KDOT e-mail system infected by virus

A computer virus that spread across the nation today has also infected the Kansas Department of Transportation’s email system.

The e-mail arrives with the subject line “here you have” and includes a link that contains the virus. The e-mail itself doesn’t have the virus, but by clicking on the link, the user’s computer is infected and the virus is spread via e-mail to all e-mail contacts on the infected computer.

“We are trying to ascertain exactly what the virus may be doing, but given this is a brand new virus, it will take some time,” said KDOT’s Chief Information Officer Anthony Schlinsog. “We have stopped the spread of the virus from our systems and apologize for the difficulties this caused.”

The virus entered the KDOT e-mail system about 1 p.m. and quickly moved through the system. KDOT staff were instructed to exit their e-mail programs until appropriate safeguards were in place.