

Forum: [Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Datacenter Blocks](#)

Omniscient - May 29, 2017, 10:33 am

I'm considering lifting all the blocks I have against datacenters. That of course would include all the VPNs and proxies blocked too.

A few things have me considering this.

1. I think we're losing some activity due to heavy blocks.
2. DDOS attacks are mainly mitigated.
3. Trust Scan still allows members to make smart choices.
4. HF API can work properly without huge changes to serving and firewalls.

I know we'd likely get a lot of ban evaders and scamming could potentially increase. But I get a lot of complaints about members not being able to use VPNs.

Worse case scenario is that I can lift these blocks then enable them again if problems arise.

So, I'd like to know what members think of this. Feedback please.

Charger - May 29, 2017, 10:35 am

I don't think it's worth it. Maybe pay to whitelist a specific IP for API purposes but I'd hate to see the site spammed and an increase in scammers. Or maybe even whitelisting an IP for API purposes only?

ZuGgY - May 29, 2017, 10:35 am

This would be interesting. I still get that IP block too. However, getting banned people back since their IP is lifted...hmmm....not sure if it's the best idea.

Description - May 29, 2017, 10:35 am

I like this idea a lot but of course it's all up to you boss man.

Jake???????????????????? - May 29, 2017, 10:36 am

Why not? Most people come here because they think they will learn how to become a l33t h4ck3r so I'm sure a few of them have VPNs on mostly.

Triops - May 29, 2017, 10:36 am

Having the ability to access HF with a VPN would be nice. But there would probably be ban evaders and scammers/bots joining the forum and making threads. For the users who aren't upgraded or who are still very new, they wouldn't know not to deal with them and could get scammed out of their money. I think it's worth a shot to lift the blocks, maybe even do it for a short trial period so you can see how everything goes without the blocks.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 10:36 am

I don't think its worth the risk towards the community. People already don't follow the rules and blame staff this will only increase it.

YayHar - May 29, 2017, 10:36 am

Personally, I would prefer keeping it the way it is.
Evading would be so much easier, I just don't think it is worth it.

If removing the blocks enables HF to run better, by all means go ahead.

Just my opinion.

KING - May 29, 2017, 10:36 am

Looks like a nice idea to me, Thumbs up for this!

Description - May 29, 2017, 10:37 am

(May 29, 2017 10:36 AM)Triops Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Having the ability to access HF with a VPN would be nice. But there would probably be ban evaders and scammers/bots joining the forum and making threads. For the users who aren't upgraded or who are still very new, they wouldn't know not to deal with them and could get scammed out of their money. I think it's worth a shot to lift the blocks, maybe even do it for a short trial period so you can see how everything goes without the blocks.
Bro stop with all the scammer shit they'll always come back anyways

V For Vendetta - May 29, 2017, 10:38 am

It would be too easy for people to make an AWS VPS and evade bans on another HF account if it was lifted.

webdev77 - May 29, 2017, 10:38 am

If it's that big of a problem, lift some blocks and see what happens. Maybe consider adding a trust scan option that indicates potential VPN/Proxy use? Not sure if that is realistic or not given current serving setup, but it's a thought nonetheless.

Mycroft Holmes - May 29, 2017, 10:40 am

I actually believe that lifting these limits is a great idea.

Some members may not want to have their real IPs revealed in any manner and would prefer maintaining their anonymity.

Of course, as you have very well pointed out, it is very easy to review the Trust Scan of a person as well as his reputation and post quality to make a decision on whether or not to deal with him.

Description - May 29, 2017, 10:42 am

Plus just think how many people visit here on a vpn then leave because they can't access the website. Alright, last post here just know I support the idea 100%.

SUI-3183372 - May 29, 2017, 10:43 am

Maybe be selective with what datacenters you unblock.

For example, I have around 400 OVH IP's to myself. They're all in blocks so it'd be obvious to admins it's me, but it'd allow for me to continuously make new accounts that wouldn't get flagged immediately.

Maybe restrict some of the major DC's that are very accessible to those looking to scam/evade.

Prophett - May 29, 2017, 10:44 am

I'd say give it ago and if scams and things do increase then enable them again.

DontQQSoMuch - May 29, 2017, 10:45 am

If someone wants to be on here with a VPN, make them pay for it. Win-win situation, you get money, they can get on here with VPN

synboxin - May 29, 2017, 10:45 am

(May 29, 2017 10:35 AM)ZuGgY Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This would be interesting. I still get that IP block too. However, getting banned people back since their IP is lifted...hmmm....not sure if it's the best idea. Changing your IP is as simple as a click of a button. An IP is not stopping anyone, I can change my IP in literally 30 seconds counting me logging into my router

Makaveli The Don - May 29, 2017, 10:49 am

(May 29, 2017 10:33 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I know we'd likely get a lot of ban evaders and scamming could potentially increase. But I get a lot of complaints about members not being able to use VPNs.

If this is the right choice, then you should proceed with it. It's our responsibility as members to protect ourselves from scammers and report any suspicious accounts to staff.

I hope we'll make the right choice as a community.

Riggs - May 29, 2017, 10:49 am

I would appreciate having the option to use my VPN with HF. At the moment I have to split tunnel my connection to accommodate, which is a little inconvenient.

IMO, the benefits of having increased activity slightly outweighs the associated community risk. You've already acted to implement measures that protect HF members from their own stupidity. I think the remaining responsibility for maturing our community security posture should fall on the members themselves.

Bluffer - May 29, 2017, 10:53 am

I do think it would be nice if less people were blocked. I mean I've never personally seen a site that has such a sophisticated block system in place.

I do worry that this could cause an increase in scams though if members were able to ban evade in an easier manner.

You can't fix stupid though and some people will never learn to use resources you offer them.

I would just say go about it cautiously... maybe it could work.

Uriel - May 29, 2017, 11:01 am

I am a fan of the idea. I often use a VPN to protect my connection or get around a firewall, and it's always a bummer when I get denied from accessing HF.

If it results in a lot of issues you could roll it back like you said. Why not give it a try ?

FiftyTwo - May 29, 2017, 11:05 am

I think this is a good idea because whether data centres are blocked or not, scammers and ban evaders will always try to find a way to come back, and we just have to acknowledge that.

I tend to use a VPN or proxy a lot on my phone and have to disable it to access HF.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 11:06 am

Its gonna be funny to see a lot of people end up getting matching IPs for using a public free VPN or something shitty lmao

Payne. - May 29, 2017, 11:07 am

I came back and it is much better now than it was when I started my break. It's ultimately up to you though.

NurSpec - May 29, 2017, 11:09 am

Can you try lifting a certain amount at once instead of lifting all bans at the same time? I believe slowly allowing certain ones in groups would be a better idea.

poisson - May 29, 2017, 11:17 am

Lift the blocks. People have to learn how to facilitate their deals and not get scammed.

NurSpec - May 29, 2017, 11:18 am

(May 29, 2017 11:17 AM)poisson Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Lift the blocks. People have to learn how to facilitate their deals and not get scammed.

Wouldn't it worry you more that users are privately browsing this forum from a VPN? I find that more concerning than anything else. If you're legit, you shouldn't have a problem using HF without a VPN.

Omniscient - May 29, 2017, 11:27 am

If I lift blocks I may end up making the Marketplace for upgraded members only. At least then we won't get ban evaders just making dozens of accounts and effecting the section.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 11:29 am

(May 29, 2017 11:27 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If I lift blocks I may end up making the Marketplace for upgraded members only. At least then we won't get ban evaders just making dozens of accounts and effecting the section.

How about a prestige thing like other sections but make it higher than normal?

Riggs - May 29, 2017, 11:30 am

(May 29, 2017 11:18 AM)NurSpec Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Wouldn't it worry you more that users are privately browsing this forum from a VPN? I find that more concerning than anything else.

Your interpretation seems skewed. A VPN is simply data security measure. Opting to use one doesn't automatically mean you have a nefarious agenda.

(May 29, 2017 11:18 AM)NurSpec Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you're legit, you shouldn't have a problem using HF without a VPN.

If you don't want to get pregnant, you shouldn't have a problem getting fucked in the ass without protection.

Steve - May 29, 2017, 11:30 am

(May 29, 2017 11:29 AM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How about a prestige thing like other sections but make it higher than normal?

That'd be interesting. It'd be cool to see prestige used for something more meaningful even beyond what you suggested.

Vitani - May 29, 2017, 11:31 am

It could go either way honestly.

It's true that we might get a bit more activity if you unblocked them all but the question if it's worth it.

You (and staff) would have to spend much more time catching ban evaders and determining if an account has been stolen or if the user simply started using a VPN.

Personally I like the fact that VPN's are blocked on HF. It atleast makes it harder for malicious users to find their way back as well as the fact that it's (most likely) easier for staff to find them.

Mycroft Holmes - May 29, 2017, 11:31 am

(May 29, 2017 11:29 AM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How about a prestige thing like other sections but make it higher than normal?

Yeah, I like this idea. Maybe make marketplace not only exclusive to upgraded users (to open threads) but also have some minimum prestige amount as well.

It would definitely clean up the market from half-arse product spammers and make way for more legitimate users to post.

However, there seems to be an issue if something like that is implemented. You (Omniscient) would then have to ban proxy selling.

Vitani - May 29, 2017, 11:33 am

(May 29, 2017 11:27 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If I lift blocks I may end up making the Marketplace for upgraded members only. At least then we won't get ban evaders just making dozens of accounts and effecting the section.

Don't you think that will decrease activity though? There are lots of legitimate regular users who are using the marketplace right now.

FamousHater - May 29, 2017, 11:34 am

don't like the idea as if your going to block marketplace from regular members then they will be no longer able to post on threads with feedback from buying experience. i would rather have it just make it so they are restricted from thread creation unless upgraded but not totally blocked from giving their feedback on marketplace threads as lets be honest some of the non upgraded members give the best honest feedback on the forum.

Steve - May 29, 2017, 11:35 am

(May 29, 2017 11:33 AM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Don't you think that will decrease activity though? There are lots of legitimate regular users who are using the marketplace right now.

True, I'm not sure if lifting one regulation only to impose another would overall increase activity. And it seems to be activity that you're worried about.

SavageAF - May 29, 2017, 11:35 am

I don't see the use in letting people use VPNs, except for the case where they need to in order to access the site, otherwise the majority of VPN users will most likely use it to evade bans

Regulus - May 29, 2017, 11:35 am

I am not sure about this to be honest.

As you said, this will be like heaven for all the scammers out there.

Vitani - May 29, 2017, 11:37 am

(May 29, 2017 11:35 AM)Steve Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) True, I'm not sure if lifting one regulation only to impose another would overall increase activity. And it seems to be activity that you're worried about.

Personally I am worried it would only increase unwanted activity. There's a reason people want to access HF behind a VPN and not their own IP.

We are a clearnet, legitimate forum. If they want to be here to be HQ they don't need to hide their IP.

Omniscient - May 29, 2017, 11:38 am

Quote:How about a prestige thing like other sections but make it higher than normal?

That's also possible.

Quote:Your interpretation seems skewed. A VPN is simply data security measure. Opting to use one doesn't automatically mean you have a nefarious agenda.

I agree and with new rules about ISP selling your data I think it's more important than ever to secure your connection. The benefits of lifting the blocks are outweighing the negatives imho.

Quote:You (and staff) would have to spend much more time catching ban evaders and determining if an account has been stolen or if the user simply started using a VPN.

Or less time caring at all about it.

Steve - May 29, 2017, 11:38 am

(May 29, 2017 11:37 AM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Personally I am worried it would only increase unwanted activity. There's a reason people want to access HF behind a VPN.

Right, it seems like most people are justifiably against this, but if the positives outweigh the negatives then might as well do it.

W?lr?? - May 29, 2017, 11:39 am

If a scammer is dedicated enough, he will find a residential IP that works. However, by blocking datacenter blocks, you are blocking the people who don't understand how it works completely, so it may or may not be worth it. If this is possible, maybe you can add it into a trust scan whether the IP is datacenter or not?

Vitani - May 29, 2017, 11:40 am

(May 29, 2017 11:38 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Or less time caring at all about it.

True, though I think a huge part of why this forum was and still is a high quality place is because you and the staff you appointed have always looked out for it.

We definitely shouldn't be losing that.

Key Punch - May 29, 2017, 11:41 am

I'm happy to hear that this could increase active members on Hack Forums. Personally I know a few people who would be more active on Hack Forums if they could use a VPN. Such as myself I don't reply to certain questions because of how it could hurt my chances at future jobs if ISP ever sells there data.

Secondly Scammers and rule breakers will always find a way to get back on Hack Forums. As long as the Administers Administrate and the Moderators Moderate then lower quality posts and spamming shouldn't be an issue resulting from this change. In regards to more scammers, If you are making deals on hf and you don't take the proper precautions then its your own fault you fell victim to a scam. There are plenty of ways to avoid being scammed. Trusted MM's, Trust Scans, and Reputation are all good methods to deal safely Data-center IP Block or not.

Personally I like to take part in advocating for internet freedom and privacy. And VPN's are an excellent solution for the non technical average joe to support Privacy and Internet freedom.

I think this is a great idea as long as it is implemented properly.

Stashyy - May 29, 2017, 11:43 am

I think it'll be kind of cool. I'm sure there are tons of members who would love to use HF while being connected to a VPN.

Now for scammers.. They'll always come back no matter what.

Also, like that one member said. Would be kind of cool to see some sections require you to have a

certain prestige before posting/making threads like the innuendo section.

Doxicity - May 29, 2017, 11:43 am

Go for it, you can always revert your changes if they aren't to your liking.
Unblocking Chile was your best decision yet, I still love you for it.

YayHar - May 29, 2017, 11:44 am

The only issue I have with this is the trust scan.

"Latest IP Matching Other Members:"

Also, wouldn't this make country blocks irrelevant?

Malevolent - May 29, 2017, 11:46 am

I've never had my IP blocked in any way shape or form on HF so I don't know about this.

I hope it works out though, if you go for it.

poisson - May 29, 2017, 11:57 am

(May 29, 2017 11:18 AM)NurSpec Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Wouldn't it worry you more that users are privately browsing this forum from a VPN? I find that more concerning than anything else. If you're legit, you shouldn't have a problem using HF without a VPN.

No? There are more uses to VPNs than just browsing forums.

Roytoy - May 29, 2017, 12:01 pm

I think it's a good idea to test things out for a while and see. Wont this also enable people from blocked countries to be on HF?

TB12 - May 29, 2017, 12:10 pm

Good idea, people get scammed either way, and what you said about ddosing is true as well. Like you said we have the trust scan, I have an idea though. The trust scan is only available to 3p1cs and ub3rs only right now. Perhaps allow the l33t members to have it too since there would be more bam evaders and scammers. It would lessen the risk of moving forward with this I think.

Stashyy - May 29, 2017, 12:13 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:10 PM)Excavated Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Good idea, people get scammed either way, and what you said about ddosing is true as well. Like you said we have the trust scan, I have an idea though. The trust scan is only available to 3p1cs and ub3rs only right now. Perhaps allow the l33t members to have it too since there would be more bam evaders and scammers. It would lessen the risk of moving forward with this I think. Even if he does, people still don't even bother checking UIDs/Trust scans. People just deal blindly no matter what he does there isn't really a way to prevent scams.

TB12 - May 29, 2017, 12:16 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:13 PM)Stashy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Even if he does, people still don't even bother checking UIDs/Trust scans. People just deal blindly no matter what he does there isn't really a way to prevent scams.

I know people are like that but that isn't everyone. Of course there isn't a way to prevent all scams but you can give tools to members they can use to prevent some themselves.

Stashyy - May 29, 2017, 12:21 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:16 PM)Excavated Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I know people are like that but that isn't everyone. Of course there isn't a way to prevent all scams but you can give tools to members they can use to

prevent some themselves.

I don't disagree with your idea, I am just stating that some members deal blindly no matter what they can use to prevent a scam.

Vegas - May 29, 2017, 12:23 pm

Yup yup yup please go through with it.

Vitani - May 29, 2017, 12:24 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:13 PM)Stashy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Even if he does, people still don't even bother checking UIDs/Trust scans. People just deal blindly no matter what he does there isn't really a way to prevent scams.

That's not really omniscient's problem though. The tools are there which is more than enough. If they decide to go in blindly it's their own stupidity that gets them scammed.

Eagle 95 - May 29, 2017, 12:33 pm

(May 29, 2017 11:27 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If I lift blocks I may end up making the Marketplace for upgraded members only. At least then we won't get ban evaders just making dozens of accounts and effecting the section.

I agree with below.

(May 29, 2017 11:29 AM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How about a prestige thing like other sections but make it higher than normal?

(May 29, 2017 11:30 AM)Steve Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That'd be interesting. It'd be cool to see prestige used for something more meaningful even beyond what you suggested.

Maybe we should have a testing period of 1 month to see how would it impact overall forum experience. As you said, you can always revert those blocks. ?

Stashyy - May 29, 2017, 12:37 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:24 PM)Vitani Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's not really omniscient's problem though. The tools are there which is more than enough. If they decide to go in blindly it's their own stupidity that gets them scammed.

Yeah I know. I 100% know that it's not Omni's or any of the staffs problem if someone gets scammed. It's pretty clear since there is many threads stating that staff aren't involved in deals especially if someone gets scammed. But as I stated. No matter what tools are given to prevent anybody from getting scammed people still won't use it. Because they always deal blindly and only focus on "rep count".

TB12 - May 29, 2017, 12:51 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:33 PM)Eagle 95 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Maybe we should have a testing period of 1 month to see how would it impact overall forum experience. As you said, you can always revert those blocks. ?

Yup, and needed adjustments can be made

SIM-1166170 - May 29, 2017, 12:53 pm

We'll probably see more trolls in all of the sections- staff will have fun.

Would restrict marketplace to upgraded/prestige based on past posts.

ra1d - May 29, 2017, 12:56 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:53 PM)z??h Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) We'll probably see more trolls in all of the sections- staff will have fun.

Would restrict marketplace to upgraded/prestige based on past posts.

Indeed.

I think if you want to pull this off Omni, you will need more than the few staff members you currently have, because surely there will be a spike in new members, and surely a lot of them will be trolls.

But I do agree, the positives outweigh the negatives.

I am all for it.

SIM-1166170 - May 29, 2017, 12:59 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:56 PM)ra1d Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Indeed.

I think if you want to pull this off Omni, you will need more than the few staff members you currently have, because surely there will be a spike in new members, and surely a lot of them will be trolls.

But I do agree, the positives outweigh the negatives.

I am all for it.

Or at least clean up the mentor's and only keep the trusted ones and allow them to junk threads/posts again.

ra1d - May 29, 2017, 1:04 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:59 PM)z??h Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Or at least clean up the mentor's and only keep the trusted ones and allow them to junk threads/posts again.

Could be a possibility as well.

But I am sure Omni will find a way to make it work nonetheless, I hope you go forward with this Omni.

Best of luck.

Steve - May 29, 2017, 1:06 pm

(May 29, 2017 12:59 PM)z??h Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Or at least clean up the mentor's and only keep the trusted ones and allow them to junk threads/posts again.

Mentors do not currently moderate the marketplace. Omni would have to expand our privileges.

Also we can close/junk posts/threads, but only in sections we moderate.

Egregious Jr. - May 29, 2017, 1:06 pm

No, it's an awful idea. There'd be a lot more false bans, not to mention it'd make it much harder to find ban evaders. I'm saying no on this one.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 1:12 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:11 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) TBh I wouldn't be surprised if the mentors were removed.

There are 4, maybe 5 mentors that are online on a daily basis.

And of those, half of them post and do mod work D:

so wat u r saying is gary for mentor mentoring the mentors

Steve - May 29, 2017, 1:14 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:11 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) TBh I wouldn't be surprised if the mentors were

removed.

There are 4, maybe 5 mentors that are online on a daily basis.

And of those, half of them post and do mod work D:

I think it's worth it to have extra moderators outside of Omni/staff, but yes I wish we were more active as a whole.

grady - May 29, 2017, 1:15 pm

Make something so that members can ask for a specific IP address to be unblocked, if possible. Then if they're banned, keep it blocked or something. The issue there being you have to sign up without, and dunno if that's possible with whatever you're using in the backend

samsepi01 - May 29, 2017, 1:15 pm

What about adding to the trust scan whether or not they are connecting from a known datacenter?

DevNet - May 29, 2017, 1:21 pm

I think a good solution would be to whitelist datacenters, of which you know have strict monitoring and policies.

CheGuevara? - May 29, 2017, 1:21 pm

So we are losing activity? How about some sort marketing and advertising plan that we could all be part of instead?

If people are having trouble getting access to hackforums due their ISP blocking this, they could simply make a phone-call and get access.

I understand that losing activity is a huge problem for you and for the community as a whole. And I would like to help as much as possible.

But I believe we could figure out better ways to handle this, if we spent some quality time together coming up with ideas.

Bringing back scammers and low quality members because then we gain more activity, is not worth the gain of the activity in my eyes.

That's my feedback and my thoughts. But it is your house and you do as you please. But I am more than willing to help figure out other ways.

Have a great day Omni, take care and as always - good luck with everything!

Natas - May 29, 2017, 1:21 pm

Nooo way jose.

I love you omni and I love your choices but I dont think this is a good idea not at all why ?

Well do you really want this guy coming back

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=3399763>

theres kids with 100s of scam reports on them.

To each there own but I dont like this idea and dont support it.

SIM-1166170 - May 29, 2017, 1:23 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:06 PM)Steve Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Mentors do not currently moderate the marketplace. Omni would have to expand our privileges.

Also we can close/junk posts/threads, but only in sections we moderate.

I know you don't moderate the marketplace

but I can swear after Morchid some privileges were removed/severally restricted?

Gary - May 29, 2017, 1:24 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:21 PM)Natas Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nooo way jose.

I love you omni and I love your choices but I dont think this is a good idea not at all why ?

Well do you really want this guy coming back

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=3399763>

theres kids with 100s of scam reports on them.

To each there own but I dont like this idea and dont support it.

not only him but other big scammers including the one who cant be named

Darkwin - May 29, 2017, 1:25 pm

That's actually a nice idea, I personally know several members who are in Uni and cannot access HF because of the VPN issue.

While i agree that many scammers/ban-evaders will take advantage to scam, It will benefit those who live in ie; dorm-rooms or access HF from an internet cafe etc.

Steve - May 29, 2017, 1:26 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:23 PM)z??h Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I know you don't moderate the marketplace but I can swear after Morchid some privileges were removed/severally restricted?

Right, we can no longer move threads.

WorkingEBOOK - May 29, 2017, 1:27 pm

ofc it's a good idea since it's the easiest sh*t to bypass ip-blocks.

A scammer will always scam, doesn't matter if you make these changes or not.

Heresys - May 29, 2017, 1:29 pm

i guess its okay but RIP trust scans lol

SIM-1166170 - May 29, 2017, 1:30 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:24 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yup, mentors can't move threads.

(May 29, 2017 01:26 PM)Steve Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Right, we can no longer move threads.

Well call me a moron, no clue why I thought he restricted you guys more.

OT: I do support this, never really said that in my 1st post.

Views - May 29, 2017, 1:31 pm

I'm sure however this is handled it'll turn out fine if Omniscient is considering it it's defintatly going to have a good effect on the site.

Condoms - May 29, 2017, 1:32 pm

Wouldn't this require alot more work on your end, reblocking everyone?

Omniscient - May 29, 2017, 1:34 pm

Quote:I think a good solution would be to whitelist datacenters

The issue is the multiple layers and managing each one. I also prefer to not whitelist.

Quote:So we are losing activity?

Considering how I block so aggressively, it should not come as a shock.

Quote:Bringing back scammers and low quality members because then we gain more activity, is not worth the gain of the activity in my eyes.

But I think more and more people are using VPNs who many never have heard of HF and if by chance they find us they are blocked and likely never return.

Our blocks are just incredibly aggressive to the point of being oppressive.

And again, if I lift the blocks it's not like I can't add them again.

Quote:Wouldn't this require alot more work on your end, reblocking everyone?

I'm not afraid of work.

?onderland - May 29, 2017, 1:35 pm

Who cares if it means ban evaders can use a VPN all they have to currently is restart there router for a fresh IP anyways. Allow VPN omni.

(May 29, 2017 01:27 PM)WorkingEBOOK Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) ofc it's a good idea since it's the easiest sh*t to bypass ip-blocks.

A scammer will always scam, doesn't matter if you make these changes or not.

Exactly! People acting like IP blocks ever did anything anyways.

Disco. - May 29, 2017, 1:37 pm

Personally i think this is a good idea as i am going to a boarding school soon, and i still want to be able to access HackForums.

Thanks bro.

Heresys - May 29, 2017, 1:37 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:34 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The issue is the multiple layers and managing each one. I also prefer to not whitelist.

Considering how I block so aggressively, it should not come as a shock.

But I think more and more people are using VPNs who many never have heard of HF and if by chance they find us they are blocked and likely never return.

Our blocks are just incredibly aggressive to the point of being oppressive.

And again, if I lift the blocks it's not like I can't add them again.

I'm not afraid of work.

Im cool with you lifting this. Just unblock know trustworht one's liek OVH and NFO etc.. Block the skethcy ones

And i i think this good idea but you should watch staff banning people out of assumption now..

Natas - May 29, 2017, 1:39 pm

Also like wouldnt this make it harder for stolen accounts to get in the right hands for example im from indiana no ip other then a indiana ip should ever be on my account.

But if I was using a vpn every day id have 10000's of ips linked to my account and itd make it hard to tell were im from.

SIM-1166170 - May 29, 2017, 1:43 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:39 PM)Natas Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Also like wouldnt this make it harder for stolen accounts to get in the right hands

for example im from indiana no ip other then a indiana ip should ever be on my account.

But if I was using a vpn every day id have 10000's of ips linked to my account and itd make it hard to tell were im from.

Yes it probably would be, but that will be on the account owner to be careful which VPN's to use and of course account security (Country lock, 2fa, etc)

M?xim - May 29, 2017, 1:44 pm

Well Omni, I wouldn't, personally.

If you would lift all blocks of data centers, more and more would have access to VPNs which they can use when attempting to get access to other users accounts.

FamousHater - May 29, 2017, 1:46 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:44 PM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Well Omni, I wouldn't, personally.

If you would lift all blocks of data centers, more and more would have access to VPNs which they can use when attempting to get access to other users accounts.

well wont matter with gauth. if users use it that is...

omni should add a captcha to the login after x amount of attempts.

J?ey - May 29, 2017, 1:48 pm

The current rules you have set for restricting IPs isn't impossible to bypass and if someone wants to get through it, they'll get through it. It's pretty much a gamble. You can lift the blocks and see what the after effects are, and if it is causing more harm than good (site activity), then just put them back and at least you'll be able to give people/yourself the benefit of the doubt and say that you tried.

Natas - May 29, 2017, 1:49 pm

Also keep in mind its summer time its time when all the little kiddys from around the world can be on the forum

with out any school the forum should get a little boost for 2 months but like the other people say you make the rules omni the forum does look a lil dead :(but it looks real clean I dont see many trolls I haven't been on for two years.

CheGuevara? - May 29, 2017, 1:50 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:34 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Considering how I block so aggressively, it should not come as a shock.

But I think more and more people are using VPNs who many never have heard of HF and if by chance they find us they are blocked and likely never return.

Our blocks are just incredibly aggressive to the point of being oppressive.

And again, if I lift the blocks it's not like I can't add them again.

This is of course true. I have no real plan as what could be done that would be the best solution as for now. Go with your experience, I am sure you'll make the right call. Best of luck Omni!

XeCheats - May 29, 2017, 1:53 pm

I gladly welcome this with open arms

Always have to not use hf when on vpn

Aigrod - May 29, 2017, 1:57 pm

Wouldn't it mess with people's "Latest IP Matching Other Members"? It would be nice if trustscan indicated that IP that matches other user is actually a VPN.

Leroy Jethro Gibbs - May 29, 2017, 2:06 pm

It could be good or bad. Honestly, I hate going to my local vape shop and not being able to get on HF there. Especially when all I want to do is chill and post on HF.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 2:07 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:57 PM)DePixel Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Wouldn't it mess with people's "Latest IP Matching Other Members"? It would be nice if trustscan indicated that IP that matches other user is actually a VPN.

use at your own risk i guess

illuminati? - May 29, 2017, 2:09 pm

(May 29, 2017 10:33 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm considering lifting all the blocks I have against datacenters. That of course would include all the VPNs and proxies blocked too.

A few things have me considering this.

1. I think we're losing some activity due to heavy blocks.
2. DDOS attacks are mainly mitigated.
3. Trust Scan still allows members to make smart choices.
4. HF API can work properly without huge changes to serving and firewalls.

I know we'd likely get a lot of ban evaders and scamming could potentially increase. But I get a lot of complaints about members not being able to use VPNs.

Worse case scenario is that I can lift these blocks then enable them again if problems arise.

So, I'd like to know what members think of this. Feedback please.

Not a terrible idea.

Like you said, it could always be re-implemented.

Leroy Jethro Gibbs - May 29, 2017, 2:10 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:46 PM)FamousHater Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) well wont matter with gauth. if users use it that is...

omni should add a captcha to the login after x amount of attempts.

Just force Captcha by default honestly.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 2:13 pm

(May 29, 2017 02:10 PM)Leroy Jethro Gibbs Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just force Captcha by default honestly. i could see some issues with this tho.

Leroy Jethro Gibbs - May 29, 2017, 2:17 pm

(May 29, 2017 02:13 PM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) i could see some issues with this tho.

Like what?

Nasyr - May 29, 2017, 2:18 pm

I'd say it's a bad idea but as you said if it goes down hill it can all be re-applied.

Donald Trump Jr. - May 29, 2017, 2:18 pm

I don't think this is a good idea.

Imagine how many members your ips will match with if your using a public vpn.

A lot of other problems to.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 2:19 pm

(May 29, 2017 02:17 PM)Leroy Jethro Gibbs Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Like what?

captcha not loading for people. it happens on other sites that have a captcha system.

TRH4CK - May 29, 2017, 2:20 pm

It would be a good idea for those who has their phone network blocked and cannot access HF outside their homes (for example at school, I could use my server to access HF).

EDIT: Made a home vpn, and was so slow that I just gave up, so with a dc unblock, I could access using my server. However, would be easier to create fake accounts (or multitis).

FamousHater - May 29, 2017, 2:23 pm

(May 29, 2017 02:10 PM)Leroy Jethro Gibbs Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just force Captcha by default honestly. that too. should be done without question if unblocking vpns

Leroy Jethro Gibbs - May 29, 2017, 2:45 pm

(May 29, 2017 02:19 PM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) captcha not loading for people. it happens on other sites that have a captcha system.

Sounds like tough shit to be honest. I have a 3Mbps connection if I'm lucky. If I can load a damn captcha on my shit, anyone else should be able too. If their VPN doesn't allow it, then they should probably find a better VPN provider.

Dar?k - May 29, 2017, 2:50 pm

I think we should give it a try for one month and see what happens...

ComputerJi - May 29, 2017, 3:07 pm

Thump up for this. Using VPN while being here on HF is very convenience. It worths a try at least. Well, about those ban evaders and scammers, I think applying some limitations and conditions would prevent a lot of them.

Tony Stark - May 29, 2017, 3:48 pm

I am for giving it a shot. If it gets messy, like you said, you can just revert it back.

I see people complaining about an influx of LQP/influx of members, staff are more than capable of managing the activity.

Also it would just mean Omniscient would probably create more rules and restrictions for posting in certain forums.

For example the Marketplace, prestige requirement/upgraded members only and increasing the minimum character limit.

Vitani - May 29, 2017, 4:02 pm

(May 29, 2017 03:48 PM)Tony Stark Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I am for giving it a shot. If it gets messy, like you said, you can just revert it back.

I see people complaining about an influx of LQP/influx of members, staff are more than capable of managing the activity.

Also it would just mean Omniscient would probably create more rules and restrictions for posting in certain forums.

For example the Marketplace, prestige requirement/upgraded members only and increasing the minimum character limit.

I actually agree with you on this. Though I might be cautious of this change, it doesn't hurt to try as there wouldn't be any major permanent damage should it go wrong.

At most some member's trust scans would have some more IP's on them.

M?xim - May 29, 2017, 4:09 pm

(May 29, 2017 01:44 PM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Well Omni, I wouldn't, personally.

If you would lift all blocks of data centers, more and more would have access to VPNs which they can use when attempting to get access to other users accounts.

(May 29, 2017 01:46 PM)FamousHater Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) well wont matter with gauth. if users use it that is...

omni should add a captcha to the login after x amount of attempts.

Actually, I changed my mind.

It would be nice to see this happen. Imagine how much HF would bloom.

Mr. WAVES - May 29, 2017, 4:29 pm

Can I risk my account by using a VPN?

blackweather - May 29, 2017, 4:30 pm

I want to know why you're always asking for people's opinion. You're a man. Know how to run a forum.

Nevieth - May 29, 2017, 4:31 pm

Accessing HF through a VPN would be awesome, but of course, deal with caution regardless of who it is.

Maybe don't remove all blocks but ease up on some? Go slowly and see how it goes.

(May 29, 2017 04:30 PM)blackweather Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I want to know why you're always asking for people's opinion. You're a man. Know how to run a forum.

Probably because HF is our home too and Omniscient likes to know what we'd approve of or disapprove of. Of course he'll do whatever the fuck he wants regardless but it's nice to know where his users stand.

blackweather - May 29, 2017, 4:33 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:31 PM)Nevieth Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Accessing HF through a VPN would be awesome, but of course, deal with caution regardless of who it is.

Maybe don't remove all blocks but ease up on some? Go slowly and see how it goes.

Probably because HF is our home too and Omniscient likes to know what we'd approve of or disapprove of. Of course he'll do whatever the fuck he wants regardless but it's nice to know where his users stand.

So you like sucking dick?

Nevieth - May 29, 2017, 4:34 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:33 PM)blackweather Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So you like sucking dick?
So you like being an insufferable twat?

blackweather - May 29, 2017, 4:35 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:34 PM)Nevieth Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So you like being an insufferable twat?
I guess it beats being a faglord.

Turtleh - May 29, 2017, 4:36 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:35 PM)blackweather Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I guess it beats being a faglord.
Woah there, calm down.

blackweather - May 29, 2017, 4:38 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:36 PM)Turtleh Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Woah there, calm down.
What the fuck are you going to do about it?

Nevieth - May 29, 2017, 4:39 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:35 PM)blackweather Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I guess it beats being a faglord.
No no I think you got it wrong, I'm a fagbaron not a faglord.

Turtleh - May 29, 2017, 4:39 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:38 PM)blackweather Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What the fuck are you going to do about it?
Nothing, but you don't have to be so mean. ;3;

Vince - May 29, 2017, 4:56 pm

Go for it. The blocks really don't stop scammers. If they truly want to scam, they will find a way back, regardless of blocks in place. Why not just give it a shot and see what happens. Worst you would have to do is place the blocks back.

Raz Riverblade - May 29, 2017, 6:23 pm

The scales seem to be balanced imo.

I think it's up to your personal preferences Omni.

HotSenpai - May 29, 2017, 6:33 pm

Honestly, I like browsing the internet while being on Hack forums, so I am all in for this, but its your call, I suppose it could be detrimental for the marketplace. Is it possible to maybe make the IP's restricted on the marketplace? Anyways, that's just my suggestion. Good Luckk

Temp_reassign - May 29, 2017, 6:41 pm

Making smart choices is something you sure can be proud of us doing when on here. But then again, whatever you decide to do, help make sure hf can stand DDOS attacks so we don't ever go offline.

Ghostyy - May 29, 2017, 6:44 pm

Changing an ip isnt hard. Truly all it takes it for me to unplug and plug in my router. Lol

?now - May 29, 2017, 6:51 pm

The thing is would accessing hf with a vpn fuck up your trustscan? Would you be able to make a seperate column for something like different IPs logged on a VPN which would be seperate from the currently logged IP

SIM-3257834 - May 29, 2017, 6:53 pm

So if two members logged into one VPN with the same IP would there be a chance they'd be banned and closed?

? [\$(1000)\$] ? - May 29, 2017, 6:59 pm

I suggest keeping it the way it is. If your going to lift blocks then I'd do country blocks
But allowing cons will increase multis and you know scams will increase

I suggest keeping it the way it is. If your going to lift blocks then I'd do country blocks
But allowing cons will increase multis and you know scams will increase

Billie Joe - May 29, 2017, 7:01 pm

id like to use a vpn because sometimes im using one anyway and come on HF to browse and its blocked so i have to DC or wait till im done

ASLR - May 29, 2017, 7:14 pm

I support lifting them. A datacenter IP block will only stop idiots from accessing HF anonymously anyways. Plus like you said, creating the API tunnel you've been talking about would no longer be necessary. I think it should also be taken into account that there are many many legitimate reasons to use a VPN other than browsing anonymously or ban evading.

Sheeple - May 29, 2017, 7:31 pm

I hate using a VPN and then trying to go to hf and it's blocked so then I have to disconnect and then reconnect once I'm done with HF :c

JustAnotherRandomDude - May 29, 2017, 9:06 pm

Honestly even if you kept the blocks on VPNs, the scammers can unplug their router, wait 15 minutes, plug back in, and have a sparkling new IP Address. Blocking VPNs doesn't stop the scammers and makes people on censored networked like Work or School unable to access the site. Thoughts?

Wirt - May 29, 2017, 9:09 pm

(May 29, 2017 06:44 PM)Ghostyy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Changing an ip isint hard. Truly all it takes it for me to unplug and plug in my router. Lol
yeah but you would still be in your IP range and it would take and idiot to not know they're related lol

On a side note, I'm sure Omni has many many other ways and techniques to find ban evaders and scammers. I don't think that removing the IP block list will make a huge difference because he would still be completely capable of tracking them down (I could be completely wrong so don't quote me on this)

(May 29, 2017 07:31 PM)Sheeple Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I hate using a VPN and then trying to go to hf and it's blocked so then I have to disconnect and then reconnect once I'm done with HF :c

As far as I know, you can just route your IP through the VPN on a specific website, so you can still have your VPN on while accessing HF and it will show your real IP, but if you go anywhere else it won't.

VirtualFrost - May 29, 2017, 9:15 pm

Won't it get an increase in bans if one user uses a VPN that another user was banned on in the past?

I'm all for it if it's just as easy to put back in place if it somehow goes to shit or quality begins to decrease.

Gary - May 29, 2017, 10:34 pm

Glad to see people like my idea of implementing prestige requirement for the market place instead of upgraded members only

Younis Khan - May 30, 2017, 1:42 am

(May 29, 2017 10:34 PM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Glad to see people like my idea of implementing prestige requirement for the market place instead of upgraded members only

How much prestige are you thinking should be the requirement? I think that idea is good to be honest, that way if someone is an HQ user but simply can't afford an upgrade, they can still sell in the marketplace (and maybe they'll upgrade after their product is successful!)

Gary - May 30, 2017, 2:21 am

(May 30, 2017 01:42 AM)Maaz Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) How much prestige are you thinking should be the requirement? I think that idea is good to be honest, that way if someone is an HQ user but simply can't afford an upgrade, they can still sell in the marketplace (and maybe they'll upgrade after their product is successful!)

50 would be good enough. Or even 30 or something like that.

Baitable - May 30, 2017, 2:23 am

Dynamic IPs are thing, and a prestige requirement for VPN use or a 1337 requirement and then I'm down for that.

It's kind of stupid saying ban evading would be easier, check my trust scan, my IP literally changes all the time because I have a dynamic IP, and most VPNs are gonna be already used by scammers on HF anyway, and the VPNs which haven't already been used, like residential VPNs, probably even work on here now.

Anyway, a 1337 requirement could work.

Yakless - May 30, 2017, 2:24 am

I don't see any harm in lifting the blocks. Worse case scenario you can add them back. I believe you're capable of dealing with the ban evaders/spammers.

HighTier - May 30, 2017, 2:27 am

I feel that this might do more harm than good. These are the following reasons why I believe so:

- 1) This could cause more current members to become a multi and create another account under a VPN.
- 2) This could allow exit scammers to come back.
- 3) Trollers could harass other members without fear of backlash because they are on a VPN and their IP is hidden.
- 4) If multiple members use the same VPN and are on the same IP it could mess up some trust scans.
- 5) It could be harder to tell if someone is a multi.

Gary - May 30, 2017, 2:30 am

(May 30, 2017 02:27 AM)Attach Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I feel that this might do more harm than good. These are the following reasons why I believe so:

1) This could cause more current members to become a multi and create another account under a VPN.

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4) If multiple members use the same VPN and are on the same IP it could mess up some trust scans.

5) It could be harder to tell if someone is a multi.

1) only members that would do that are the ones planning on exit scamming. I doubt any big member really wants to make another account.

2) no shit

3) i can only see regular members and l33ts that are salty doing this

4) dont use a free vpn that shares IPs simple as that. members shouldnt be using free shitty VPNs in general.

5) Not really cause join date.

Younis Khan - May 30, 2017, 2:39 am

(May 30, 2017 02:21 AM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 50 would be good enough. Or even 30 or something like that.

Just wondering, how is prestige calculated/increased?

Gary - May 30, 2017, 2:47 am

(May 30, 2017 02:39 AM)Maaz Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just wondering, how is prestige calculated/increased? Check the Mentor Steve's thread with Xer something they cracked the formula

[Prestige Explained - How To Gain Prestige - Formula](#) by [Steve](#)

Baitable - May 30, 2017, 2:57 am

(May 30, 2017 02:30 AM)Gary. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 1) only members that would do that are the ones planning on exit scamming. I doubt any big member really wants to make another account.

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3) i can only see regular members and l33ts that are salty doing this

4) dont use a free vpn that shares IPs simple as that. members shouldnt be using free shitty VPNs in general.

5) Not really cause join date.

1) Ok, but what if a small member makes a new account, or eBook sellers make accounts for bumping and whatnot.

2) This could be done anyway with dynamic IPs, not really a point / residential VPNs / proxies.

3) ok, and did you happen to forget that the forum is mostly 1337s and regular members? Some people just like to troll and will spam the forum for "fun", 4chan users everywhere.

4) Lols, you can do that anyway then, if your suggesting a private VPN, then you can already do that, like right now, this is meant to be for more publics VPNs

5) "Not really cause join date.", they could use multiple accounts at once, like a backup account, I know a few large members with backup accounts, and now they'd also be able to have them active.

I agree with attach, this would do more bad than good, the only way I think this would be acceptable

is to purchase ep1c or 1337.

Otherwise this will get abused really hard, and you could easily make spam bots, make a simple script with a different proxy for all of the already created accounts.

Gary - May 30, 2017, 3:09 am

(May 30, 2017 02:57 AM)Baitable Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 1) Ok, but what if a small member makes a new account, or eBook sellers make accounts for bumping and whatnot.

2) This could be done anyway with dynamic IPs, not really a point / residential VPNs / proxies.

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I agree with attach, this would do more bad than good, the only way I think this would be acceptable is to purchase ep1c or 1337.

Otherwise this will get abused really hard, and you could easily make spam bots, make a simple script with a different proxy for all of the already created accounts.

1) Bumping would be obvious, plus this is where prestige plays a factor.

2) no shit again. nothing will prevent it.

3) I didn't forget, you can tell some people apart from posting habits. That's how a few multis got exposed by other members.

4) That's not what my answer intended. Multiple people have asked the question about matching IPs. Simple answer is Free VPNs are not safe to use.

5) They would have to work on said accounts for a while to earn prestige.

Egregious Jr. - May 30, 2017, 4:21 am

I think that if this does get done then the marketplace needs to be for upgraded members only.

Patzan - May 30, 2017, 4:35 am

I think the idea is really terrible, there will be a lot of multis and scammers, which we really don't need!

M?xim - May 30, 2017, 4:45 am

(May 30, 2017 04:35 AM)Mys?????????????????tikal Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think the idea is really terrible, there will be a lot of multis and scammers, which we really don't need!

As already said 100's of times,

there will always be multis and scammers.

Decim - May 30, 2017, 5:11 am

(May 30, 2017 02:27 AM)Attach Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I feel that this might do more harm than good. These are the following reasons why I believe so:

1) This could cause more current members to become a multi and create another account under a VPN.

2) This could allow exit scammers to come back.

3) Trollers could harass other members without fear of backlash because they are on a VPN and their IP is hidden.

4) If multiple members use the same VPN and are on the same IP it could mess up some trust scans.

5) It could be harder to tell if someone is a multi. This guy pretty much summed up what I was thinking.

If Omni has some ways of tackling these to an extent, we should be good.

(May 30, 2017 04:45 AM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) As already said 100's of times,

there will always be multis and scammers.

Yes, and it might significantly increase.

jawsh33 - May 30, 2017, 5:15 am

Exactly! People need to pay to use VPN's on HF. I think that would be a really sick option.

Drug Problems - May 30, 2017, 5:20 am

(May 30, 2017 05:15 AM)jawsh33 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Exactly! People need to pay to use VPN's on HF. I think that would be a really sick option.

That would make it unfair to new members who care about their online security and haven't got to use HF.

I think the idea should be tested and as said if too many problems occur just revert back to normal. Marketplace will always be filled with scammers no matter where you go. There are a lot of threads on how to use the marketplace safely and lots of features on HF to help with that.

I feel the biggest problem would be bots joining and spamming but i'm sure something can be implemented.

J?son - May 30, 2017, 5:27 am

i support making users pay for whitelisting ips

TigeyGoesMew - May 30, 2017, 8:19 am

It would be good for them to be unblocked imo, personally i cannot access hf from my phones internet connection (network blocks hf) and currently i cannot use a vpn to access it im sure others have this problem as well.

Scammers and multi's are allways going to be here, its not like its hard to reset your router.

AlphaIndustries - May 30, 2017, 9:20 am

I think this is a good idea, however only allow people with certain account age (like minimum 2 months) or visitors to use a vpn and anyone without that, block them if they connect through a vpn or blocked datacenter.

Or if you lift the blocks, make sure that the Marketplace is for upgraded users only, this will decrease scamming on hf and potentially get people to upgrade.

xor - May 30, 2017, 9:23 am

1. I think we're losing some activity due to heavy blocks.
This. I'm on forum since 2011, and i noticed A LOT of less activity.

OnlyFinesse - May 30, 2017, 9:26 am

Only let people with a aged account (6 months or so) to use a VPN?

Friedrich Nietzsche - May 30, 2017, 9:27 am

(May 30, 2017 09:20 AM)Nexio Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think this is a good idea, however only allow people with certain account age (like minimum 2 months) or visitors to use a vpn and anyone without that, block them if they connect through a vpn or blocked datacenter.

Or if you lift the blocks, make sure that the Marketplace is for upgraded users only, this will decrease scamming on hf and potentially get people to upgrade.

This is not possible due to the way the site is configured. The firewall is independent to the registration system, and therefore it would be very complicated to integrate them.

Making the marketplace upgraded only wouldn't stop scammers, scammers would simply upgrade and scam for more than the money they paid for the upgrade.

Vitani - May 30, 2017, 9:55 am

(May 30, 2017 09:26 AM)Fluff- Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Only let people with a aged account (6 months or so) to use a VPN?

This would actually not solve anything as the main reason omniscient is considering this is to enable new users to sign in using a VPN or another currently blocked IP.

I say let's give it a try and see how it works out.

Best case scenario: It works out great, a lot more activity and minor issues.

Worst case: A lot of issues/ban evaders/scammers and omni enables the blocks once again.

No real permanent harm done I'd say.

M?xim - May 30, 2017, 10:31 am

(May 30, 2017 09:57 AM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Can someone explain how allowing this would raise the number of scams?

Time.

New members (previously banned members), gets reputable and scams.

That is the only possible way that I can come up with for now.

Other than that? It won't. As always, people should deal with caution when dealing with money on any forum or site. So this shouldn't affect anything.

DevNet - May 30, 2017, 10:45 am

(May 30, 2017 09:57 AM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Can someone explain how allowing this would raise the number of scams?

I can definitely see old con-artists return to this forum on a VPN. It would also make scamming slightly more attractive and manageable if a user was allowed to mask their online fingerprint. Granted, this can already be done to some extent with the current system; but allowing all VPN's would lower the barrier considerably.

Cylow - May 30, 2017, 11:36 am

It's a good idea and I like it. It was never Hf's job to try to reduce the amount of scammers out there. It always states that all deals are at your own risk so the "scam" thing isn't an important thing to think

about.

Leroy Jethro Gibbs - May 30, 2017, 12:33 pm

(May 30, 2017 12:08 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) But wouldn't that involve the newer member going second in transaction?

I feel like it would be whoever got scammed fault if they were scammed for going first in a deal with someone so new to the forum.

And if they use a VPN, their trust scan will look super fucked up, wouldn't it?

Which would raise other flags, assuming you aren't an idiot and don't do a blind deal.

Yep. Not to mention IP's can always be changed. Just because a VPN is blocked doesn't mean someone can't signup after an IP rotation from their ISP and just continue with scamming etc. This idea of removing blocks will literally do nothing to help or not help those scamming. Maybe for those who wish to keep their real IP hidden but since scamming can't be prevented solely from IP's, I really don't think this idea has any real effect on scammers.

DevNet - May 30, 2017, 1:18 pm

You are making many assumptions which I find baseless.

(May 30, 2017 12:08 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) But wouldn't that involve the newer member going second in transaction? It doesn't have to be a new member. Making an account and getting 200+ rep within a month is completely feasible if you're a lounge whore and try hard. Forum is filled with examples of this. Upgrading once helps a lot too, which no one stops you from doing.

(May 30, 2017 12:08 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I feel like it would be whoever got scammed fault if they were scammed for going first in a deal with someone so new to the forum. Yet this happens daily. Also see point above. And point below.

(May 30, 2017 12:08 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And if they use a VPN, their trust scan will look super fucked up, wouldn't it?

Which would raise other flags, assuming you aren't an idiot and don't do a blind deal. Well half the forums' trust can would look messy if you ask me. I for sure would start tunneling my traffic. Does that make me a (potential) scammer any more than I am now?

The trust scan would become much less conclusive in my opinion. (at least the IP metrics; even the IP matching other members to some degree)

I would go as far as claim that someone would be stupid not to protect their privacy online when possible, especially on a forum like this.

If a member is to judge solely on use of VPN and age/standing (rep, posts etc.) or trust scan of the account, many false positives will be the result.

How many of the mass scammers on this forum had an excellent standing on their trust scan/profile and still managed to con others? (I'm not saying or implying this is in anyway encouraged or caused by site policies, but it is an interesting point).

naberhaci - May 30, 2017, 1:48 pm

I think it's a good idea, for example, imgur or some other image host are blocked in some countries by governments. They need to use VPN for see all these thread designs and content. Right decision for me

Mirakuru - May 30, 2017, 2:19 pm

(May 29, 2017 11:27 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) - If I lift blocks I may end up making the

Marketplace for upgraded members only. -
Please do it :)

(May 30, 2017 01:48 PM)naberhaci Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think it's a good idea, for example, imgur or some other image host are blocked in some countries by governments. They need to use VPN for see all these thread designs and content. Right decision for me
You can easily bypass it.

DNS;

208.67.222.222

208.67.220.220

EthanX - May 30, 2017, 6:13 pm

Would we still have to worry about being migrated with other users using the same VPN?

Omniscient - May 30, 2017, 10:23 pm

(May 30, 2017 08:30 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Can we do something about the "503 Service Temporarily Unavailable" stuff.

If I try to open 3 threads at once it always happens to me.

I'm not trying to knock the site offline, just trying to be efficient :(
That's something which won't be changed.

Captain Steve Rogers - May 30, 2017, 10:39 pm

I don't understand why one have to use VPN when using HF?

If they know about VPN then they should learn how to make HF in exception.

Soo simple.

<https://www.hideipvpn.com/setup/how-to-vpn-bypass-websites-windows/>

<https://www.bestvpn.com/how-to-bypass-vpn-for-specific-websites/>

Friedrich Nietzsche - May 30, 2017, 11:55 pm

(May 30, 2017 10:39 PM)#Programmer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I don't understand why one have to use VPN when using HF?

If they know about VPN then they should learn how to make HF in exception.

Soo simple.

<https://www.hideipvpn.com/setup/how-to-vpn-bypass-websites-windows/>

<https://www.bestvpn.com/how-to-bypass-vpn-for-specific-websites/>

For their privacy, especially with the recent bills allowing ISPs to sell data.

Captain Steve Rogers - May 31, 2017, 12:08 am

(May 30, 2017 11:55 PM)Friedrich Nietzsche Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) For their privacy, especially with the recent bills allowing ISPs to sell data.

What data ISP will sell? Someone is using HF?

I don't see anything related to privacy and HF.

And where as if we allow VPN then see the cons like lots of ban evaders, multis(even if someone

isn't ban then too he can make lots of account) and scamming will increase for sure.

Cibor - May 31, 2017, 12:10 am

I think it would be good to lift country based blocks, I am not sure about VPNs.

Friedrich Nietzsche - May 31, 2017, 12:20 am

(May 31, 2017 12:08 AM)#Programmer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What data ISP will sell? Someone is using HF?

I don't see anything related to privacy and HF.

And where as if we allow VPN then see the cons like lots of ban evaders, multis(even if someone isn't ban then too he can make lots of account) and scamming will increase for sure.

So we are not allowed to protect our privacy fully but instead have to exclude certain parts of it?

The forums has a section related to privacy and investigation itself, and another section for the sales of VPN. I would say that privacy is being promoted beautifully by the site itself, so why not apply these principles on site?

Alice Dee - May 31, 2017, 12:51 am

Why do they need to use a VPN while accessing HackForums? Yes the name may suggest illegal activity, but that's the opposite of what is happening.

If they are legit, they don't need to use a VPN (unless country restrictions)

SoccerBet - May 31, 2017, 12:57 am

I don't think that VPN are usefull here cause as said before, we ain't doing illegal things I mean if you go on DeepWeb yeah you may use a VPN but here you ain't buying or selling any drug, any weapon so its cool.

Captain Steve Rogers - May 31, 2017, 12:58 am

(May 31, 2017 12:20 AM)Friedrich Nietzsche Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So we are not allowed to protect our privacy fully but instead have to exclude certain parts of it?

The forums has a section related to privacy and investigation itself, and another section for the sales of VPN. I would say that privacy is being promoted beautifully by the site itself, so why not apply these principles on site?

This reason is very small as compared to what I said earlier

"And where as if we allow VPN then see the cons like lots of ban evaders, multis(even if someone isn't ban then too he can make lots of account) and scamming will increase for sure."

Friedrich Nietzsche - May 31, 2017, 1:06 am

(May 31, 2017 12:58 AM)#Programmer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This reason is very small as compared to what I said earlier

"And where as if we allow VPN then see the cons like lots of ban evaders, multis(even if someone isn't ban then too he can make lots of account) and scamming will increase for sure."

Anyone who wants to ban evade can do so easily. Residential proxies cost around 10 cents per proxy depending on where you get them.

If you are dealing with someone who made a fresh account and you are going first then it is your problem.

FamousHater - May 31, 2017, 1:11 am

(May 31, 2017 12:10 AM)Cibor Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think it would be good to lift country based blocks, I am not sure about VPNs.i agree as i have buddies who want to join but their country is blocked

Captain Steve Rogers - May 31, 2017, 1:24 am

(May 31, 2017 01:06 AM)Friedrich Nietzsche Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Anyone who wants to ban evade can do so easily. Residential proxies cost around 10 cents per proxy depending on where you get them.

If you are dealing with someone who made a fresh account and you are going first then it is your problem.

10 cents really?

How long you think they gonna last as compared to VPN?

Take any VPN from HF and just imagine if someone makes an account from all of the IP's.

I know how to deal on HF but what about others?

Reason we are doing better is just because we have VPN's block which stopped LQ scammers. Not 100% I know but at least 90% I assume.

??e rando? d??c? g?y - May 31, 2017, 2:35 am

Maby add to the trust scan if a user is use is using a IP from a datacenter / known vpns?

Friedrich Nietzsche - May 31, 2017, 2:50 am

(May 31, 2017 01:24 AM)#Programmer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 10 cents really?

How long you think they gonna last as compared to VPN?

Take any VPN from HF and just imagine if someone makes an account from all of the IP's.

I know how to deal on HF but what about others?

Reason we are doing better is just because we have VPN's block which stopped LQ scammers. Not 100% I know but at least 90% I assume.

This is quite a baseless assumptions. These proxies lasts anywhere from 3 days to a week, which makes it \$1 per month at most. Compared to that, VPNs often cost at least \$5 per month and has a limited amount of IP while you can constantly change your IP when using proxies.

A scammer can invest \$1 into proxies, \$30 into upgrades and scam \$100 and leave. Blocking VPNs doesn't change anything.

7 - May 31, 2017, 2:54 am

I am very happy for this news, mostly as i use a dedicated IP through VPN and would prefer to use the site on that IP.

It would be nice to add trusted IP's to our user panel especially for those on fixed IP

Elitas - May 31, 2017, 2:55 am

Well, scammers and ban evaders will always find a way back. Maybe instead of always chasing to block their IPs, we could strengthen the requirements for marketplace and other such requirements.

ro-It - May 31, 2017, 8:34 am

I think that's a great idea, since the heavy blocks are making it hard to even access the forum if your not in north america. However I'm curious to know if you intend to lift the block on universities and such one day?

Safen - May 31, 2017, 8:41 am

I see some agree with it and few doesn't. You could always try and if you dont like it remove it.

Heresys - May 31, 2017, 9:01 am

I dont think this effects the real scammers. Because uber scammers with lots of rep will find a way to do it anyways

I dont think this will add new kids here. Some kid may download first vpn and be like wanna be hacker search HF bam blocked on HF

Only con i see is

Maybe lots of low rank ban evaders that staff will have trouble tracking . But if they are on fresh account then not chance they can really do harm besides trolling anyways

EthanX - May 31, 2017, 11:32 am

I'm just worried about using a vpn and getting merged with other users. Would that still happen if you allowed vpns?

Hexicidal - May 31, 2017, 12:53 pm

(May 31, 2017 11:32 AM)EthanX Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm just worried about using a vpn and getting merged with other users. Would that still happen if you allowed vpns?

This would be a major limitation of it.

LSDoom - May 31, 2017, 1:05 pm

I honestly think it would cause more problems then its worth. The forum would flood with scammers, ban evaders and multi accounters.

I dont mind the current VPN rule, I think it protects the users.

FaberCastell - May 31, 2017, 3:35 pm

Yes i think it'd be a good thing to remove blocks.

It only stops the stupid ones, there are still ways to access HF proxified.

Cryst?I - June 1, 2017, 3:43 am

I think its a good idea to lift the ban up and see how it goes and like you already said, worst case you'll have to put the ban again. Members on HF anyway have to be at caution when dealing with other members.

slashvar - June 1, 2017, 3:51 am

I don't think this would be a good idea. Why not just allow VPN/datacentres to access the API only?

Armada - June 1, 2017, 5:47 am

Personally, I foresee more problems coming from this change than benefits.

Although I understand the loss of posting may be a cause of these blocks.

The amount of ban evasion and market place problems which we had when the blocks were not as restrictive has greatly reduced as well.

That being said, I do not personally think it is enough of a problem to lift the blocks, but as noted it can always be tested and if the problems increase they can always be placed back in effect again.

On that note, I personally never encountered problems accessing HF from Data centers and I previously worked at a major one. Likely one of the IP blocks not known as a datacenter however.

F?cqlé?? - June 1, 2017, 5:50 am

I don't think it's worth the amount of scamming and multi-accounting it would bring.

Vanderbilt - June 1, 2017, 6:29 am

(May 29, 2017 11:44 AM)YayHar Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The only issue I have with this is the trust scan.

"Latest IP Matching Other Members:"

Also, wouldn't this make country blocks irrelevant?

If this has not been said, there can be a trust scan feature that says in yellow or red letters that the person is using a Datacenter IP

Armada - June 1, 2017, 6:35 am

(Jun 1, 2017 06:29 AM)Vanderbilt Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If this has not been said, there can be a trust scan feature that says in yellow or red letters that the person is using a Datacenter IP
That would actually be a very useful feature.

DevSquad - June 1, 2017, 6:37 am

(Jun 1, 2017 05:50 AM)F?cql? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I don't think it's worth the amount of scamming and multi-accounting it would bring.
Implying blocking DC's would stop real scammers from coming on this forum.

F?cql?? - June 1, 2017, 6:49 am

(Jun 1, 2017 06:37 AM)DevSquad Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Implying blocking DC's would stop real scammers from coming on this forum.
Where did I imply that? I simply stated it would increase.

M?xim - June 1, 2017, 9:21 am

(Jun 1, 2017 06:29 AM)Vanderbilt Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If this has not been said, there can be a trust scan feature that says in yellow or red letters that the person is using a Datacenter IP
(Jun 1, 2017 06:35 AM)Armada Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That would actually be a very useful feature.
This I'm liking. What a cool idea.
Obviously, it can't tell with a hundred percent accuracy. But it can still tell from Omni's current collection of blocked datacenters.

Friedrich Nietzsche - June 1, 2017, 9:23 am

(Jun 1, 2017 06:29 AM)Vanderbilt Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If this has not been said, there can be a trust scan feature that says in yellow or red letters that the person is using a Datacenter IP
This will be a good feature in my opinion, as it allows us to spot potential ban evaders.

Silver Fang - June 1, 2017, 9:24 am

(Jun 1, 2017 09:21 AM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This I'm liking. What a cool idea.
Obviously, it can't tell with a hundred percent accuracy. But it can still tell from Omni's current collection of blocked datacenters.
I agree with this idea, would be a good way if you considering to unblock those VPN's/proxies.

He B TeMy - June 1, 2017, 10:46 am

I'd say lift it, it's not like you don't have a backup of the blocked Datacenters/etc, if it turns to crap you can just re-do it if needed.
Honestly, some VPN's could stay blocked... but at least try to leave some VPN's for stuff, i could never pass the captcha on this website using TOR... but that's probably another thing.

THC - June 1, 2017, 10:49 am

I wouldn't think that this would be the greatest idea, it would make it a lot easier for scammers to

come back on new accounts. I mean sure, having the block in place does not eliminate the issue, however it does partially solve it as not everyone is smart enough to understand how to bypass such a block.

VisualSoft - June 1, 2017, 11:55 am

Yes, currently HF is like dead and this will give HF new life.

Suggestion from my personal point of View : You must get Trust Scan available for all So that every once can check before making any deal. Currently Regular and Leet users are not able to use trust scan.

Also if possible please add the user country in trust scan, so when dealing with them specially with paypal payments, any one can check it. Its not 100% safe but at-least users can get some idea of deal from it.

M?xim - June 1, 2017, 11:58 am

(Jun 1, 2017 11:55 AM)VisualSoft Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes, currently HF is like dead and this will give HF new life.

That's a bit outrageously don't you think? Maybe just worded a bit poorly.

455 users active in the past 5 minutes

Cimex - June 1, 2017, 12:06 pm

I personally think this is a good idea. Scammers will always be around, and if people don't know how to verify contact information then that's there problem.

I understand this is not always the case with scams, but it seems to be a main thing. Scamming will never stop anyway, if it gets out of control just do what you said and put the lifts back on.

Truth - June 1, 2017, 12:25 pm

Is it possible to allow users accounts to choose to still have data centers blocked for their specific account?

I use VPN's regularly but dont really want to on HF. I sometimes accidentally go on HF with them still on but get the block which I like as I dont want to trigger the trust scan.

I also wouldnt want anyone with VPNs trying to breach my account, even tho it probably wont happen due to 2FA, blocking data centers would still be a nice layer of security I think since hackers normally like to hide behind them.

Anyways, those are just some quick thoughts. I agree with you just trying it out and seeing what happens and enabling them back if problems arise.

I will predict it being a lot more common for members to have matching IPs due to using the same public VPN's

Im High - June 1, 2017, 2:15 pm

Well, I can see how it can be a good thing. It would help increase activity as well as help keep people safer in general.

Yes, there will always be people that will attempt to scam or evade. I also feel like these people already have the knowledge on how to do so and are actively doing it with the protections that are already in place. So I feel like allowing VPNs will do more good than harm.

Just my nickle tour.

GenericSkid - June 1, 2017, 2:18 pm

(Jun 1, 2017 11:58 AM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's a bit outrageously don't you think? Maybe just worded a bit poorly.

455 users active in the past 5 minutes

Could be that he just doesn't see threads that interest him. I can relate. Sometimes browsing the new posts is just like browsing the E-Whoring section with a tinge of Beginner Hacking.

Blazin - June 1, 2017, 5:57 pm

(May 29, 2017 10:33 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm considering lifting all the blocks I have against datacenters. That of course would include all the VPNs and proxies blocked too.

A few things have me considering this.

1. I think we're losing some activity due to heavy blocks.
2. DDOS attacks are mainly mitigated.
3. Trust Scan still allows members to make smart choices.
4. HF API can work properly without huge changes to serving and firewalls.

I know we'd likely get a lot of ban evaders and scamming could potentially increase. But I get a lot of complaints about members not being able to use VPNs.

Worse case scenario is that I can lift these blocks then enable them again if problems arise.

So, I'd like to know what members think of this. Feedback please.

Hello Boss. Here to leave some feedback bro.

Let's start with the first point.

1. I think we're losing some activity due to heavy blocks. I would agree. Some people feel the need to be on proxies and things 24/7 and if they can't on "hackforums" They just leave. It would be nice for people to be able to setup a vpn and stuff and use it for HF especially since some people have browsing restrictions? No doubt will it boost the traffic and numbers as long as you can take care of the back-lash of what this will cause, More trolling, and account evading and things like that will probably rise. In the end weigh out the options and choices and make the best decision for you and the website.

2. DDOS attacks are mainly mitigated. I feel like this is true. We have cloudflare and succuri i think it's called? Not sure if your still using the second one. If you can still mitigate the random attacks and deal with all the other things I would say go for it. Hopefully it's not bigger of a headache than it's worth worst case you can always revert :)

3. Trust Scan still allows members to make smart choices.

Agreed, but will trust scan be available to everyone at that point?

4. HF API can work properly without huge changes to serving and firewalls.

Would be awesome to have the API fully working. I assume you mean it's a pain to get it working through your CloudFlare and protection services and your setup and such. I've ran into similar problems before >.<

Good luck boss it's your choice!

:)

shreder - June 1, 2017, 6:05 pm

maybe lift certain datacenter bans? my work ip is banned.

Mr. WAVES - June 1, 2017, 9:25 pm

(May 29, 2017 04:29 PM)Mr. Greyhat Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Can I risk my account by using a VPN?I quote myself to have an answer.. Thanks

EthanX - June 1, 2017, 11:41 pm

(Jun 1, 2017 09:25 PM)Mr. Greyhat Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I quote myself to have an answer.. Thanks
That's what I am wondering. I don't want to get merged because so many other people use PIA too.

ra1d - June 1, 2017, 11:51 pm

(Jun 1, 2017 09:25 PM)Mr. Greyhat Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I quote myself to have an answer.. Thanks
Shouldn't that be a pretty obvious answer?
Obviously there's going to be a lot of users using the same providers.

Omni would be shooting him self in the foot if he merges everyone with matching IP's.

Sheeple - June 2, 2017, 3:13 pm

(Jun 1, 2017 11:41 PM)EthanX Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's what I am wondering. I don't want to get merged because so many other people use PIA too.I don't think he'd allow vpns and then merge everyone under the same vpn ips lol

ARIANA - June 2, 2017, 3:15 pm

You will get constant complaints from idiots who use free public VPNs.

JUSTIN - June 2, 2017, 3:50 pm

Maybe allow L33Ts+ to use VPNs or something? Otherwise I think there would be an excessive amount of multis, at least charging a little bit of \$ could mitigate this problem a bit.

StackFramed - June 2, 2017, 5:40 pm

I definitely support this idea. You'd think a hacking forum would allow basic user privacy by letting it's users use VPN/proxy services. There are many other alternative steps which can be taken to eliminate or minimize the risk of multi accounters and scammers as well.

Gary - June 2, 2017, 5:41 pm

(Jun 2, 2017 03:50 PM)JUSTIN Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Maybe allow L33Ts+ to use VPNs or something? Otherwise I think there would be an excessive amount of multis, at least charging a little bit of \$ could mitigate this problem a bit.

That would be hard to do. Unless each person is using a dedicated VPN IP only they have access to.

ra1d - June 2, 2017, 8:36 pm

(Jun 2, 2017 03:50 PM)JUSTIN Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Maybe allow L33Ts+ to use VPNs or something? Otherwise I think there would be an excessive amount of multis, at least charging a little bit of \$ could mitigate this problem a bit.

Not sure you guys understand the issue Omni is talking about.

The site is lacking activity, new users getting blocked because they are on VPN are not going to be enticed to buy l33t membership to use their VPN.

Younis Khan - June 2, 2017, 11:50 pm

If I start SQL injecting more this will come in handy. Currently I have to open up all the resourced that are on HF and then turn on my VPN and hope Chrome doesn't autorefresh the page because sometimes it just does.

Carl Elias - June 3, 2017, 1:09 am

Just curious but don't have the time to read 200+ replies on my phone but, how would this effect the IP counts for matching users on trust scan or for account investigations??

In other words, say I use a VPN. On the Same VPN there is a user who is also using HF and starts scamming people. When staff looks into the account and sees I have a matching IP how would that be handled?

Also what about the trust scan because say I use a VPN 30 other users here use?

Just was wondering how this affects things. Sorry if it was already asked.

-Ty

SIM-2502833 - June 3, 2017, 1:24 am

Although I feel like it would completely diminish the value of the members sharing the same IP, I like the idea although I dont have a private vpn service. If we could find a way to keep the Current blocked ips from effecting the ips matching other members I think this would be ideal, and maybe a flag on trust scan to say 'this user registered on an ip we at one point have blocked' sort of thing, so people who do not use vpns can be given more legitimacy

Vanderbilt - June 3, 2017, 5:51 am

I think that if you lift the blocks and skids complain about matching IPs, they should get a private VPN. If they are the ones really wanting to use a VPN because the don't wanna get tracked then they should know not to use a public one or just use one that is unique to a certain IP

M?xim - June 3, 2017, 6:51 am

(Jun 3, 2017 05:51 AM)Vanderbilt Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think that if you lift the blocks and skids complain about matching IPs, they should get a private VPN. If they are the ones really wanting to use a VPN because the don't wanna get tracked then they should know not to use a public one or just use one that is unique to a certain IP

If there will be people complaining about matching IPs I'll call their parents and explain why their son is mentally ill.

Everyone has their own IP, you have your own network at home, nobody is forcing you to use a VPN.

Punisher - June 3, 2017, 2:58 pm

Not sure why, but my FreedomPop SIM card won't allow me to use HackForums on my mobile.

It says that HackForums has blocked my IP unfortunately.

It's been this way for over a year!

ARIANA - June 3, 2017, 3:05 pm

(Jun 3, 2017 02:58 PM)Error Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Not sure why, but my FreedomPop SIM card won't allow me to use HackForums on my mobile.

It says that HackForums has blocked my IP unfortunately.

It's been this way for over a year!

FreedomPop is a sub network of Three. They probably don't have many IPs due to some of their packages being free. I suggest you get a better SIM since FreedomPop have attempted to scam me on multiple occasions.

Clutch - June 4, 2017, 4:13 am

I like the idea of lifting the VPN ban. I guess personally I would start lifting the bans incrementally and adjusting as needed.

M?xim - June 4, 2017, 4:49 am

(Jun 4, 2017 04:47 AM)Fictional Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes, I am very often on a VPN and I forget I'm connected and visit HF and get a message saying I'm banned. It's very annoying to have to disconnect from your VPN to visit the site, would be so much easier with it being lifted.

Route it.

Run CMD as administrator.

Type "Route print" and look for your gateway IP.

Then you need to find HF's IP which you can do by typing "ping hackforums.net".

Lastly, type in the command "route add WEBSITEIP YOURGATEWAYIP".

ARIANA - June 4, 2017, 1:13 pm

(Jun 4, 2017 04:49 AM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Route it.

Run CMD as administrator.

Type "Route print" and look for your gateway IP.

Then you need to find HF's IP which you can do by typing "ping hackforums.net".

Lastly, type in the command "route add WEBSITEIP YOURGATEWAYIP".

This would give you a cloudflare IP not a HF IP. (assuming HF still uses cloudflare)

M?xim - June 4, 2017, 1:23 pm

(Jun 4, 2017 01:13 PM)Camila Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This would give you a cloudflare IP not a HF IP. (assuming HF still uses cloudflare)

Yes, however, it still works.

You just need to re-route once here and there.

ARIANA - June 4, 2017, 1:55 pm

(Jun 4, 2017 01:23 PM)Maxim Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes, however, it still works.

You just need to re-route once here and there.

Then whatever sites that use cloudflare and are in the same area as HF's server would also be routed which you probably dont want.

Vanderbilt - June 4, 2017, 2:18 pm

(Jun 4, 2017 01:55 PM)Camila Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Then whatever sites that use cloudflare and are in the

same area as HF's server would also be routed which you probably dont want.

No, cloudflares nameservers are site specific. Because I don't wanna access google and get hackforums

Confound - June 5, 2017, 7:51 am

I'm a bit hesitant about this in regards to increased scamming, although I trust your judgement 100%.

ARIANA - June 5, 2017, 8:43 am

(Jun 4, 2017 02:18 PM)Vanderbilt Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) No, cloudflares nameservers are site specific. Because I don't wanna access google and get hackforums cloudflare doesnt give every single site a separate IP.

The Blunt - June 5, 2017, 8:43 am

(Jun 5, 2017 07:51 AM)Confound Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm a bit hesitant about this in regards to increased scamming, although I trust your judgement 100%.

I do not see why banned members cannot have their IP continued to be blocked while lifting on datacenters. Make Datacenter IP's part of the trustscan.

Shatter420 - June 5, 2017, 10:26 am

Release and sell your own HF vpn and have a each static IP for each member

Captain Steve Rogers - June 5, 2017, 10:48 am

(Jun 5, 2017 10:26 AM)Shatter420 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Release and sell your own HF vpn and have a each static IP for each member

Do you have any idea how many members does HF have?

And a static IP will be costly.

Shatter420 - June 5, 2017, 11:14 am

(Jun 5, 2017 10:48 AM)#Programmer Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Do you have any idea how many members does HF have?

And a static IP will be costly.

Bro even if it's \$5 a month per member it'll still make up for the static ips and the vpn server itself

Grim - June 5, 2017, 12:12 pm

As long as it's easily reversible I don't see why not give it a shot and see if it brings more members to the forum that would be very cool. If worse comes to worse and we do end up seeing more scammers you can just put the blocks back in place.

Omniscient - June 5, 2017, 12:34 pm

Quote:I do not see why banned members cannot have their IP continued to be blocked while lifting on datacenters.

We have more banned members than we do allowed blocks. And a single member may have dozens of IPs. Do you expect us to ban them all?

ARIANA - June 5, 2017, 12:47 pm

(Jun 5, 2017 12:34 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) We have more banned members than we do allowed blocks. And a single member may have dozens of IPs. Do you expect us to ban them all? Most ISPs give out dynamic IPs by default. Like you said members would have lots of IPs. At my grandma's house I stayed for about 2 weeks and their IP changed about 4 times. This is why I'm on

a business line myself. To get 5 static IPs.

Skidy - June 5, 2017, 3:38 pm

I mean internet freedom and all of that. Being able to hide behind a VPN and such is a good idea personally.

As you said.. Some people using same VPN IP will get same user issue however their problem.

Lift them ban and let the internet take its role.

(Also, you can use specific VPN's which work on HF). If people are so anal about it they should just use them.

M?xim - June 6, 2017, 1:55 pm

Looking forward seeing that the decision will be.

I want what's best for HF and both options are almost equally.

However, I hope to allow VPNs as it will allow HF to grow even more.

Edit: Only thing that I think will be needed then is some extra people to look out for HF, to keep it clean and safe.

Blazin - June 6, 2017, 4:21 pm

I am also looking forward seeing the final outcome on this. Waiting on the boss for this one. :)

Mr. 9 - June 6, 2017, 4:35 pm

(May 29, 2017 10:33 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 3. Trust Scan still allows members to make smart choices.

It allows them to but will they? Probably not lol. That being said I still feel this is a good idea if not just to see how many ban evaders and scammers try their luck. As other users are saying I'm in favor of a trial period just to see what happens

Night Fury - June 6, 2017, 5:42 pm

I believe you said you have China and Russia blocked. Lifting the restrictions would allow those in China and Russia to access the site if they know how to use a VPN. At that point, HF would be an almost entirely global community. Apart from North Korea, I think that pretty much covers the world unless there are some other countries blocking HF.

As Benjamin Franklin said, "If you do tomorrow what you did today, you will get tomorrow what you got today." The only way the site will change is if you change the site. Break the routine pattern and see what happens.

User X - June 6, 2017, 6:04 pm

(Jun 5, 2017 03:38 PM)Skidy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I mean internet freedom and all of that. Being able to hide behind a VPN and such is a good idea personally.

As you said.. Some people using same VPN IP will get same user issue however their problem.

Lift them ban and let the internet take its role.

(Also, you can use specific VPN's which work on HF). If people are so anal about it they should just use them.

yea same !!!

Shaq - June 6, 2017, 6:27 pm

If you do this, maybe make a field in the trust scan that shows if they've been connected from a known VPN/datacenter IP in the past 30 days too. It shows if someone is really trying to hide themselves which could be helpful.

Cyrus - June 6, 2017, 8:05 pm

Good idea in my opinion Omni!

Positive - June 6, 2017, 9:06 pm

I think lifting the blocks would bring a tremendous amount of activity back to the forum.

Giving those users who fucked up/those who ended up getting blocked because of their area another chance.

HUDCO - June 8, 2017, 1:52 am

(Jun 6, 2017 09:06 PM)Positive Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think lifting the blocks would bring a tremendous amount of activity back to the forum.

Giving those users who fucked up/those who ended up getting blocked because of their area another chance.

Correct said,
it will surely bring more activity.

HughKent - June 8, 2017, 2:13 am

Overall, it's still easy to notice ban evaders. And people can still evade without a VPN. Just block TOR and free VPN's, that should limit these evaders. Anyways, i support your thinking and support the removal of the VPN block.

Omniscient - June 8, 2017, 10:47 am

Yeah, I'm going to try to do this today. Going to change all blocks to CAPTCHA so that at least bots can't access HF still and the list will remain intact.

Shoe - June 8, 2017, 12:32 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, I'm going to try to do this today. Going to change all blocks to CAPTCHA so that at least bots can't access HF still and the list will remain intact.

That's awesome! I'm glad this is coming to fruition. Hope it goes well, Omni. Thanks. :)

S????i - June 8, 2017, 12:46 pm

Thanks Omni, will be able to access the site for when I go to China.

M?xim - June 8, 2017, 12:47 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, I'm going to try to do this today. Going to change all blocks to CAPTCHA so that at least bots can't access HF still and the list will remain intact.

Woohoo!

Please do keep us updated with statistics. Would love to see how it changes.

ComputerJi - June 8, 2017, 1:45 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, I'm going to try to do this today. Going to change all blocks to CAPTCHA so that at least bots can't access HF still and the list will remain intact. Cheers! Can't wait to use HF with VPN. Let's see how it will go...

Cylow - June 8, 2017, 1:46 pm

Just one question that popped into my head out of curiosity. Wouldn't this allow multis and

ban-evaders that were closed to re-join freely?

Wet Rag - June 8, 2017, 1:50 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 01:46 PM)Cylow Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Just one question that popped into my head out of curiosity. Wouldn't this allow multis and ban-evaders that were closed to re-join freely? They can do that regardless.

Cylow - June 8, 2017, 1:52 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 01:50 PM)Wet Rag Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) They can do that regardless. I meant more of like in a way where it would be harder to find them

M?xim - June 8, 2017, 1:56 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 01:52 PM)Cylow Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I meant more of like in a way where it would be harder to find them

Yes, true.

But we have some great and active staff members such as Eagle and Mini. They ban multis and ban evaders in their sleep. They will keep us safe.

Gary - June 8, 2017, 4:46 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, I'm going to try to do this today. Going to change all blocks to CAPTCHA so that at least bots can't access HF still and the list will remain intact.

Will you implement the idea I gave with the prestige restrictions?

StackFramed - June 9, 2017, 5:54 pm

(Jun 8, 2017 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yeah, I'm going to try to do this today. Going to change all blocks to CAPTCHA so that at least bots can't access HF still and the list will remain intact.

Glad you came up with this decision. I'm sure activity will now increase and you won't be regretting it. Thanks a lot.

Tree of Life - June 9, 2017, 6:50 pm

This is interesting.

I never expected this to happen.

Personally, it benefits me as I like to use a VPN, but it also has cons.

Thank you nonetheless!