I believe I just received a scam that explains how Comcast upgraded to 12mbps. I was wondering if anyone here has also received this nonsense. Notice how it says that you have to restart your modem to get the new "operating software" (WHICH IS TOTALLY NONSENSE, being that modems don't use "operating software"). And there are a whole lot of other flaws in the letter, such as the email address being @cable.comcast.com instead of @comcast.com, and how there is no phone number provided. This is really confusing, because there isn't really any point in this letter except to make you restart your modem. Any ideas anyone?

File Attachments
1) scam.jpg, downloaded 947 times

comcast.

P.O. Box 3042
Bothell, WA 98041-3042

We've gone and reinvented the world of speed all over again.

Septemb

57457

Dear ████████████ :

I have some really great news for you.

Your Comcast High-Speed Internet downstream speed just got faster - up to 100% faster! Our standard
downstream speed is already lightning fast at 6 Mbps. And now, Comcast introduces PowerBoost™ - a
speed - up to 12 Mbps - when you're downloading large files. This new feature is available free to Com
customers.

Music, videos, software, and online games - whatever large file I need; PowerBoost provides the speed
enjoy the Internet and get things done with ease.

Did we mention you already have it? You just have to turn it on!

PowerBoost is all part of your High-Speed Internet package and an exclusive from Comcast. All you ne
activate PowerBoost is unplug the power cord of your modem or wireless router, wait 60 seconds, and p
in. This will upload the new operating software to your modem.

If you have Comcast Digital Voice, you have a specialized modem called an eMTA. Simply press the pir
button on the back of your eMTA. Then see for yourself how fast the Internet can go! If you have an eM
wireless router, simply power cycle the wireless router.

We continually invest in our network to make our service the best.

There is a reason why Comcast is America's #1 High-Speed Internet provider. We continually invest mi
dollars to deliver the best - from bringing fiber-optic connections to your neighborhood years ago - to co
upgrading our network to deliver more features to more customers each and every year.

Comcast knows speed. McAfee® knows security. Comcast customers get them both.

Consider yourself protected, with a variety of McAfee security features that are included free for the dur
Comcast subscription. These features include Personal Firewall, Virus Protection, and Parental Controls
value of $114.

Additional Free Features (that my family and I) include:

- 7 e-mail accounts - one for each member of the family
- Rhapsody Radio Plus - online commercial-free radio
- The FAN™ - watch breaking news and video clips online
- Comcast Arcade & Disney Connection - games the whole family will enjoy
- PhotoShow Deluxe® - create slide shows and share photos with friends and family
- Video Mail - send personal video messages free using your webcam

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by cheesesoda on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 00:56:43 GMT
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As I told you on AIM, that's actually legit. Google it. I searched for "Comcast 12mbps".

 http://digg.com/tech_news/Comcast_Boosts_Customers_Broadband
_Speeds_to_12Mbps_and_16Mbps
 http://news.com.com/Comcast+gives+broadband+users+a+speed+bo
ost/2100-1034_3-6079070.html

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Ryu on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 02:29:34 GMT
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I love my 2MB Blueyonder Braudband.

Fast download's, Good for gaming.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Crimson on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 05:24:52 GMT
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Your cable modem downloads a configuration file when it syncs up with the network which contains, among other things, the cap on your bandwidth. My ISP just upgraded us to 12 mbits on the Premier plan, too.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Zion on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 07:32:28 GMT
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I'm on 8mbit now and will be going up to 16mbit at the end of next month.

I'll also be getting 1mbit upstream too, instead of 500kbit which i have now.

Double Speed Broadband from Bulldog (ADSL2+).
£45 a month isn't bad for that (that incudes line rental, and paying the ISP).

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by light on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 07:56:15 GMT
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As above, when it turns on your router requests its maximum speed, which it then limits itself to. There's no real easy way to push new speeds out.

Looks legit to me. If this was a hoax I would expect it to say a specific time, and that could possibly overload one of comcasts servers, but other than that, it wouldn't do anything.

Tried calling them and asking?

(Since we are pimping our net connections, 4 down 2 up)

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by iROwn3r on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 09:17:08 GMT
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Looks legit to me surely unplugging your cable and plugging it back won't do anything to your internet

/iROwn3r

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Blazer on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 09:45:32 GMT
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I had to replace our Cisco806 router with a Cisco2600. The 806 only had a 10Mb inteface (which was now a bottleneck for the 12Mb upgrade). Now the bits are really flying!

test downloadFile Size = 40706K
Total bytes received = 35569.1K (87.38%)
Current speed = 1879.29Kb/s, Average D/L speed = 1756.78Kb/s
Time remaining 3 seconds

I'm quite happy with the speed. We are actually getting a bit better than 12Mb down and 1Mb up. Not as good as FIOS but it will do, especially since it's free (my employer pays for it).

You do have to reboot your cable modem, as your modem TFTP's its boot image which contains among other things, the provision rate aka speed cap.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Dave Mason on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 10:45:53 GMT
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I'm on a massive 512k! Most we can get where we live....

...sucks.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by icedog90 on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 20:00:07 GMT
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Weird. I guess the letter is just very oddly written, because it just seems really strange to me. I did restart my modem and router though and tried many different speed tests, and they all say I'm at 2.5mbps right now... which makes no sense, because I should be going at 4mbps at the very least. Maybe the servers for the speed tests I tried are just stupid. Anybody know a very good speed test?

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Kamuix on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 20:02:24 GMT
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Apparently the faster your cable is, the cooler you are!

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by icedog90 on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 20:03:17 GMT
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I don't care who has the fastest connection.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Nightma12 on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 20:45:15 GMT
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light wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 02:56As above, when it turns on your router requests its maximum speed, which it then limits itself to. There's no real easy way to push new speeds out.

so in theory you could edit your modem to remove the cap?

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by msgtpain on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 21:47:02 GMT
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http://www.comcast.net/help/faq/index.jsp?faq=ServicesPowerB oost18507

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Aprime on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 22:07:14 GMT
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Nightma12 wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 16:45light wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 02:56As above, when it turns on your router requests its maximum speed, which it then limits itself to. There's no real easy way to push new speeds out.

so in theory you could edit your modem to remove the cap?

There's software to do that.

Use at your own risk.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by cheesesoda on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 22:13:29 GMT
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Comrade wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 18:07Nightma12 wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 16:45light wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 02:56As above, when it turns on your router requests its maximum speed, which it then limits itself to. There's no real easy way to push new speeds out.

so in theory you could edit your modem to remove the cap?

There's software to do that.

Use at your own risk.
Yeah, for some reason ISPs frown upon that.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by icedog90 on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 22:43:30 GMT
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So nobody knows of a good online speed test?

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by light on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 23:29:09 GMT
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j_ball430 wrote on Wed, 11 October 2006 11:13Comrade wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 18:07Nightma12 wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 16:45light wrote on Tue, 10 October 2006 02:56As above, when it turns on your router requests its maximum speed, which it then limits itself to. There's no real easy way to push new speeds out.

so in theory you could edit your modem to remove the cap?

There's software to do that.

Use at your own risk.
Yeah, for some reason ISPs frown upon that.

Yes it can be done, yes it breaks ToS, yes your ISP will find out, no you shouldn't do it.

Subject: Re: COMCAST USERS: Read this
Posted by Aprime on Tue, 10 Oct 2006 23:40:53 GMT
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Eh, not if you're a Videotron user.