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I want to thank you for your efforts to reduce the nuisance of junk eMail. I prefer to not call it Spam so I don't slander the fine products of the Hormel Packing Company. :-)

I think another front should be opened on this battle. All effort appears to be directed at the sender, but someone must be responding to this garbage to make it worthwhile to send. Even if 1 out of 500,000 messages get a response, that's still too many. There should be some penalty to the people who encourage this junk. Unfortunately we can't legislate common sense, but we can try to educate the end users. Internet Service Providers should communicate to their customers to never EVER respond to an unsolicited eMail. If it's a product or service they are interested in obtaining, don't use the junk mailer's process, but instead, use a search engine to find an alternate supplier. They should also refer the users to web sites such as Snopes.com, for them to get information on scams.

While laws can't prevent people from responding to these messages, we can make it more difficult by setting a tough-love style policy that says the FTC and other government-based organizations should not assist people who give their money away to these charlatans. I know it sounds harsh, but there must be a cost associated with improper behavior.

Best regards,  
Paul Dowgewicz