

This World Cup, users need to beware of malware

PHOTO: AFP



Be wary of emails with news of World Cup players

Even as a month of football carnival begins, fans of the beautiful game need to be extra careful while staying updated online.

Security software firm Symantec has already identified several scams around the World Cup. While some emails promoting free tickets contain a malicious zip file with a remote administration tool (RAT) known as DarkComet, those containing news and highlight reels of teams and players could be used to entice users to open malicious attachments or links. Others offering free live streams are asking users to fill a survey or install software before you can unlock access to it.

To counter it, anti-virus and content security solution providers eScan and IT security solutions provider Quick Heal Technologies suggest:

- Treat every mail that talks about the World Cup with suspicion, especially those about offers, lotteries, prizes and tickets.
- Although, websites usually having 'https' in their URLs are secure, this might not be the case here.

- Be wary of Facebook posts promising free tickets or footage. Do not click on such posts or share them with friends.
- Download songs and wallpapers only from official websites and trusted sources.
- Do not respond to any text messages about World

Cup 2014 from unknown numbers.

- Before installing any gaming or live-streaming app, conduct a background check on various forums to understand the problems faced by the users of that app.
- Always check the details of the website developer to

ensure they have a legitimate mobile gaming app available.

- Do thorough research on the reputability of the company that is selling the app.
- Do not install mobile apps before understanding the 'Access Rights' required by them.

- Sneha Mahale