Chapter VII
Reference Materials

FBI Statement on Improving Information Security

(Farnan, 2003)


Thank you for inviting me here today to testify on the topic, “Fighting Fraud: Improving Information Security.” Holding this hearing demonstrates your commitment to improving the security of our Nation’s information systems and this committee’s leadership on this issue in Congress. Our work here is vitally important because the stakes involved are enormous. My testimony today will address the activities of the FBI’s Cyber Division
as they relate to a broad spectrum of criminal acts involving fraud and information security. Today there are over 180 million computer users in the United States alone. There are more than 600 million worldwide, and the number is growing. Many of these users are connecting to the Internet, communicating, conducting business, managing financial affairs, searching for information and, unfortunately, committing crimes.

**Cyber Vulnerabilities**

Anyone with a basic computer interest is probably aware of the existence of security vulnerabilities, at least in a general sense, in our networks and computers. These vulnerabilities are widely discussed in the media. Using a simple Internet search, a 12 year old could locate a variety of hacker tools, then download and implement them. When we first saw the dramatic increase in home computers in early 1990s, we did not worry about attacks on our family computers. Most casual users were not aware that security vulnerabilities even existed. Today, we worry about our systems getting hit with viruses, worms and Trojans. Companies secure web sites and web pages against attacks and defacements. Consumers are concerned that companies are not maintaining adequate security on our personal and financial information as we hear weekly news reports about hackers and new intrusions.

American consumers and businesses increasingly are relying on the Internet to complete transactions. E-commerce is growing in all sectors of the U.S. economy. Most e-commerce transactions are business-to-business (B2B), but e-commerce retail sales reached $46 billion in 2002, up from $36 billion in 2001. When Internet users — be they businesses or consumers — are crippled by Internet fraud schemes, the viability of e-commerce is compromised.

Computer intrusions are a different category from most fraud schemes. Many intrusions are never reported because companies fear a loss of
Trustworthy Web Services: An Experience-Based Model for Trustworthiness Evaluation
www.igi-global.com/article/trustworthy-web-services/2453?camid=4v1a

Three Models to Measure Information Security Compliance
www.igi-global.com/article/three-models-measure-information-security/40360?camid=4v1a