

August IT Security Seminar

SUMMER 2009 SECURITY ROUNDUP

Carl Ness
IT Security Office

August 12, 2009

Today's Agenda

- ⦿ Review some of the recent research from:
 - BlackHat 2009
 - DEFCON 2009
 - Things-that-didn't-make-it-to-a-con

- ⦿ Security trends observed at UI



SSL Uh Oh Number 1



- X.509 Certificate Issuing
- MD-2 signed root certificates
cryptographically feasible to attack
- 6 month window
- May be possible to generate a
fraudulent SSL cert of any domain
- Possible to bypass smartcard auth

SSL Uh Oh Number 2

- ⦿ Null characters inserted into certs can fool many SSL implementations
- ⦿ Corrupts verification and trust chain
- ⦿ Potential to confuse automated approval processes at CA



SSL Uh Oh Number 3

- Bypass system for checking for revoked SSL certs attack (OSCP)
- Requires a man-in-the-middle posture
- tryLater responses are generated
- Client skips OSCP checks
- Malware exists today



SSL Uh Oh Number 4



- EV certs susceptible to man-in-the-middle attacks:
 - Mixed content
 - Popups and page refreshes
 - SSL rebinding (switch between EV and non-EV connections) maintains appearance
 - SSL cache poisoning by modifying Last-Modified HTTP header, post-date non-EV content so that EV-cert isn't revalidated

SSL Implications

- How do we view trust?
- SSL libraries and client applications need to be updated
- Some are in progress, some will take time (end of the year)
- CAs are in motion
- Firefox patch issued
- EV practices being re-visited, including coding recommendations
- Bottom Line: Progress is being made



OS X: Not safe again



- Machiavelli rootkit for OS X
- Mostly proof-of-concept (read: not easy nor practical)
- Disguised as RPC subsystem
- Burrows into Mach kernel (OS X foundation) and installs local agent
- Bottom Line: As Mac install base grows, so will attack surface

Speaking of Apple...



- ◎ iPhone SMS vulnerability
 - Delivered by SMS
 - Create a malformed txt message
 - Add errors and send
 - Rinse and repeat
 - Creates a DoS condition (pwn-a-fone)
 - Jailbreaks the phone
 - Tracks location
 - Status: Fixed with a patch 24h later
 - PoC: WinMo & Android

Oh, and another thing...

- Ever seen an update on your WinMo “Windows Update?”
- Smartphone patches take months of QA
- Must pass through each manufacturer’s approval process
- Must pass through QA cycle for 133 carriers
- Bottom Line: Epic FAIL



DEFCON Funny #1

- Between 2 and 5% of luggage just “disappears”
- Add in TSA “disappearing stuff”
- Plus TSA convicted eBaying employees
- Equals an interesting recommendation
 - Carry a firearm
 - You get to use your own lock
 - 😊



DNS....again

- ⦿ DNSSEC (digitally signing DNS)
 - .gov is signed
 - US Government mandated 2009 completion
 - .edu “working on it”
- ⦿ DNS-changing trojans
 - OS X especially vulnerable

Other Notable Research

- Rootkits designed to defeat forensics
- Video card GPU = supercomputer!
- Burrowing rogue VM guest agents
- MS OOB advisories (ATL/Visual Studio)
- It's 10pm, do you know where your API is?
- Just how dumb are APs?
- DoS'n the FAA

Remember:
All is not lost!



DEFCON Funny #2

- Hey, look, an ATM...
 - at a hacker conference...
 - away from the cameras...
 - and I've never heard of this bank.
- What could possibly go wrong with this?

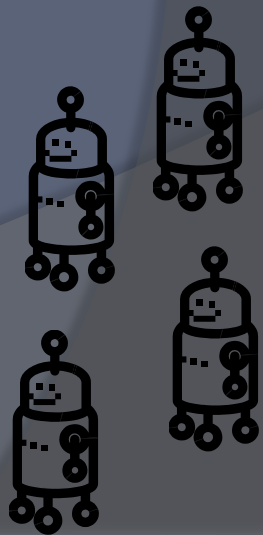


So....

University of Iowa Status Report

Top 5 Observed Attacks (and what to do about them)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Bots!
(Flowbot/IRCbot) | 1. Update, update,
update |
| 2. SQL Injection | 2. Request a scan |
| 3. SSH brute force | 3. Scope your
services |
| 4. OWA compromises | 4. Beware of inactive
accounts, weak
passwords |
| 5. Thanks for all the
phish | 5. Education |



Questions?



Thank you for coming!

IT Security Office
University of Iowa
security@uiowa.edu