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Investment in security may rise 30pc annually

Attacks on companies increase 19pc

Staff Report

Dubai Investment by the GCC states on IT security solutions could grow by almost 30 per cent a year to \$162 million by 2007. In comparison, the worldwide spending could eventually total \$116 billion in the same period, according to International Data Corp. (IDC).

This investment is in reaction to the escalation, not only in the frequency of security attacks, but also in their complexity and virulence. The rate of attacks on companies increased by 19 per cent from the first half of last year until the middle of this year.

The rapid increase in the prevalence of blended threats, such as the recent Slammer Worm and Blaster Worm, which combine malicious code and vulnerabilities to launch a cyber attack, grew 20 per cent this year.

Organisations are realis-

ing that downtime while recovering from such an attack, loss of corporate information and risk of liability involved in confidential information being stolen contribute an enormous amount of potentially avoidable cost to the organisational bottomline.

"We as security suppliers have the responsibility to bring the best available weapons to the battle against viruses, intrusion and manipulation. The solutions from our European partners that we integrate for the Middle East Market are the cutting edge of security applications. If we can raise the level of maturity in systems protection in this market we will have contributed to the financial, economic and defensive well-being of its people," said Mario Grossmann, managing director of Advanced German Technology (AGT), a supplier of security products, solutions and services.