

All.Net Analyst Report and Newsletter

Welcome to our Analyst Report and Newsletter

Cyberspace vs. COVID-19 – Cyberspace takes the offensive

Now that most folks around the world are starting to arrive at the new normal, at least for a while, it's time to stop worrying, and start on the offensive against COVID-19. And make no mistake – there is an offensive battle here.

The battle against the disrupters

Some assholes are still trying to disrupt Internet services with things like denial of services attacks. This is the time to very quickly find, arrest, and punish them. Not for denial of services, but for crimes against humanity, murder, and other related crimes that results from their disruptions. That's right, people will die, perhaps many people, if critical communications and transportation of food and medicine are interfered with. The disrupters need to be told this, and they need to be arrested and prosecuted swiftly and severely. This isn't humor or showing weaknesses. It isn't "white hat" or "revealing security flaws". It can kill people and unless you want to be put away for along time in a jail holding people dying of the virus, you had better stop it now.

To be clear, if this comes from another nation state, it is an act of war. And if it comes through a nation state, they are responsible for stopping it. If they fail to do so (including the US) they risk being bombed or shot. No crap – life and death – act of war – just like if you blew up a hospital right now.

The battle against the virus

Cyberspace is not just computers. It's all of the cybernetic mechanisms we are now living with. Sensors, actuators, communications, and control. That means that the people fighting the virus are doing so using cybernetic systems.

- Gene sequencers and splicers used to analyze the virus as it evolves.
- Medical equipment being use to treat people.
- Digital thermometers showing human temperature changes as leading indicators.
- Equipment being used for the research into potential cures and vaccinations.
- The communications used between the people doing this work around the world.
- Logistics, supply chain, ordering, financial transactions, ... and the list goes on.

How good are we? How long? Nobody knows.

Eradicating smallpox started in a serious way in 1959. It was declared gone (and it essentially was) in 1979. That's 20 years. AIDS (HIV) is largely under control now – and it took about 12 years. We are looking at a vaccine and treatments in 12-18 months at least for COVID-19.

But this is not Star Trek. Science fiction anticipates a future that could do things faster, but today we are using cybernetic systems to get there far faster than any time in history. But this is not going to end soon, unless it ends very badly.

The battle for hearts and minds

It's our will that has to take control over our fear and the fear others put upon us. And make no mistake – people are trying to take advantage of your fears today. They are using cyberspace to do it. They are disrupting services, spreading rumors, lying, inducing panic, trying to take money and advantage, and on and on. But here's a really important one:

“Social Distancing” means “Physical Distancing”

DO NOT BECOME PERSONALLY DISTANT

Group cohesion, families helping each other, helping a stranger, protecting each other, keeping each other safe, keeping and building emotional ties and relationships, these are all critically important to our societies.

- Continue to make and keep in touch with family and friends.
- Make new friends and build on existing relationships.
- Spend the time you are not commuting building a loving life with others.

Keep up your relationships and build on them. Have a beer with a friend – remotely.

Cognitive Security: Countering disinformation, misinformation, frauds, lies, etc.

This is a battle for our hearts and minds, at a time when societies around the world are having difficulty internally. Some of the other key issues today are:

- **Don't get ripped off:** Buy from reputable sources you are already working with.
- **Don't believe everything you hear:** Look for multiple sources of information.
- **Keep a sense of humor and perspective:** The world is not ending ... yet...
- **Secure your physical family, then...** start to look for paths forward.

Who to trust:

People who don't look like you or act like you may know more than you about things that could save your life and the life of your family.

- Generally, science actually works. But experts have limited scope of expertise.
 - Trust groups of medical professionals and their representatives regarding medicine.
 - But don't trust a diagnostician over an immunologist in understanding immunity.
- People who have been right in the past tend to be right moving forward.
 - Trust people who have been right in the past in regards to similar things today.
 - But don't trust your grocer over the CDC on virus longevity on vegetables.
- Trust people who back up their claims with independent facts over those who don't.
 - Facts are sticky things, but opinions are not.
 - Ignore people who say one thing today and the opposite thing yesterday.

My father used to say **“Actions speak louder than words”**. And my mother used to say **“Just because other people are jumping off a bridge, does that mean you should?”**

Things are changing... have changed

Digital transformation is no longer being slowly adopted. It's here now. And it's a matter of survival, not choice.

- It's time to make the leap, whether you want to or not.
- You will find what we found long ago
 - Live online remote
 - Digital messaging
 - Work from home

All of them make life better, get more things done faster, and are less expensive.

I have worked at home most of the time since the 1980s.

- I have run businesses and helped other folks run businesses this way.
- You can do this – but you need to think through your strategy.
- Urgent and important changes are underway
 - But within a few weeks, that will change to better, safer, more reliable...

It's time to start fighting back!

The battle for the long-term future

We are not going back to the dark (or dim) ages. We are now in, and likely to stay in, a far more cybernetic world for the foreseeable future. Likely forever. Get used to it. Learn to thrive! It seems that getting to find, track, mitigate, cure, and immunize are getting faster and faster. To get a sense of this, here are just a few recent (and earlier) results:

- There are temperature maps today from digital thermometers that report back to big data analysis that show where diseases are popping up a few weeks before the prior methods have detected them. Florida is a hot spot rising – in case you wanted to know.
- Medical Web sites taking queries about different symptoms have been known for several years to predict the spread of disease faster than medical reporting.
- A cellphone map of people in Hunan and their proximity to others combined with location data over time shows the spread of COVID-19 as it went across the world.
- The genes for COVID-17 were sequenced in January and shared with the world by Chinese scientists. The government tried to stop it from getting out, and they punished the scientists involved.
- The US-based scientific team in the White House formed after the rapid response stopped the Ebola virus from becoming a pandemic to make things even better going forward was disbanded, and they and others predicted something like COVID-19

Right now, scientists know and are publishing what's likely to happen in the next 3-5 weeks, but apparently our societies are slow to act. We have been seeing this for 60 days or more like a slow-speed train wreck that we can apparently do nothing about other than keep warning you about the indicators and keeping ourselves safe.

Ignorance is not bliss – it's mass suicide!

The battle for the future is right here and right now.

- Will societies continue to ignore science?
- Will we kill ourselves from global climate change?
- Will we continue to poison our own food?
- Will we jam the oceans still further with plastics?
- Will we continue to limit the strains of food leading to a lack of genetic diversity?
- Will we continue to commuting and pollute, wasting time and poisoning the air?

I know you don't want to be lectured to...

I know I am preaching to you here. I am standing on my massive Internet podium spewing forth information that I imagine you will embrace when in reality you will probably ignore it.

But what else can I do?

- I could do nothing and be responsible along with others who stay quiet.
- I could try to say it differently and likely fail because it wouldn't be my true voice.
- I could do it in a video, with games, as jokes, etc.
 - Actually, I have done all of these things, and will continue to do so.
 - Find the details on the <http://all.net/> Web site.
 - *A virus walked into a bar... an hour later, fifty more walked out.*

This is about the bright future ahead of most of us... if...

You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make them drink. So don't be a horse's ass... drink the cool aid and change the world for the better. This is your chance!

- Online education is here to stay. Embrace it. You could learn a new skill that pays!
- Take more time with your family and kids and they will take more time with you.
- Online virtual environments are fun and can be productive. Try them!
- Science is fun, engineering is great fun, and you get to make stuff that works!
- You could get a 3-d printer and start fixing the house with things you make yourself!
- Order dry goods online in bulk. It costs less, it's the same stuff, and takes less time.
- One day we will go to other planets, and the things we are learning now will help us.
- Get in touch with a lonely person over the Internet and help keep their spirits up.

Conclusions

It's time to take the offensive. Kill the virus by starving it. Find the cure(s) and treatment(s). Save yourself, your family, and your friends by getting serious about protecting us all. And then start learning, doing, exploring, playing, engaging, enjoying, and living online. Then let's go move the new world forward at breathtaking pace (free of respiratory disease we hope)!