# The Link Newsletter



*Mr.Yoshiaki Sato, CEO Shigeji Kobayashi & Mr. Shigenobu Baba*

### Computer Security Show in Tokyo

16th - 18th of May our Japanese distributor **Suncarla Corporation** exhibited Cops Crypto, UniCops and CD-Cops, resulting in several new customers.

Marketed in Japan under the name Data-Cops, data protection is becoming important, since more applications today are based on documents such as HTML, DOC, XLS and PDF and multi-media presentations such as Flash, PowerPoint, Director, ShockWave, WMV and AVI.

Cop's Crypto in conjunction with UNI-Cops online protection comprise a formidable combination that is ready to handle the future of digital rights.

UNI-Cops is our new "universal" product that incorporates our well-known CD-Cops as well as a brand new version of the previous WebCops. As bandwidth increases and internet distribution becomes more attractive, the online option of UNI-Cops is becoming more popular.

UNI-Cops is available both for single users and LAN users.
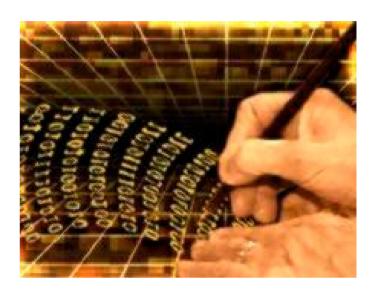
## Windows Automatic Updates

You don't stay on top if you don't listen and improve your products. Microsoft has fully realized the dangers of the automatic Windows update system and the damage this can cause to Windows reputation. For security reasons, fast updates to the OS are needed - but if your vital programs suddenly stop running, the price paid can be high.

Microsoft has asked us for samples of our Cops products, both new and older ones. CD-Cops, DVD-Cops, UNI-Cops, WebCops and Cops Crypto are now tested before release of such automatic updates.

Furthermore, they have recently launched the "Windows Compatibility Advantage" program. As they write:

*"ISVs work hard to ensure that their titles function as expected on the Windows platform. Windows service packs and security updates, while critical and necessary, may introduce compatibility risk. Compatibility testing is costly, and these updates are often deployed by your customers the same time you receive them. Windows Serviceability is pleased to introduce the Windows Compatibility Advantage Program to help address these concerns. ISVs can submit applications, test plans, and functional test automation to Microsoft, which may be used for compatibility testing against these updates."*

As a Microsoft Partner, Link has joined this program. You can read more about it on: http://msdn.microsoft.com/wca/

## CodeSigning

You may be familiar with this new way of ensuring a program's integrity and origin. LINK fully supports this initiative from Microsoft, and we are now CodeSigning our utilities and products. When you protect programs the EXE file is always created and encrypted to match the protected program, and it is therefore necessary that you CodeSign the launching EXE file.

For customers where Link Data Security adds protection we can either use our certificate or the publisher can provide us with their certificate.

Starting with version 4.26, our Cops products allow CodeSigning. Ask for a new version if yours is older and you are interested in this feature. Don't hesitate to ask us questions about the CodeSigning procedure, we don't sell utilities or certificates, but we will be happy to assist you, based on our investigations and experience.

### Windows Vista RTM version

The first Windows Vista RTM version from December 2006 showed a faulty generic CD-Cops incompatibility warning, which was removed in the update in January. Any customer with such a message should use the normal Windows Update system.

### Antivirus Programs

Virus scanners can cause problems, since Cops products uses encryption as part of its security. Please test your protected programs with current virus scanners before release. If you spot a problem, a re-protection may help as the encryption keys change each time.

Virus definition files are updated constantly, and considering that thousands of viruses exist in the world, a virus scanner can suddenly mistakenly believe that an encryption pattern belongs to a virus.

Normally an update to the virus definition files will help. If you detect a problem with a certain product in combination with a specific virus scanner, you can contact the provider and make them correct their virus definition files.

### Sampler

We have developed a Sampler demo system at the request of one of our old customers. It combines CD-recognition - to avoid pirate copies - with UNI-Cops online features to collect customer email addresses and distribute access codes for a trial period. Security is high as online contact is required, and users will be able to try out the product's full functionality during the test period.

### Release System

Our relative expiry option in CD-Cops is popular as it provides an excellent combination between security and user-friendliness. Users have to insert their original CD-ROM to prove ownership, but the program then runs without the disc for 30 - 90 days.

In spite of this, some users – for example those with disc-less portables – want to be able to run without the disc permanently.

Using our new automated Release System – based on UNI-Cops principles – the publisher can ensure the authenticity of the disc, get the user's email address and automatically return a "Release Code" that will lock the application to one computer and thereby dispense with the disc.

### DVDR-Cops

The new DVDR-Cops is expected to be announced within the next one or two months. It is based on ground new development and will not require specially selected DVD-Rs as the present solution requires (DVD-Cops used with DVD-R).