Soho66 Statement 19/6/2012

On June 18th, Soho66 was the target of a distributed denial of service (DDOS) attack, whereby the site was overloaded with excess traffic from multiple sources. On testing, Soho66 was experiencing 150,000 requests every 15 seconds, originating from over 5000 individual hosts. This attack was in direct breach of Section 3 of the Computer Misuse Act 1990, and the relevant authorities have been notified with investigations pending. This attack was not necessarily specifically targeted at Soho66, and during this time, the integrity of our data was not compromised.

DDOS attacks have affected many large companies over the last year, including Amazon, Visa and NASA. During this time, Soho66's security procedures remained in place, ensuring that customer data was secure. In relation to this attack, on June 19th, between the hours of 16:00 and 16:45, Soho66 experienced issues affecting customer service availability. Resolving these issues was of the upmost importance, and service loss was kept to an absolute minimum, resulting in an outage of approximately 45 minutes.

This is the first outage of its type that Soho66 has experienced in 7 years of trading. Our procedures ensured that engineers were instantly alerted to the problem, and were able to start work on resolving the issue immediately. While our security systems dealt with this malicious attack, we added additional systems to give enhanced protection in the event that we face a threat of this nature in the future. We apologise to our customers for any inconvenience that this may have caused, and appreciate your patience in relation to this matter. All services are currently functioning normally, however if you have any questions regarding this, please contact us.

Regards,

The Soho66 Team