APWG's counter-cybercrime programs have been organized as a comprehensive, unified operational enterprise against cybercrime, engaging every dimension of the global counter cybercrime effort from: maintaining data clearinghouses to inform consumer protection programs; to peer-reviewed conferences to cultivate advanced cybercrime research; to deployment of global cybersecurity awareness and educational utilities and campaigns.

eCrime Event Data Clearinghouse and Utilities

The APWG URL Block List (UBL) aggregates phishing reports from a global corps of contributors and distributes phishing data to browser and toolbar developers, AV vendors and cybercrime responders worldwide to alert consumers and protect them from the latest attacks.

Operating continuously in the service of APWG members and correspondents since 2003, the UBL now feeds data via HTTPS services on a 24 by 7 basis - processing reports in real-time as soon as the reports arrive at APWG servers. The UBL is housed on the APWG eCrime Exchange (eCX) with resources, such as the APWG Malicious Domain Suspension (AMDoS) program and the Bot-Net Infected Systems Alerting and Notification System (BISANS).

Global Public Education and Awareness Utilities

The APWG Public Education Initiative organizes the most broadly useful counter-eCrime educational programs and forges data logistics to deliver them to the largest cohort possible. APWG educational programs deliver educational and advisory instruments at no cost to the general public and to the industries and public ministries that serve them. Among them:

The Phishing Education Landing Page Program redirects consumers and enterprise users who’ve clicked on links to phishing websites to instructional materials that explains that they have just fallen for a phishing communication (email or otherwise) and advises them on how they help themselves avoid being victimized in the future. It will respond in any one of 21 languages. The landing pages educate tens of thousands of month at no cost to ISPs or to end users.

The APWG’s Fax Back Phishing Education Program instructs consumers about protecting themselves against fax-based scams almost as soon as they fallen for them. APWG hosts cover sheets that ISPs and FoIP providers use to automatically fax back warnings to customers who’ve responded to fax numbers that have been removed from criminal control.
STOP. THINK. CONNECT™ is the first-ever global public-awareness campaign to help digital citizens stay safer and more secure online. APWG architected the program in April of 2009 and developed it with NCSA over the next 16 months. The slogan and logo was created by an unprecedented coalition of companies, NGOs and government organizations that recognized the power of APWG’s proposal of unified messaging. USA, Canada, Panama, Paraguay and Japan have already adopted the campaign. Download the data sheet here.

eCrime Research

Since 2006, the APWG has curated the Symposium on Electronic Crime Research, the world’s only peer-reviewed research conference dedicated to the nascent cybercrime research discipline, inspiring cutting-edge cybercrime research at universities the world over. Its proceedings are published by the IEEE, the world’s largest and oldest engineering association, which also supports the scholarship fund for travel needs of authors’ of accepted papers.

Global Technical Diplomacy

APWG is an expert witness, advisor, research correspondent and collaborator to industrial governance bodies, standards organizations, national governments and to treaty organizations that include most every nation on earth as signatories or observers, lending expertise and operational insights across the counter-cybercrime experience. Among them:

- United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime
  Core Experts Group on Identity Related Crime
- The G8
  High Tech Crime Subgroup
- Council of Europe
  Budapest Convention on Cybercrime
- European Commission
  DG Justice, Freedom & Security
- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
- The Organization of American States
  Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism
- The Commonwealth
  Commonwealth Cybercrime Initiative
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)