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virus



Definitions:

📖 A computer program that can copy itself and infect a computer without permission or knowledge of the user. A virus might corrupt or delete data on a computer, use e-mail programs to spread itself to other computers, or even erase everything on a hard disk. See malicious code.

Sources:

[CNSSI 4009-2015](#)

[NIST SP 800-12 Rev. 1](#) under Virus from CNSSI 4009

📖 A program that replicates itself by attaching to other programs or files, where it hides until activated.

Sources:

[NIST SP 800-28 Version 2](#) under Virus

📖 A hidden, self-replicating section of computer software, usually malicious logic, that propagates by infecting (i.e., inserting a copy of itself into and becoming part of) another program. A virus cannot run by itself; it requires that its host program be run to make the virus active.

Sources:

[NIST SP 800-82r3](#) from [RFC 4949](#) - adapted

GLOSSARY COMMENTS

Comments about specific definitions should be sent to the authors of the linked Source publication. For NIST publications, an email is usually found within the document.

Comments about the glossary's presentation and functionality should be sent to secglossary@nist.gov.

See [NISTIR 7298 Rev. 3](#) for additional details.

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