United States Attorney's Office District of Connecticut
Press Release

January 15, 2008

Connecticut Computer Crimes Task Force: BERLIN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO COMPUTER INTRUSION

Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, today announced that PRIYAVRAT H. PATEL, 41, of Berlin, Connecticut, has pleaded guilty to one count of computer intrusion. PATEL's plea was entered on January 10 before United States Magistrate Judge Donna F. Martinez in Hartford, Connecticut.

According to documents filed with the court and statements made in court, PATEL provided information technology services consulting services to *Pratt-Read Corp.*, a manufacturer based in Bridgeport, Connecticut. On November 25, 2007, PATEL remotely accessed *Pratt-Read's* computer servers, which were used by Pratt-Read to conduct its business and to communicate with its customers. PATEL deleted files from three of the servers, rendering them inoperable.

PATEL is scheduled to be sentenced by Chief United States District Judge Robert N. Chatigny on March 28, 2008, at which time PATEL faces a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a fine of up to $250,000.

This case has been investigated by the Connecticut Computer Crimes Task Force, which includes federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Edward Chang.

The Connecticut Computer Crimes Task Force was formed in February 2003 to investigate crimes occurring over the Internet. These crimes include computer intrusion, Internet fraud, copyright violations, Internet threats and harassment and on-line crimes against children. The Task Force also provides computer forensic review services for participating agencies. The Task Force is housed in the main FBI office in New Haven, Connecticut. For more information about the Task Force, please contact the FBI at 203-777-6311.

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