, email messages, voice chats, especially those that contain profanity and sexually explicit language received from other online players. These records can be used as evidences when you need to report cyberbullies.

- **Report them**
  Report and talk to your parents, teachers, and online game administrator or any adult you trust; this is to prevent them from harming other victims.

- **Use genderless or neutral nicknames**
  Choose a 'good' and neutral nickname that does not reveal much information about you, such as your age, gender or location. The nickname should follow rules of the online game site. Whatever your choice, the name should not reveal any personal information or potentially invite harassment (e.g. sexygirl).

- **Create Strong password**
  Ensure you create a strong password for your online game. If you do not know how, ask for advice. Do not give your password to other players. Refer to http://www.esecurity.org.my/kid-password.htm on how to create a good and strong password. If you think someone may know your password, change it. Also, make it a practise to change your password regularly.

- **Block offending players**
  You may select the offending player's name from the players to block their messages. In addition, report the offending players to game administrator. Check the online game's website for further information on this feature.

- **Follow game rules**
  Always follow the rules set by the game administrator and your parents. Remember, 'rules are not to be broken'; they are made for your own good.

- **Inform someone you trust if you feel uncomfortable**
  Inform your parents, teachers or guardians, if you feel uncomfortable with how other players are behaving. You should inform the game administrator or website administrator.

If someone sends you offending or threatening messages, inform the police, MyCERT (www.mycert.org.my) or website moderator/owner immediately

INCIDENT REPORTING CHANNELS

Online Reporting
http://www.mycert.org.my/report_incidents/online_form.html

Telephone
Call Cyber999 Hotline number at 1-300-88-2999 or +603-8992 6969. Office Hours only. Monday – Friday, 8:30am - 5:30pm, GMT+0800

Mobile Phone
Call +6019-266 5850 (24 x 7)

SMS
Send SMS to +6019-281 3801

Email
Send email to mycert@mycert.org.my

Fax
Download form at:
http://www.mycert.org.my/en/services/report_incidents/fax_details/main/detail/157/index.html and fax to +603-8945 3442

CyberSecurity Malaysia
Level 7, Sapura @ Mines, 7, Jalan Tasik
The Mines Resort City, 43300 Seri Kembangan
Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia.
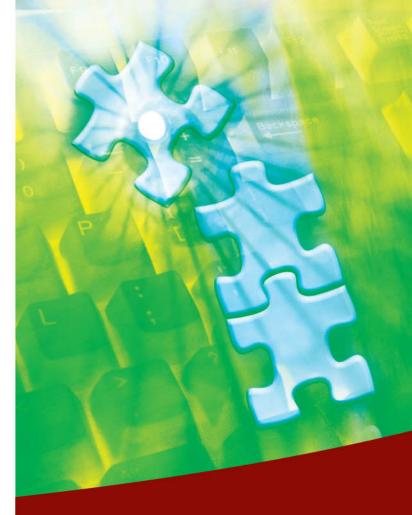Tel : +603 - 8992 6888 Fax : +603 - 8945 3205
E-mail : info@cybersecurity.my
www.cybersecurity.my

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Traditionally, electronic or video games were played with hand held devices or large computers with a visual display interface and it is usually played by one person or more than one person (multi-player systems). Over the years, with the emergence of Internet, people have found new ways to communicate and interact with others over great distances. This opens up the opportunity for many interactive web-based applications, and online gaming lure many people to get on board the internet gaming platform.

Online games range from simple text-based to complex graphic intensive applications and virtual worlds that can involve people at one time. This has also created many online communities where people make new friends and associates to play and interact with. The online communities are largely made up of teenager and adults. Conversely, it has become a social networking activity and has contributed to the growth of the Internet over the years.

Threats in Online Game

As online game involve people and online communities, there are bound to be threats just like in real life as the people that you deal with are not your friends in real life but also new friends you meet online from various parts of the world. Online gamers need to be aware of the threats facing them and how they can protect themselves against such threats.

The following are some of the threat/risks facing online gamers:

- **Cyberbullying**
Cyberbullying refers to the new and growing practice of using technology to harass or bully someone. Forms of Cyberbullying can range in severity from cruel or embarrassing rumours to threats, harassment, or stalking. Cyberbully use electronic media such as email, instant messaging, web pages, cell phones, PDAs and digital photos to harass the gamer.

- **Tampering**
Tampering in online games involves changing or deleting information (e.g. result) without authorisation. Players use tools to modify result of online game via the program file or memory.

- **Masquerading**
Impersonating or pretending to be somebody else. Gamers obtain/steal other player's personal information such as username and password and use his/her identity to gain access to the online game website.

- **Social Engineering**
To trick players into revealing their personal information, (e.g. ID and password).

Best Practices for Safe Online Game

You can prevent these threats by taking some simple steps. The following are some of the best practices for dealing with online games threats:

- **Read privacy statements and terms of acceptable use**
Before you start playing, read carefully privacy statements and any fine prints in the websites. Understand the terms of acceptable use of online games before you click any buttons. If you do not understand, ask someone else who does. If you are below 18 years old, ask your parents or teachers. As a rule of thumb, do not join games that you do not understand the terms of acceptable use.

- **Protect your personal information**
Never give out your personal information such as your full name, Identification number i.e. IC or passport number, address, phone number and photo. This information can lead to dangerous situations. Refer to http://www.esecurity.org.my/kid-info.htm for further information.

- **Practice safe chat**
Some online games allow you to chat with other players via a device (e.g. headset). When you chat with other players, do not use offensive language or reveal personal information about you or your family.

- **Trust only people you know**
Your online game players may not be who they say they are. Adults (or Pedophiles) can disguise their voice using voice masking or cloaking technology during online games. You might think he/she is 12 years old, but in reality, he/she could be much older.

- **Do not meet with strangers**
Never agree to meet with other unknown player. He/she may have other ulterior motive. Get your parents to accompany you if you still want to meet the other player.