Cybersecurity From The Front Line

Dr. Bill Hancock, CISSP Vice President, Security Chief Security Officer Cable & Wireless bill.hancock@cw.com +1-972-740-7347



Security is Very Complex

Network

Host-based

Application-based

Authentication

Cryptography

Intrusion Detection

Anti-Virus

Auditing



- Security is currently where networking was 15 years ago
- Many parts & pieces
- Complex parts
- Lack of expertise in the industry (60% vacancy with no qualified personnel)
- Security Management

 No common GUIs
 - Lack of standards
 - Attacks are growing
 - Customers require security from providers

The Past







Source: http://cm.bell-labs.com/who/ches/map/gallery/index.html



Software Is Too Complex

- Sources of Complexity:
 - Applications and operating systems
 - Data mixed with programs
 - New Internet services
 - XML, SOAP, VoIP
 - Complex Web sites
 - Always-on connections
 - IP stacks in cell phones,
 PDAs, gaming consoles,
 refrigerators, thermostats





The Dilemma: Growth in Number of Incidents Reported to the CERT/CC



The Dilemma: Growth in Number of Vulnerabilities Reported to the CERT/CC



And Internet Continues to Increase in Size...

Internet Domain Survey Host Count



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Security Must Make Business Sense to Be Adopted



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As Systems Get Complex, Attackers are Less Mentally Sophisticated...



Classic Current IT Security Risks



- DNS attacks
- DDoS, DoS, etc.
- Virii, worms, etc.
- Spoofs and redirects
- Social engineering
- Router table attacks
- OS holes, bugs
- Application code
 problems
- Insider attacks
- Others...



Upcoming Security Threats





Geographic locations

- China is major concern
- Legislation in other countries
- New hacker methods and tools
- VolP
- MPLS
- ASN.1 and derivatives
- Hacker "gangs"
- Complexity of application solutions make it easier to disrupt them (Active Directory, VoIP, etc.)
- Industrial espionage from competition
- Covert sampling
- Covert interception

Threats - Infrastructure





- Core (critical)
 - Routing infrastructure
 - DNS
 - Cryptographic key mgt.
 - PBX and voice methods
 - E-mail
- Essential
 - Financial systems
 - Access management to Exodus critical resources
 - Intellectual property protection methods
 - Privacy control methods
 - Internal firewalls and related management
 - HR systems

Routing Infrastructure





- No router-to-router authentication
 - Router table poisoning
 - Vector dissolution
 - Hop count disruption
 - Path inaccuracies
 - Immediate effect
 - Redundancy has no effect on repair/recovery
- Edge routers/switches do not use strong access authentication methods
- No company-wide internal network IDS/monitoring
- No internal network security monitoring for anomalies or stress methods
- No effective flooding defense or monitoring

Generic DNS Security Assessment



- Grossly inadequate security methods against attacks (DNS weakness)
- No distributed method for attack segmentation recovery
- Geographic distribution inadequate and easy to kill due to replication
- Zone replication allows poisoning of DNS dbms
- DNS servers around the company do not implement solid security architecture



Mobile Technology Security



- Most customer mobile technology when removed from the internal network or premises is WIDE OPEN to data theft, intrusion, AML, etc.
 - Laptops (no FW, IDS, VPN, virus killers, email crypto, file crypto, theft prevention/management, cyber tracking, remote data destruct, remote logging, AML cleaning, etc., etc., etc.
 - Palm Pilots, etc, no security
 - 3G and data cells no security
 - No operational security over wireless methods

Hyperpatching

- The need to quickly patch vulnerabilities is becoming a major security pain point
 - As of June 2002, Microsoft alone had issued 30 patches for 40 security vulnerabilities since the beginning of 2002
- Protocol exploits such as SNMP will accelerate and require additional patching and fixes
- Customers should stop with "old think" change control and start considering using hyperpatching and mass roll-out systems (push technology) to start solving hyperpatching problems



Employee Extortion

- At least 5 different extortion methodologies have appeared that affect employee web surfers
- Latest one involves persons who surf known child pornography web sites or hit on chat rooms on the subject
 - A link is e-mailed to the person and they threatened with being turned over to officials and employers unless they pay to keep the information about their surfing habits secret
- This is a growing business...



Cryptographic Key Management



- None at most sites
- What is available is all manual
- Changing keys on some technologies takes MONTHS (e.g. TACACS+)
- Keys are weak in some areas and easily broken
- No "jamming" defenses for key exchange methods
- Little internal knowledge on key mgt and cryptographic methods



PBX and Voice Methods





- No assessment of toll fraud and PBX misuse at most sites
- Cell phones used continually for sensitive conversations
- No conference call monitoring for illicit connections or listening
- No videoconferencing security methods
- No voicemail protection or auditing efforts trans company
- Easy to social engineer PBX access and redirection

E-Mail Security Issues





- Employees in trusted positions reading e-mail (happens at most customer sites)
- E-mail security methods take a long time to implement
- Lack of use of encryption methods for confidential e-mail
- Lack of keyserver for cryptographic methods (this is due to power)
- Newly devised security methods not implemented yet
- Use of active directory and LDAP in future a major concern
- Wireless e-mail a concern
- No filters for SPAM
- No keyword filter searching methods for potential IP "leakage"
- Ex employees retain access information for their and other accounts

Essential Internal Services



- Financial systems
- Console management
 systems
- Access management to critical resources
- Intellectual property
 protection methods
- Privacy control methods
- Internal firewalls and related management
- HR systems
- Others...



Wireless

- Continues to be a problem
- Mostly due to lack of implementation of controls
- War driving is easy to do for most sites and to get on most networks
 - Illegal connection to a wireless network violates FCC regs
- Need intrusion detection for wireless to detect who is associated to the LAN and doesn't belong
- Best short-term solution are peer-to-peer VPNs (desktop, site-to-site, etc.)
- New threats with upcoming 3G products



Data Retention

- BIG push for data retention in many parts of the world
- With retention comes liabilities for retained information
- U.S. has no specific retention laws except in specific financial and healthcare areas
- EU and Asian countries recently enacted serious retention laws



Other Security Needs



- Strategic plans
- Tactical plans
- Customer education
- Travel security
- Site surveys/audits
- Internal auditing by competent companies
- Manpower
- Executive security education
- Tactical response
- Intellectual property protection
- Legal staff infosec security education (serious problem)
- Remote office security



Blended Attacks

- Biological and Cyber
 - Bio infection and DDoS against infrastructure
- Multiphasic Cyber Attack
 - DDoS against routers, DNS poisoning attacks and defacement attacks at the same time
- Sympathetic hacking group attacks
- Upstream infrastructure attack
 - IXC disruption
 - Power grid disruption
 - Peering point disruption
 - Supply-chain vendor disruption



Summary

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