

virus

BULLETIN

EXCERPT FROM VIRUS BULLETIN ANTI-SPAM COMPARATIVE REVIEW, SEPTEMBER 2012

Kaspersky Linux Mail Security 8.0

SC rate: 99.93%

FP rate: 0.01%

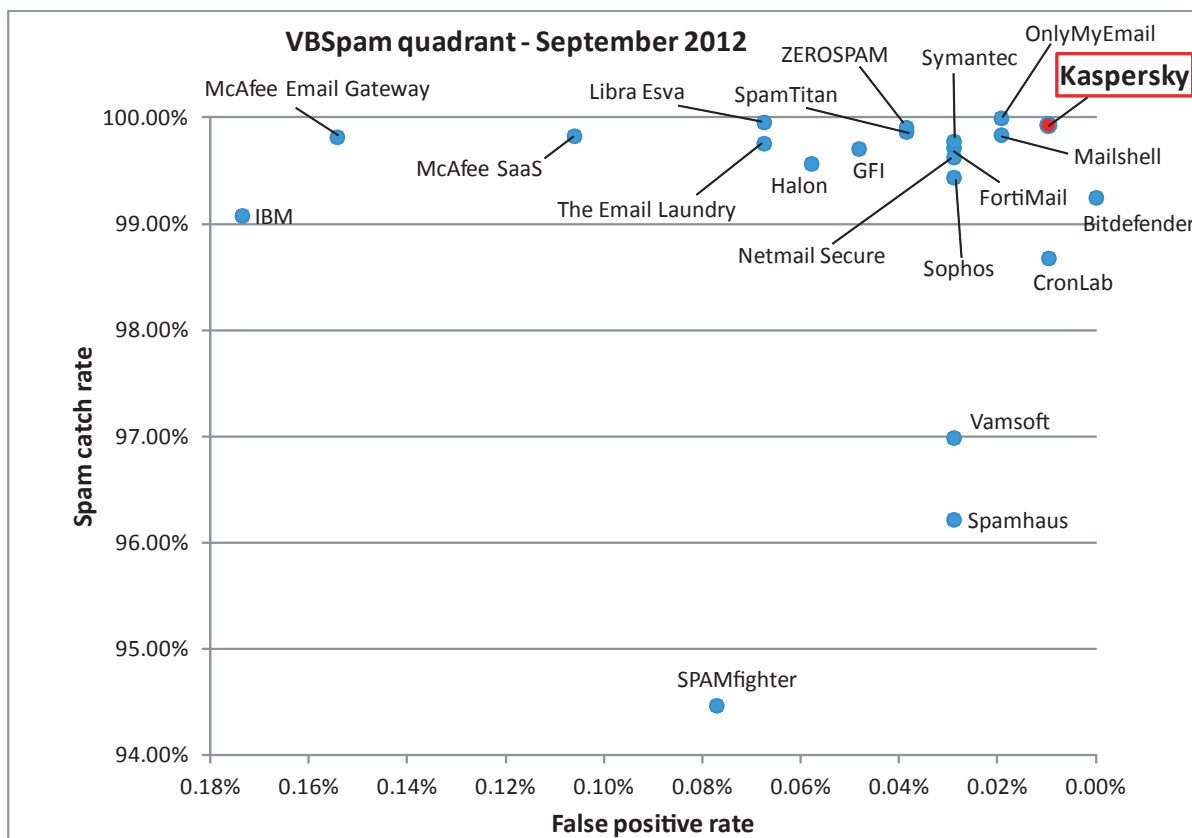
Final score: 99.88

Project Honey Pot SC rate: 99.91%

Abusix SC rate: 99.99%

Newsletters FP rate: 0.0%

Kaspersky's Linux Mail Security made an impressive debut in the last test, yet it managed to improve its performance even further this month. The 99.93% catch rate was the third highest of all complete solutions, while for the second time running, the product missed only a single legitimate email. It was only that email that stood between Kaspersky and



a VBSpam+ award, but with the second highest final score this month, the developers can be very pleased with their product's performance.

Complete solutions sorted by final score	
OnlyMyEmail	99.90
Kaspersky LMS	99.88
Mailshell	99.74
ZEROSPAM	99.72
SpamTitan	99.68
Symantec	99.64
Libra Esva	99.62
FortiMail	99.57
Netmail Secure	99.48
GFI	99.47
The Email Laundry	99.42
McAfee SaaS	99.30
Halon Security	99.29
Sophos	99.29
Bitdefender	99.25
McAfee Email Gateway	99.05
CronLab	98.64
IBM	98.21
Vamsoft ORF	96.85
SPAMfighter	94.09

METHODOLOGY

The VBSpam test methodology can be found at <http://www.virusbtn.com/vbspam/methodology/>. As usual, email was sent to the products in parallel and in real time, and products were given the option to block email pre-DATA. Five products chose to make use of this option.

As in previous tests, the products that needed to be installed on a server were installed on a *Dell PowerEdge R200*, with a 3.0GHz dual core processor and 4GB of RAM. The *Linux* products ran on *SuSE Linux Enterprise Server 11* (*Bitdefender*) or *Ubuntu 11* (*Kaspersky*); the *Windows*

Server products ran on either the 2003 or the 2008 version, depending on which was recommended by the vendor.

To compare the products, we calculate a 'final score', which is defined as the spam catch (SC) rate minus five times the false positive (FP) rate. Products earn VBSpam certification if this value is at least 97:

$$SC - (5 \times FP) \geq 97$$

Those products that combine a spam catch rate of 99.5% or higher with no false positives earn a VBSpam+ award.

The test ran for 16 consecutive days, from 12am GMT on Saturday 18 August 2012 until 12am GMT on Monday 3 September 2012. On the afternoon of 24 August, the test stopped running for a few hours due to a hardware failure. Although technically not affecting the test set-up, we chose to err on the side of the caution and suspended the test for a few hours while fixing the issue.

The corpus contained 144,971 emails, 134,418 of which were spam. Of these, 101,621 were provided by *Project Honey Pot*, and 32,797 were provided by *Spamfeed.me* from *Abusix*. They were all relayed in real time, as were the 10,366 legitimate emails ('ham') and the remaining 187 emails, which were all legitimate newsletters.

This test also saw an increase in non-English-language ham and newsletters. Products had some difficulties in both these categories. False-positive rates in double digits were not an exception this time, and only one full solution managed to avoid false positives altogether.

CONCLUSION

It is clear that many products saw their spam catch rates – which had gradually slid down throughout the year – bounce back a little in this month's test, which is really good news.

On the other hand, however, some products had serious problems with the introduction of more Asian-language spam, while many products found some non-English legitimate emails hard to deal with. There is certainly some room for improvement for many of the products. We will be watching to see whether participants can make these improvements.



Web: www.kaspersky.com