Utility name:
CERTCHECK.EXE version 1.0.0

Purpose:
Tests the validity of a server's SSL certificate against the resident IE certificate store and displays information to the console.

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Development environment:
MS Visual C++ 6.0, console application, WinInet, multithreaded, 224 lines of code.

Example applications:
Can be used by a script to evaluate the legitimacy of HTTPS traffic that has been cataloged by a monitoring system, etc.

Instructions:
To get help with the command line arguments, open a shell and execute the program without parameters. This utility can make either a direct HTTPS connection to the target system or it can be configured to use a proxy server. All output is written to STDOUT. Error messages will be returned with "Error:" at the beginning of the text. All successful connections to the target will return text with a first line that begins with "Disposition:". There are 3 types of dispositions:

1. [NORMAL] indicates that the certificate is issued by a trusted CA, has an identity that matches the <trg host> parameter, is not expired, and is not revoked. Such a certificate is probably used by a reputable service.

2. [WARNING] indicates that one or more of the four properties required for a NORMAL disposition is lacking in the certificate. This type of return code suggests that the server may not be used by a reputable organization.

3. [ABNORMAL] indicates that the certificate was retrieved but its format was incorrect. This type of certificate should be considered suspect.

Following the disposition code in the output will be several lines of text that summarize various properties in the certificate.