

User Purge

Contributed by Jaykul
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Well, first of all, I apologize if you're a real person and your account is suddenly gone. If this happened to you, please feel free to sign back up.

We had some problems this week with people using the private message feature on the forums to try to send other users spam, and among other reactions, I deleted a bunch of unused user accounts.

I'm not sure how many private messages were posted, or how many email "notifications" were actually sent out, but I do know that some were. I've tightened up the restrictions on sending private messages so that shouldn't happen again. While I was still upset about it ... I went through and cleaned out a few hundred user accounts that hadn't ever actually used their accounts: people who'd never activated, signed in, or posted a question ...

Most of these were usernames like "buy phenteramine" or "cheap viagra" or "SEOAdvice" or "sex" or "mortgages" ... but I also blew away a bunch of potentially legitimate users who hadn't ever used their accounts. If your email address ended in @cashette.com ... you probably don't have an account anymore, and some of the mail.ru accounts are gone too.

This wasn't personal (except for one user) so if you're reading this and your account was deleted, feel free to sign back up if you need to post on the forums.