Association for Cyber Security (ACS)

Empowering Protectors of the Cyber World

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Introduction to Bug Bounty Programs

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Definition and Purpose:

- Programs designed to incentivize ethical hackers to find and report vulnerabilities.
- Purpose: Enhance security by leveraging a global pool of talent.

Historical Background and Evolution:

- Origins in the late 1990s with companies like Netscape.
- Evolution to widespread adoption by tech giants and smaller firms alike.

Importance in the Cybersecurity Landscape:

- Critical in proactive security measures.
- Complements traditional security testing methods.

Program Types

- Public vs. Private Programs

- Narrow Scope vs. Open Scope

- Managed vs. Unmanaged Programs

Bug Bounty Platforms

HackerOne, Bugcrowd, Synack

Key Terminologies

- Bounty, Vulnerability, Exploit, Triaging, Scope, Responsible Disclosure

- Understanding common terms used in bug bounty programs

Benefits for Security Researchers

- Financial rewards

- Skill enhancement and learning opportunities

- Building a professional reputation

Benefits for Organizations

- Cost-effective security testing

- Access to a global pool of talent

- Continuous security assessment

Bug Bounty Procedure

- Steps involved in participating in a bug bounty program
- Finding and reporting vulnerabilities
- Communication with program managers

Report Submission Process

- Writing a vulnerability report

- Submission and communication with program managers

Evaluation and Reward

- Vulnerability triage and validation

- Severity ratings (CVSS Scores)

- Payment and recognition

Challenges for Researchers

- Legal and ethical considerations

- Competitive nature of programs

- Non-payment or low rewards

Challenges for Organizations

- Managing and triaging reports

- Potential for public disclosure of vulnerabilities

- Resource allocation for fixes

Why Recon Is Important

- Importance of reconnaissance in bug bounty
- Techniques for effective reconnaissance

Automation vs. Manual Approach

- Pros and cons of automated vs. manual testing
- Finding the right balance

Case Study Time

Q&A Session

Thank You