



**News release**  
**4<sup>th</sup> June 2007**

## **UK CONSUMERS BENEFIT FROM VITAL TOOLS FOR PROTECTION AS ONLINE FRAUD FIGURES SOAR**

### **AVANQUEST SOFTWARE LAUNCHES *IDENTITY PROTECTOR 2007***

Avanquest Software, a leading developer and publisher of business and consumer software for the global PC market, has launched *Identity Protector 2007*. Containing all the essential tools, it will enable consumers to protect themselves when online and guarantees the safety of private data such as credit card details and personal information.

As internet usage continues to rise with the increasing popularity of messaging services, online shopping and banking, so too do the incidences of criminality online with a 44% increase in banking fraud since 2005. Recent surveys also suggest that Card-Not-Present fraud (CNP), which takes place on the phone or online where the card holder cannot be present, is the most frequent. \*

'Surfing the Net' will almost always leave a trail of browsing history and usage for all to see. As information is shared and financial transactions made, details are continuously exchanged between the computer and host website via 'Cookies' and the IP address. Certain websites will also inadvertently download spyware onto a PC without the prior consent of the owner, constantly recording browser history and confidential information.

Identity Protector 2007 will protect individuals online at all times, guarding a user's identity as they shop, bank or book holidays and insurance online. By providing anonymous access to the internet and hiding the computer's IP address, the user's identity is instantly protected. The anti-spyware application and Data Vault ensure that no information gets in or out of a computer without the prior consent of the user.

#### **Anonymous Internet Connection**

Identity Protector 2007 provides an anonymous encrypted internet connection by routing a computer via its own private hubs; this prevents hackers, webmasters and spammers from obtaining personal and credit card information.

### **Spycatcher™: Combating Spyware**

Spycatcher™ is the first anti-spyware software application to protect users from new generation and aggressive mutating spyware and is linked to an anti-spyware research database for constant and automatic updates.

### **The Data Vault: Safe & Secure**

The Data Vault, an encrypted and password-protected location on a computer's hard drive, enables users to store all personal and sensitive information securely, including bank details and passwords, in one safe place for better personal organisation.

### **Track Eraser: Erasing Browsing History**

Identity Protector 2007 can erase a user's web history, cache, clipboard and cookies to US Department of Defence standards for data destruction. This provides greater personal security and privacy regarding browsing habits, leading in turn to faster web browsing.

"An increasing reliance on the internet for everyday tasks such as banking and shopping has led to an increase in everyday instances of theft and fraud. The solutions to combat this growth in crime must therefore become more and more intelligent to stay one step ahead. Identity Protector 2007 is an advanced tool for the everyday user, guaranteeing the safety of personal information and providing peace of mind to all concerned," says Jon Silvera, Avanquest Software UK consumer division.

### **Notes to Editor:**

This product is also known as GhostSurf Platinum 2007 in the USA and other territories. Identity Protector 2007 is available for £19.99 inc VAT from [www.avanquest.co.uk/shop](http://www.avanquest.co.uk/shop)

\*Sources:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/6693121.stm>

[http://www.apacs.org.uk/resources\\_publications/card\\_fraud\\_facts\\_and\\_figures.html](http://www.apacs.org.uk/resources_publications/card_fraud_facts_and_figures.html)

### **About Avanquest Software**

Avanquest Software is a leading developer and global publisher of best-selling personal and professional software designed for utilities, office productivity, communications and mobility worldwide. Headquartered in France, with operating units, subsidiaries and offices located in United States, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, China, Korea, and Japan, Avanquest Software products are marketed in over 100 countries, through e-commerce, OEM partnerships and IT resellers. Founded in 1984 as BVRP Software and listed since December 1996 on Euronext (ISIN FR0004026714), Avanquest Software forms part of the Eurolist, NextEconomy segment and SBF 250 index. In 2006, Avanquest Software posted revenues of €74.3M. Additional information on Avanquest Software is available at <http://www.avanquest.com>.

### **For further information, box images and review copies please contact:**

Stephen Denton / Matt King

Media Safari

Tel: +44 (0) 1225 731388

Mob: +44 (0) 7729 986909

[stephend@mediasafari.co.uk](mailto:stephend@mediasafari.co.uk)