

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Promia Hawk™ Protects Home Banking Anti-Botnet System Designed as a National Cyber Shield***

San Francisco, CA – December 15, 2009 – Promia, Incorporated, a developer of Enterprise Cyber Security and Asset Monitoring products for government, energy and banking sectors, today announced availability of the Promia Hawk anti-botnet consumer protection product. While it provides protection for many types of users, this system is particularly targeted to protect home banking customers, an area with serious exposures in the US Critical Infrastructure. The solution uses Promia Raven™ network security technology, developed in partnership with Navy SPAWAR and used around the world in the US Military as an advanced enterprise security information management and protection system.

The US Critical Infrastructure is under severe attack around the clock every day of the year. An especially vulnerable area is banking, and in particular home banking. When consumers participate in a home banking transaction we generally use our home computers which are not protected by the bank's infrastructure protection systems and are exposed to increasing forms of unauthorized access, theft and other misuse.

The Hawk is a protection service using a software loadable device driver for the Windows operating system environment. It acts together with Promia servers to extend consumer protection against many forms of malware including phishing and botnets. Unlike most other consumer protection systems, this device blocks messages coming from or targeted to identified adversary addresses and ports including those used by organized crime, cyber terrorists, hackers, botnet managers and other sources of unauthorized access. Promia continuously maintains an active block list of known adversary addresses and frequently updates the customer Hawk driver in home workstations. A variant of the service is available in a business setting protecting employee systems.

If a customer gets "phished", that is the customer receives a false email message requesting them to click on a link to a supposedly safe address, but the address is actually an infected system designed to compromise the customer's computer, the Hawk blocks the outgoing attempt as it knows that the sender's address is not safe. If a customer workstation is already compromised with a botnet, the Hawk keeps it from connecting to the botnet control system thereby eliminating the customer computer from passing on financial account information or participating in other botnet-driven activities. Every computer loaded with the Hawk increases a "Protection Shield" against botnets, and decreases the available pool of systems that the botnets have as resources.

The Promia Hawk service will be available in 1Q 2010 on the Promia website at ([www.promia.com](http://www.promia.com)). For more information about this service, or the corporate variant described above, please contact the Promia San Francisco office at 415 536 1600 or [pboles@promia.com](mailto:pboles@promia.com).

### **About Promia, Incorporated**

*Promia, Incorporated is a leading developer and supplier of security tools, based on open standard components with advanced analytic capabilities, to the military, the energy sector, the banking sector, other Fortune 1000 companies and government markets. Its products are used in areas requiring high security, reliability, performance, and scalability. Based in San Francisco, Promia has offices in Princeton NJ, and Davis, CA.*

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