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**From:** info@podi.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 1:28 PM  
**Subject:** PODI News - Filtering Service Stops 1,000 Bogus Form Submissions Each Month



**PODI Spam Email Filtering Service Stopping 1,000 Bogus Form Submissions Each Month.**

Our Spam Filtering Service debuted 20 months ago after we discovered several client email inboxes were overwhelmed with spam attacks against online forms. Spammers were using new sophisticated programs to bypass many typical controls like CAPTCHA. The PODI team documented 14 different ways software could identify spam attacks and we put all 14 identifiers into our Filtering Service.

Each Filter Service client can see a profile of the type of spam attacks used against their online forms. The graphs below from selected client accounts depict, by color, the type of attack the Filtering Service intercepted. Notice how the attack profiles are different for each client.

For example, dark grey represents detection of a malicious URL embedded in a form submission - 46% of the attacks on CLIENT 1 forms include a malicious URL, but for CLIENT 3 it is only 13%. For CLIENT 5 a spammer's program never seems to get the form completed properly 92% of the time (pink section). The Filtering Service detects these errors and prevents the form submission from ever reaching the client's inbox.



If your online forms are being abused and you are receiving unwanted or malicious submissions, contact the PODI team to see if the Filtering Service can provide relief!

## **Now Accepting Payments by Credit Card!**

Credit card companies continue to battle for your business with enticing incentives and rewards programs. For some of our clients, paying invoices via their business credit card makes sense and helps them achieve significant reward levels.

So, for clients who want to take advantage of paying by credit card, Potomac Digitek now offers this method of payment. Please contact your Program Manager if you want to pay your PODI invoices via credit card.

## **PODI News switched from hardcopy to online format in 2002.**

*This year we are celebrating PODI's upcoming 25th anniversary. Each monthly newsletter includes a brief reflection of our history, like this, to remind us how much has changed in the online community.*

We started our PODI newsletter when such things were printed and mailed to recipients. Now it seems odd that organizations stayed in touch that way. We introduced an online version of our newsletter in May 2002. Here's how we announced the new format:

This issue of PODI.COM [News] represents the first time that our newsletter is available both electronically (via email) and in hardcopy "snail-mail" format.

Many of our clients are using this same technology to distribute their newsletters more effectively and more economically ... especially in light of ever-increasing printing costs and postal rates. Be sure to check it out!

Email, which was not widely used when Potomac Digitek was founded in 1994, reached a level of acceptance by 2002 such that it became the dominant delivery method for our newsletter!

## **Other News and Notes**

We launched a new web site for the [Transportation Professional Certification Board](#). The site provides a wide-range of industry resources for transportation engineers and road safety professionals to achieve certification in the Professional Traffic Operations Engineer, Professional Transportation Planner, and Road Safety Professional designations.

The [Sports Lawyers Association](#) launched online registration for its 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Phoenix, AZ.

Recently, the [National Association of Senior Move Managers](#) launched its new *NASMM@Home Specialist* program. This complete online course provides NASMM's members another way to reach potential clients and add to their list of provided services.