XDAS Audit & Logging standard for servicing today's regulatory/compliance requirements

3rd Security Practitioners Conference, Toronto



Agenda

- Today's Compliance Requirements
- IT Security Impact
- Today's Accountability
- XDAS Tomorrow's Accountability
- XDAS History
- XDAS Overview
- Conclusion

Today's requirements

- Best Practices (ISO 17799)
- ISO 27001
- Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX) 2002
 - It is primarily focused on the accuracy of financial reporting data
- Basel II
 - Banking industry
- Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS)

Why Board Members care about it?

• If the CEO says it's "adequate" and he is willing to sign his life away, that is all that is required!

SOX

- Section 302: Requires executives to certify the accuracy of corporate financial reports
- Section 404: Requires executives and auditors to confirm the effectiveness of internal controls for financial reporting

IT Security Impact

- Confidentiality
- Integrity
- Availability

How to certify its accuracy?

How to confirm its

effectiveness?



Accountability

How does it work today?

- Each IT vendor define its own audit trails
 - No uniform accountability mechanism
 - Hard to monitor IT controls
 - Hard to understand and track IT issues

- Expensive SIEM solutions
 - Focused on audit trails collection
 - Focused on audit trails understanding
 - Audit trails analysis is left behind



Today's accountability

Cisco Wireless Controler:

```
Cold Start-sysUpTimeInstance = 14:1:34:46.00 snmpTrapOID.0 = bsnDot11StationAssociate bsnStationAPMacAddr.0 = 0:b:85:8f:5c:e0 bsnStationAPIfSlotId.0 = 0 bsnStationMacAddress.0 = 0:19:e3:6:ae:e9 bsnStationUserName.0 = user_x@netguardians.ch
```

Microsoft DHCP

ADDHCP 02/07/09,15:57:04, Assign, 10.192.68.96, HOSTX.mydomain.com, 00:40:96:A9:50:38

Nortel Switch

CPU5 [10/06/08 08:41:36] SSH INFO SSH: User Manager login /pty/sshd1. from 10.192.49.110

XDAS – Tomorrow's Accountability

- Standardized audit trails
 - Uniform format
 - Uniform meaning (taxonomy)



Leads To:

- IT visibility
 - Easily answers fundamental IT security questions
 - Enhance operations (troubleshooting, SLA monitoring, etc.)
- Machine readable trails

"Syslog is for logging, XDAS is for auditing" - John Calcote, Novell

What does tomorrow look like...

Cisco Wireless Controler

```
Cold Start-sysUpTimeInstance = 14:1:34:46.00

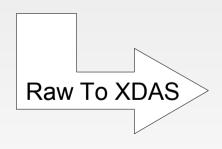
snmpTrapOID.0 = bsnDot11StationAssociate

bsnStationAPMacAddr.0 = 0:b:85:8f:5c:e0

bsnStationAPIfSlotId.0 = 0

bsnStationMacAddress.0 = 0:19:e3:6:ae:e9

bsnStationUserName.0 = user x@netguardians.ch
```



```
"XDASVersion": "http://www.opengroup.org/xdas/2008",
"Initiator": {
  "Account": {
    "Name": "user x@netguardians.ch"
  "Host": {
    "Address": {
      "Mac": "0:19:e3:6:ae:e9"
"Target": {
  "Host": {
    "Address": {
      "Mac": "0:b:85:8f:5c:e0"
"Action": {
  "Time": "14:1:34:46.00",
  "Name": "Station Association to AP",
  "Message": "bsnDot11StationAssociate",
  "actionTax": "Host Association",
  "outcomeTax": "Successful"
"Observer": {
  "Service": {
    "Name": "Wireless Access Control",
    "Component" : "Wireless Controler"
```

What does tomorrow look like...

Microsoft DHCP

ADDHCP 02/07/09,15:57:04,Assign,10.192.68.96, HOSTX.mydomain.com,00:40:96:A9:50:38



```
"XDASVersion": "http://www.opengroup.org/xdas/2008",
"Initiator": {
  "Host": {
    "Name": "HostX.mydomain.com"
    "Address": {
      "Mac": "00:40:96:A9:50:38"
    "Address": {
      "ipv4": "10.192.68.96"
"Target": {
  "Host": {
    "Name": "ADDHCP"
  "Service": {
    "Name": "DHCP",
    "Component" : "Microsoft Windows DHCP server"
},
"Action": {
  "Time": "02/07/09 15:57:04",
  "Name": "Assigned IP Address",
  "actionTax": "Address Assigned",
  "outcomeTax": "Successful"
"Observer": {
  "Host": {
    "Name": "ADDHCP"
  "Service": {
    "Name": "DHCP",
    "Component" : "Microsoft Windows DHCP server"
```

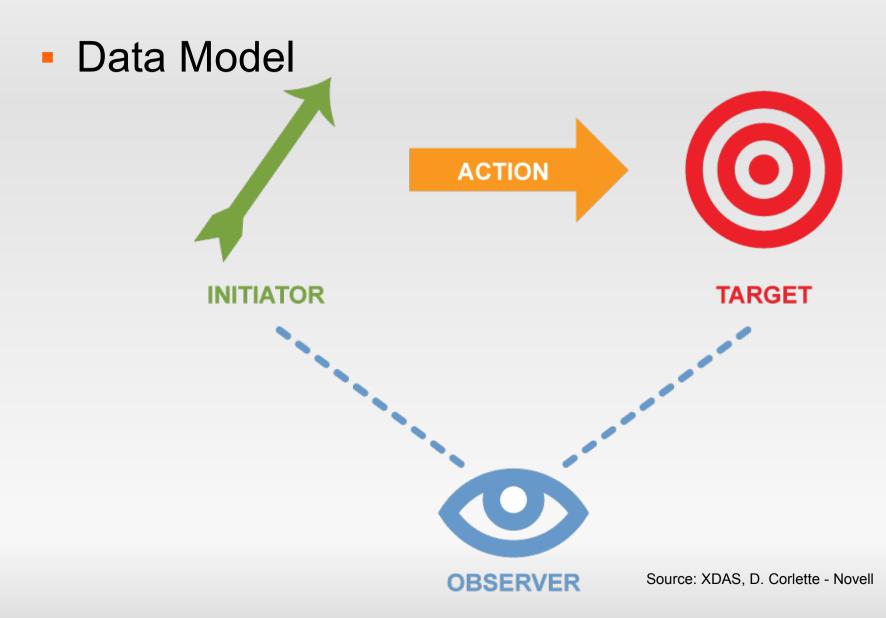
XDAS history

- XDAS version 1
 - Defined in 1998
 - Wide and complex scope (from event generation to event filtering)
 - Exhaustive API
 - Data Model focused on Operating System needs
- XDAS version 2
 - In progress (2009)
 - Focused on audit event format and taxonomy
 - Simple and extensible Data Model
 - Compatible with upcoming standards (CEE)

XDAS overview

- It is not a logging standard, it is an auditing standard!
- Audit trails record format and taxonomy
 - High-level data model
 - Common portable event record format
 - Extensible taxonomy of universally applicable generic security events
- Pragmatic Approach
 - As AGILE software development (Use case and test driven)
 - XDAS proposal available as a Java logging library http://xdas4j.codehaus.org

XDAS overview



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XDAS overview

```
Action: {
                                      Time: "02/07/09 15:57:04",
                                      Name: "Assigned IP Address",
                                      actionTax: "Address Assigned",
                                      outcomeTax: "Successful"
Initiator: {
    Host: {
                                                                 Target: {
      Name: "HostX.mydomain.com"
                                                                    Host: {
      Address: {
                                                                      Name: "ADDHCP"
        Mac: "00:40:96:A9:50:38"
                                   INITIATOR
                                                                    Service: {
      Address: {
                                                                      Name: "DHCP",
        ipv4: "10.192.68.96"
                                                                      Component : "Microsoft
                                                                                   Windows DHCP
                                                                                    server"
                              Observer: {
                                Host: {
                                  Name: "ADDHCP"
                                 Service: {
                                  Name: "DHCP",
                                   Component : "Microsoft Windows DHCP server"
```

23/07/09

Other standardization efforts

- CEE (on going effort MITRE)
 - Broader approach
 - Event generation recommendations
 - Event transportation
 - Many XDAS members are involved in CEE
 - XDAS could be one of the CEE pieces
- Log Recommendations

 Understand Expression Taxonomy Syntax Transport LOG

 Log Recommendations

 Log Recommendations

XDAS Scope

- IDMEF (RFC 4765)
 - Same data model concepts
 - Focused on Intrusion Detection Messages
 - No taxonomy

Conclusion

- Compliance has a strong impact on IT operations
 - There are a lot of policies and requirements related to audit event generation

But...

 There is no uniform way to manage and understand audit trails

- Support on going initiatives!
 - http://www.opengroup.org/projects/security/xdas
 - http://xdas4j.codehaus.org/

Thank you

