The Active Consumer

Protecting Your Computer From Viruses

(NAPSA)—More and more, we use computers for a variety of tasks that require confidentiality—from banking, to shopping, to communicating with friends and family.

With this amount of online activity, you don't want to risk having strangers reading your email, accessing your banking account information or using your computer to attack other systems.

That's why the next time you're computer shopping for your home or small business, you need to do your homework to ensure that your computer is equipped with the latest virus protection technology.

According to the 2004 E-Crime Watch Survey conducted by CSO magazine, the odds of becoming a victim of computer security breach are 70 percent. With this kind of potential security risk, it is crucial for you to protect personal and financial information from hackers, as well as photos, videos and e-mail from a malicious virus attack. Additionally, if you or your children play PC or online games, or download music off the Internet, you'll want to make sure your machine or home network is protected. If unmonitored Web sites



Look for a computer with Enhanced Virus Protection technology built into the processor.

are visited to download songs, a new game map or a new screensaver, you could easily download a virus.

For a small business, a malicious virus attack can cost days of lost business and productivity, resulting in lost revenue. Without the resources to monitor your network, it is crucial that you have multiple layers of security to protect your business.

There are roughly 105 virus infections per 1,000 PCs per month. Almost every unsolicited attachment you get is some type of worm or virus. Sometimes even friends and family pass on infected files without knowing it.

With the increasing number and sophistication of virus attacks, consumers should take additional steps to protect important computer data.

To help ensure that you buy a computer that will protect your personal data as well as meet your computing needs, it's important to ask very specific questions:

- Does the processor provide some level of virus protection?
- What operating system do I need to ensure that the processor security technology works?
- What anti-virus software should I use?

With the fast-paced changes in today's technology, many consumers are not aware that virus protection can be provided by a computer processor, as well as by virus software.

A line of processors introduced by AMD is available to those who want the most updated virus protection technology, the best performance available and investment protection for tomorrow.

AMD processor-based PCs are available from leading computer manufacturers and at electronics retailers near you. For more information, go to the "Where to Buy" page on www.amd.com.