

Mar 29, 2003



DALnet Message Of The Day

DDoS Attacks - Information for Users of DALnet.

DALnet is presently suffering extensive and prolonged Distributed Denial of Service attacks against our IRC servers, Web server, mail servers and DNS systems. These attacks are causing great inconvenience and financial loss to many of the organizations that host our services, as such some of them have suspended or discontinued their support of DALnet. DALnet would like to extend our thanks to all those who sponsored servers, we are grateful for the support you have provided us during what are difficult times. Users may also find it difficult to access our websites or send mail to @dal.net addresses due to attacks on the web, mail and DNS servers.

Some questions we are being asked regularly during these attacks should be answered by the FAQ below.

Q: Where can I find out more about what's happening?

Visit <http://zine.dal.net/situation.php> for a more descriptive account of what's happening.

Q: Why are you not able to stop the attacks, it looks like you aren't in control of things!

That is because we are not in control of things. A person or group of persons unknown are using Distributed Denial of Service techniques to literally destroy our network. In doing so they are causing great inconvenience to our hosts as well as to us and our users. By the very nature of DDoS it's almost impossible to trace and impossible to defend against. There is, quite honestly, nothing we can do. If this person or group decide to destroy DALnet, they will do so and we cannot stop them.

Q: Why don't you do something about it?

We have done all that is possible. We have lodged complaints with those ISP's we can trace, most of which are ineffective. We have involved various law enforcement officials but legal investigations take time to conduct and don't provide any immediate solution to the problem. There is no more we can do, please remember we are a free service run by volunteers on donated equipment and bandwidth, we cannot simply throw more bandwidth at the problem and even if we could, the attacks are so massive it would make little if any difference.

Q: Why don't you call in the FBI?

DALnet and it's sponsors are working with various law enforcement

Recent News

No news

Chat now!

Nickname:

Users Login

Nick:

Pass:

Server Applications

No pending server apps

Documentation

How to get on DALnet

- Netiquette
- IRC Impersonators
- Managing Annoyances
- Miscellaneous Commands

More documents

agencies towards tracing and prosecuting the people behind these attacks. Legal investigations do however take time to complete and we are unable to comment any further on the status of those investigations.

Q: Why don't you talk to Steve Gibson of GRC.COM, he knows all about this stuff?

We already have many people working with us who are intimately familiar with DDoS attacks and how to deal with them.

Q: I can't connect to any servers, help!

There's no help we can offer. If you can't connect to a server, neither can we. The best we can suggest is to try another server although we appreciate it is difficult to find any servers currently accepting clients.

Q: When will the attacks stop?

We don't know. They will stop when either the attackers decide to stop attacking, the attackers get arrested or shut down by their ISP's or when DALnet runs out of good will from it's sponsors and is forced to close.

Q: I have information about the attacks, how can I get it to you?

If you have any information which may be of use to us in tracing the perpetrators of these attacks, please use the contact form on **<http://kline.dal.net/exploits/info.htm>**

Started in 1994 as an alternative to the overburdened networks of the time, DALnet has grown into a vibrant community and is widely regarded as the most "friendly" of the major IRC networks. DALnet pioneered nickname and channel registration, giving users the right and ability to govern their online experience, without the fear of channel takeover, impersonation or harassment.

DALnet has always considered the well being of its users to be of paramount importance. This ideology has led to the development of extensive online and offline help systems over the years for users in need of assistance. From mailing lists to #OperHelp, DALnet's staff works diligently to serve its community of dedicated users.

DALnet's existence depends solely upon the goodwill of others. The equipment and bandwidth used to power each server is all donated as a service to the Internet community. All of DALnet's staff, helpers and coders alike, are volunteers who devote themselves selflessly to the good of the network and its users.

The future of DALnet depends upon these volunteers and the user base, which has always acted to support the DALnet IRC community. We feel many good things lie ahead and we look forward to seeing you online!

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