Ina Fried, News.com, 2004.10.08:

“‘Highly critical’ security flaw found in Office

“... Secunia issued an advisory saying a buffer overrun flaw has been found in Office 2000, and potentially also in Office XP, that could allow hackers to take over a user’s system. The company rated the flaw as ‘highly critical.’...

“‘Microsoft is concerned that this new report of a vulnerability in Word was not disclosed responsibly, potentially putting computer users at risk,’ [a Microsoft representative] said. ‘We believe the commonly accepted practice
of reporting vulnerabilities directly to a vendor serves everyone’s best interests, by helping to ensure that customers receive comprehensive, high-quality updates for security vulnerabilities with no exposure to malicious attackers while the patch is being developed.’ ”