

# Information Technology Security: The Changing Threat Environment

Travis Waldo IT Auditor NIGC

Understanding **National Interest** Spy the Landscape **Fastest Personal Gain** Thief growing segment **Tools created Trespasser** Personal Fame by experts now used by less-skilled attackers and criminals Curiosity Vandal **Author** Script-Kiddy Hobbyist **Expert** Specialist

Hacker



# How SAFE Are You?

- In June, about 6.5 million cryptographic hashes of LinkedIn user passwords were stolen and posted online.
- After the LinkedIn fiasco, dating site eHarmony also confirmed a breach of 1.5 million passwords that were hacked.
- Hacker gang Swagger Security strikes again, this time breaching the networks of Warner Bros. and China Telecom, releasing documents and publishing login credentials.
- The University of Nebraska in Lincoln acknowledged a data breach that exposed information of more than 654,000 files of personal information on students and employees, plus parents and university alumni.
- Hactivist group Anonymous brought down the websites of trade groups U.S. Telecom Association and TechAmerica, apparently for their protest of the cyber security bill proposed by Congress.
- At least 228,000 Social Security numbers were exposed in a March 30 breach involving a
  Medicaid server at the Utah Department of Health
- Online retailer Zappos disclosed hackers had broken into its network and stolen information on customers, including name, address, credit-card numbers and cryptographically scrambled passwords stored in hash form.



# How SAFE Are We?

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- •eHarmony confirmed a breach of 1.5 million passwords that were hasked.
- •Swagger Security breached **Warner Bros**. and **China Telecom**, releasing private documents and publishing login credentials
- •The **University of Nebraska** acknowledged a data breach that exposed information of more than **654,000** files of personal information on students, employees, parents and university alumni.
- •Hactivist group Anonymous brought down the websites of trade groups **U.S. Telecom Association** and **TechAmerica** in protest of the cyber security bill proposed by Congress.

#### Recently:

- •At least 228,000 Social Security numbers were exposed in a March 30 breach involving a Medicaid server at the Utah Department of Health
- •Zappos.com admitted that hackers had broken into its network and stolen information on customers, including name, address, credit-card numbers and cryptographically scrambled passwords stored in hash form.



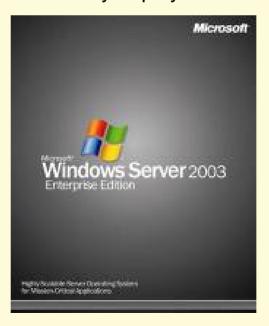
# **Honey Pot Projects**

- Six computers attached to Internet
  - Different versions of Windows, Linux and Mac OS
- Over the course of one week
  - Machines were scanned 46,255 times
  - 4,892 direct attacks
- No up-to-date and patched operating systems succumbed to a single attack
- All non-updated systems were compromised
  - Windows XP with no patches
  - Infested in 18 minutes by Blaster and Sasser
  - Within one hour it became a "bot"

# **Legacy and Environment**

- > The security kernel of Windows NT was written-
  - Before there was a World Wide Web
  - Before TCP/IP was the default communications protocol
- > The security kernel of Windows Server 2003 was written-
  - Before buffer overflow tool kits were generally available
  - Before Web Services were widely deployed

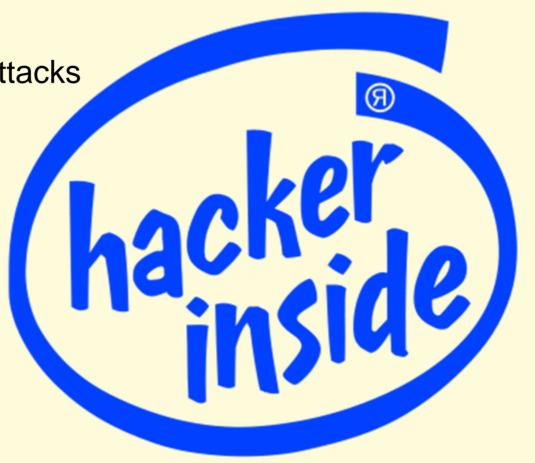






# **Critical Threats**

- □ 1. Social Engineering (phishing)
- 2. Spyware
- 3. Wireless Network Attacks
- ☐ 4. Rootkit
- 5. SQL Injection





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# Social Engineering

The art of convincing people to reveal confidential information.

## Phases in a Social Engineering Attack

- Research Target Company
   Dumpster diving, websites, employees, tour company, etc.
- Select Victim
  Identify a frustrated employee
- Develop Relationship
  Build some type of personal relationship with the selected employee
- Exploit Collect sensitive personal information (kids' names, birthdays), financial information or current company technologies



# **Social Engineering**

#### **Examples**

## **Phishing**

➤ Designed to fraudulently obtain private information

➤ Generally, does not involve personal contact, usually legitimate looking E-mail, websites, or other electronic means are involved in phishing attacks

From: Ioa@Citizensbank.com [mailto:Ioa@Citizensbank.com]

Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2004 11:57 PM

To:

Subject: Citizensbank.com acount holdtq



Security key: qjkjaxaqwrq

#### Dear Citizensbank.com Customer.

During our regular update and verification of the Internet Banking Accounts, we could not verify your current information. Either your information has been changed or incomplete, as a result your access to use our services has been limited. Please update your information.

To update your account information and start using our services please click on the link below: <a href="https://www.citizensbankonline.com/banking/verification-process1.html">https://www.citizensbankonline.com/banking/verification-process1.html</a>

AFTER SUBMITTING, PLEASE DONOT ACCESS YOUR ONLINE BANKING ACCOUNT FOR THE NEXT 48 HOURS UNTIL THE VERIFICATION PROCESS ENDS.

Note: Requests for information will be initiated by Citizens Bank Business Development; this process cannot be externally requested through Customer Support.

Sincerely,

Citizensbank.com

Business Department.



# Social Engineering

**Examples** 

# **Dumpster Diving Trashing**

Large amounts of information can be collected through company trash, such as:

company phone books - organizational charts - memos - company policy manuals

calendars of meetings - events and vacations - system manuals

printouts of sensitive data or login names and passwords - printouts of source code

disks and tapes - company letterhead and memo forms - outdated hardware



# Social Engineering

#### **Examples**

# **On-Line Social Engineering**

- ➤ The Internet is fertile ground for social engineers looking to harvest passwords
- Many users often repeat the use of one simple password on every account: Yahoo, Travelocity, Gap.com, etc.
- ➤Once the hacker has one password, he or she can probably get into multiple accounts
- Large amounts of personal data on the social sites as well



# Social Engineering

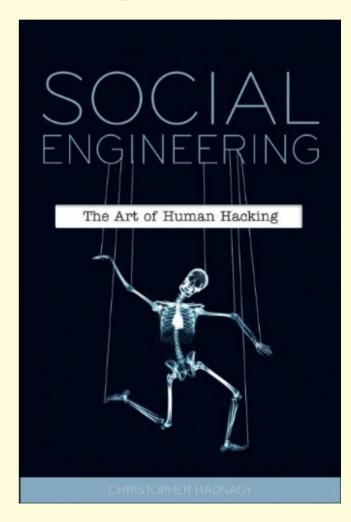
#### **Examples**

### **Persuasion**

Hackers employ social engineering from a psychological point-of-view

#### Basic methods include:

- **≻**impersonation
- **≻**conformity
- > diffusion of responsibility
- ➤plain old friendliness





# **Social Engineering**

#### **Examples**

### **Switchblade**

This method uses the **Windows AutoRun** feature to run a program that silently infects the computer and steals data by running as a background task.





### **Critical Threats**

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- □ 4. Rootkit
- □ 5. SQL Injection



## Wireless Network Attacks

## **Packet Sniffing**

*Def:* The act of capturing packets of data flowing across a computer network. The software or device used to do this is called a packet sniffer. Packet sniffing is to computer networks what wiretapping is to a telephone network.

#### ❖Types of attacks:

- DHCP Attacks
- > ARP Poisoning
- Spoofing
- DNS Poisoning
- Password Capture

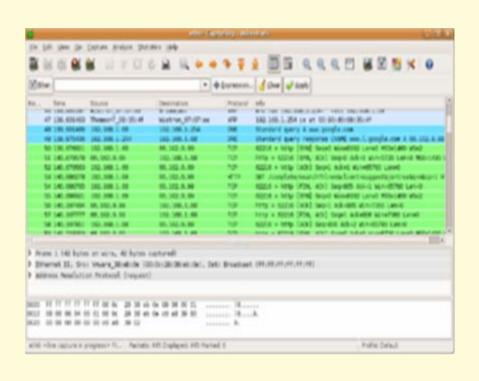




# **Network Hacking Tools**

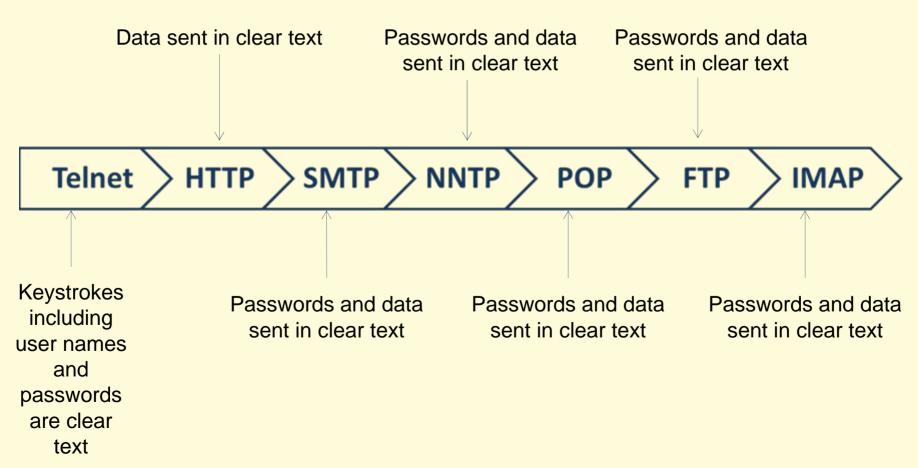
## **Packet Analyzers**

- Network troubleshooting
- Analysis
- Software development
- Communications protocol development
- Fducation
- Graphical front-end
- Information sorting & filtering options
- Sees all traffic
- Puts network interface into promiscuous mode





# Protocols Vulnerable to Sniffing





# How do we defend against Sniffing?

- Restrict physical access to the network media to ensure that packet sniffer cannot be installed.
- Use encryption to protect confidential information.
- Permanently add the MAC address of the gateway to the ARP cache.
- Use static IP address and static APR tables to prevent attackers from adding the spoofed ARP entries for the machines in the network.
- > **Turn off** network identification broadcasts and if possible, restrict the network to authorized users.
- Use IPv6 instead of IPv4 protocol.
- Use encrypted sessions such as:
  - SSH instead of Telnet
  - Secure Copy (SCP) instead of FTP
  - SSL for e-mail connection, etc.



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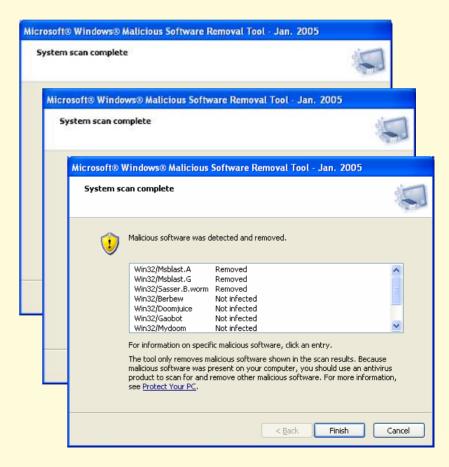


### What are Rootkits?

- ➤ A **Rootkit** is a stealthy type of software, often <u>malicious</u>, designed to hide the existence of certain processes or programs from normal methods of detection and enable continued <u>privileged access</u> to a computer system.
- Installation can be automated, or an attacker can install it once they've obtained root or Administrator access by -
  - Cracking the system
  - Privilege escalation
  - Social engineering

# How do we defend against Malicious Software?

- Install antivirus software
- Install a firewall
- Update the operating system regularly to the latest patches and service packs
- Install antimalware software





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# What is a SQL Injection?

- ➤ Def.: a technique used to take advantage of non-validated input vulnerabilities to pass SQL commands through a Web application for execution by a backend database.
- > SQL Injection is the most common website vulnerability
- > Most programmers are still not aware of this threat





# SQL Injection Attacks on the Rise

#### A few recent examples:

- ➤ November 2010: the **British Royal Navy** website was compromised
- ➤ December 2010: CitySights New York tour company had **100,000 bank** card numbers stolen
- ➤ March 2011: **TripAdvisor** (an Expedia company) had part of its membership list stolen
- ➤ March 2011: Oracle's MySQL website was compromised via a SQL injection attack with user accounts and passwords being accessed



# Risks of SQL Injection Attacks

- Authentication Bypass- the attacker logs onto an application without providing valid username and password and gains admin privileges.
- ➤ Information Disclosure- the attacker obtains sensitive information that is stored in the database e.g. player account information.
- Compromised Data Integrity- deface webpage, insert malicious content, or alter the contents of a database.
- Compromised Availability of Data- delete the database information, delete logs, or audit information contained in a database.
- > Remote Code Execution- compromise the host operating system.



# How to Defend Against SQL Attacks

- > Run database service account with minimal rights
- Disable commands like xp\_cmdshell
- > Suppress all error messages
- Use custom error messages
- Use low privileged account for DB connection
- > Filter all client data
- Use only stored procedures to validate user input
- > Use SQL Injection Detection tools



# QUESTIONS???

