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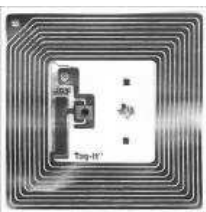
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RFID chips can spread viruses

Posted Mar 15th 2006 3:53PM by [Marc Perton](#)

Filed under: [Misc. Gadgets](#), [Wireless](#)

While most of the protests about the spread of [RFID technology](#) have been related to privacy and related issues, here's a new issue to worry about: viruses. Dutch researchers implanted a virus in an RFID chip, and then used it to demonstrate that an infected chip could potentially spread a virus to a database server as it's being scanned. In theory, this could lead to compromised data in everything from supermarket product inventories to terrorist watchlists, resulting in mispriced ice cream and global chaos. We anticipate that security experts will respond quickly and install safeguards to protect databases -- except in the supermarket, where they're expected to allow tampering so that they can continue getting cheap ice cream.



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1. I always knew you had a sweet tooth Marc. ;)

Posted at [4:01PM](#) on Mar 15th 2006 by [slash](#) **0 STARS**

2. Hmm. So the chip itself has firmware that can be reprogrammed and then, infected? Sounds like a PROM rewrite. Given the audience and the necessity of physical access (I'm guessing), it sounds like a true low-frequency event.

Posted at [4:21PM](#) on Mar 15th 2006 by [Poopmaster](#) **0 STARS**

3. Mmm...cheap ice cream. Now I'm ready to jump on the RFID bandwagon. Screw unsecured personal information potentially leading to identity theft. I wants me some \$.25 peanut butter cup.

“Never.
Saving
money is
so petty.”



CON

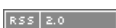
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