



# Netherlands attracts second highest number of botnets in the world

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, BENELUX, BELGIUM, February 10, 2014 /EINPresswire.com/ -- According to the Netherlands' National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) there were 779 incidents in the country last year, an increase which included 36 incidents affecting banks and 91 alerts to the NCSC website itself.

According to the 2013 Eurobarometer survey, the Netherlands has the highest level of Internet usage in Europe in terms of online transactions (77% of users) and, emails (96% of users) and is second only to Denmark in terms of, online banking (88% of Dutch users compared to 89% of Danish users). Cyber crime is at a comparable level with this high rate of usage too: the Netherlands hosts the second highest number botnets in the world, and phishing attacks increased 39% between 2011 and 2012 according to the same survey.

In May 2013 the Dutch government suffered several DDoS attacks which prevented 10 million citizens from paying their taxes and bills online. Victims such as ING, ABN Amro and Rabobank also suffered cyber attacks which caused enormous problems both for the organisations themselves and their clients.

According to Internet World Statistics, the Netherlands has the highest internet penetration in Europe, and in 2013 was reported to have the sixth-fastest Internet speeds in the world, one of the reasons why the DDoS attacks have become so brutal.

Although the Netherlands is the fourth best informed country in Europe about cybercrime, with 61% of Dutch Internet users describing themselves as well informed about online risks (behind Luxemburg (62%), Sweden (69%) and Denmark (74%)), there is still a lot to do to mitigate the risk: DDoS attacks against Dutch infrastructures have increased 200% since 2011.

Regardless of internal or external threat, however, it is advisable for organisations to implement the internationally recognised information security standard, [ISO27001](#), which sets out best practice specifications for an Information Security Management System (ISMS) to reduce cyber threats.

Alan Calder, Chief Executive of IT Governance EU, the global leader in information security and ISO27001 products and services, recommends reading the ISO27001 pocket guide An Introduction to Information Security and ISO 27001 (2013), and downloading the free Information Security and ISO27001 [Green Paper](#), which will increase information security knowledge for organisations that do not want to risk DDoS attacks.

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