

## **Tip - Avoiding Spyware**

These days spyware can be bundled in a music download. Spyware is a program that sends information from your computer to another destination on the Internet without your knowledge and without your explicit consent, such as the links you visit on the Internet or IP and email addresses.

Here are some tips to avoid spyware:

- Don't accept downloads from strangers
- Don't download software off of the internet, e.g., weather bug, tool bars, games, etc.
- Look for signs of deceptive software on your computer, e.g., your home page spontaneously changes by itself
- Don't click yes to pop-up advertisements

Please note: All DLS client computers have custom Web browser security settings to avoid installing or downloading anything without a dialog box asking for your okay. Also, all DLS client computers are kept up-to-date with the current operating system and application patches.

Microsoft has a website that provides information about how to avoid and remove deceptive software:

<http://www.microsoft.com/security/articles/spyware.asp>

If you have any questions, please call the Help Desk at 617-495-8411.