

ElcomSoft Employs Home Cloud Computing to Accelerate Password Recovery

Moscow, Russia – April 1, 2011 – ElcomSoft Co. Ltd. introduces a newly developed, patent-pending Home Cloud Computing technology. Elcomsoft Home Cloud Computing allows making use of idle CPU cycles of many types of electronic gadgets, consumer devices and appliances to increase the performance of password recovery. Elcomsoft Home Cloud Computing supports a wide range communication-enabled devices featuring CPU, GPU, or DSP units such as communicators, phones, tablets, digital SLR cameras, iPods and iPads, some models of flat-screen TVs and Wi-Fi or Ethernet-enabled media players kitchen appliances.



“Before Elcomsoft Home Cloud Computing, the powerful computation resources available in consumer gadgets and electronic appliances were being wasted”, says ElcomSoft CEO Vladimir Katalov. *“The new technology allows our customers to extract every bit of performance out of these devices and use the extra megahertz’s for boosting the performance of the password recovery job”.*

About ElcomSoft Home Cloud Computing

In today’s gadget-obsessed world, an average consumer owns 10 to 15 devices featuring an embedded CPU and some form of communication with the outside world.

“I love gadgets. I’ve got dozens of them, and they’re multiplying”, confesses Andrey Belenko, ElcomSoft Security Researcher. *“It would be a shame to waste all those precious CPU resources of them”.*

Devices such as mobile phones, iPods and iPads, communicators, digital cameras, and even high-end fridges and coffee makers feature powerful processing units that run some form of an embedded OS. Most commonly used are embedded Linux, Symbian, and FreeBSD. Apple devices are powered by iOS, while many recent gadgets ship with Android. Panasonic plasma TVs, for example, run an embedded version of Linux. ElcomSoft is particularly proud to support Apple iPad 2, which provides extreme computational power with its dual processor.

Modern video games are among the most resource-intensive applications on the market. No wonder that today’s gaming consoles have often more computational power than PCs. In particular, Wii, Play Station 2/3, PSP (PlayStation Portable), and Xbox consoles have lots of muscle.

While some appliances genuinely require a powerful processor (e.g. high-definition TVs, upscaling DVD and Blu-Ray players etc.), other electronic devices such as photo frames and color-screen fridges have reasonably powerful processing units for simple economic reasons. Manufacturers are re-using proven designs instead of downgrading hardware and re-designing software. As a result, many gadgets carry CPU units that are specced way beyond their actual computational needs. The extra computational power is simply wasted.

“I was surprised to discover true computational potential of some devices”, says Andy Malyshev, ElcomSoft CTO. *“A stock entertainment system in my car cracks passwords as fast as my two year-old laptop”.*

The majority of these gadgets feature some sort of connectivity, either for receiving software updates, communicating with the outside world, or for receiving programming instructions. Many come with built-in Internet access, Wi-Fi or Ethernet, while others can communicate via ElcomSoft’s newly developed Power Line Communication (PLC) technology allowing data transmission via home power outlets.

Technology Background

ElcomSoft began approaching Home Cloud Computing several years ago. First, the company released an iPhone password breaker; a job that required extensive analysis of the entire hardware platform and iOS. Soon after, ElcomSoft updated Advanced iPhone Password Breaker with iPad and iPod support. BlackBerry smartphones quickly followed, with ElcomSoft renaming the product into Phone Password Breaker. A few years later, the company performed a thorough analysis of top digital SLR cameras, revealing significant security vulnerabilities in Canon SLRs. The real purpose of this venture was adapting ElcomSoft software to hardware platforms employed in these cameras.

Today, ElcomSoft gathered experience it accumulated over the years, and implemented support for the many platforms it has experience with into its range of password recovery products. *“It took us more than five years to develop this technology”,* says Olga Koksharova, ElcomSoft Marketing Director. *“It was an extremely complex project. At times, we were losing faith. Today, all problems are behind, and we’re introducing a well-rounded, refined solution”.*

About ElcomSoft Co.Ltd.

Founded in 1990, ElcomSoft Co.Ltd. develops state-of-the-art computer forensics tools, provides computer forensics training and computer evidence consulting services. Since 1997, ElcomSoft has been providing support to businesses, law enforcement, military, and intelligence agencies. ElcomSoft tools are used by most of the Fortune 500 corporations, multiple branches of the military all over the world, foreign governments, and all major accounting firms. ElcomSoft and its officers are members of the Russian Cryptology Association. ElcomSoft is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner and an Intel Software Partner. More information at <http://www.elcomsoft.com>

More information about Elcomsoft Home Cloud Computing is available at http://www.elcomsoft.com/home_cloud_computing.html

