Using Standards-Based Internet Explorer Features to Protect Your Web Apps

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Agenda

- **A Little History**
- Securing Your Infrastructure
- Trust User Input at Your Own Peril
- SQL Injection Attacks
- Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) Attacks
- ClickJacking Attacks
- Native JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)
- Building Mashups


PROPRIETE CERN
PROPRIETE CERN
CERN
DO NOT POWER
DOWN!!

The security architecture of the Web platform, until recently, was largely an afterthought

We could block nearly 100% of exploits by removing one component from the system…

Or, we could block a majority of exploits by removing a different component from the system…

Making the Correct Tradeoffs Is Hard

Internet Explorer 8 Security Vision

Windows® Internet Explorer® 8: secure by default.

- Security Feature Improvements
  - Create security features that address the top vulnerabilities today and in the future
- Secure Features
  - Reduce attack surface of existing code by closing legacy holes
  - Apply security-focused rigors against new code
- Provide Security and Compatibility
  - Users understand that improved security is a reason to upgrade

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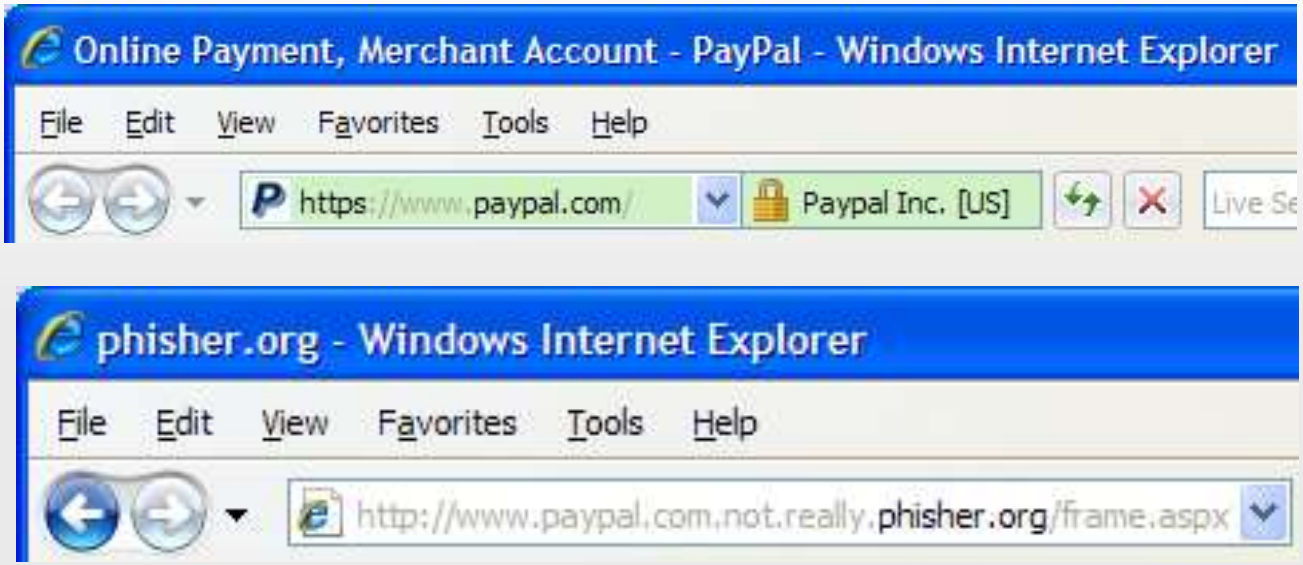
Creating Secure Connections

Domain Highlighting

Help users to quickly and accurately determine whether or not they are visiting the expected site



Extended Validation

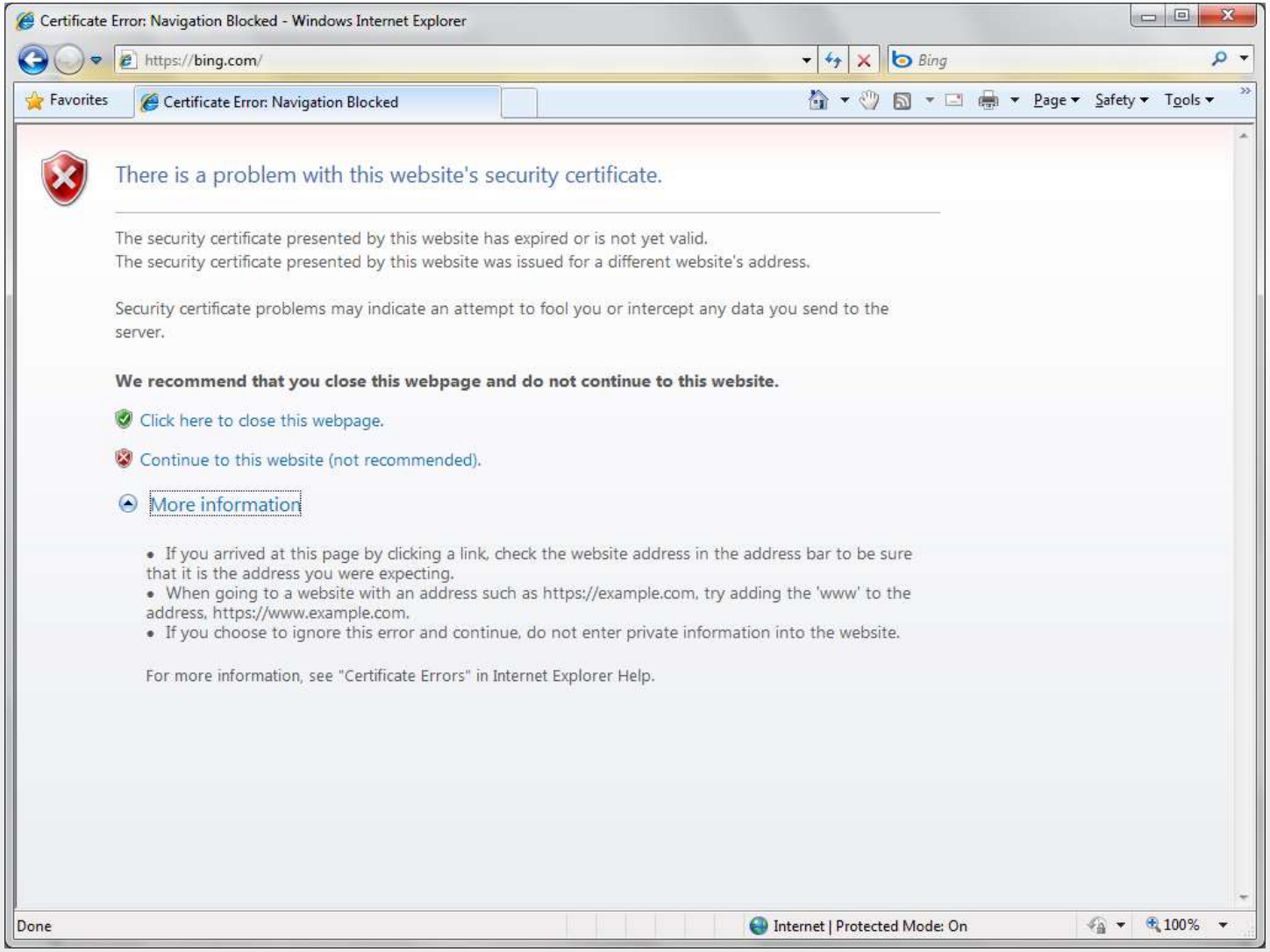
Supported by all major browsers

- Windows® Internet Explorer® 7+, Firefox 3+, Opera 9+, Chrome 3+, and Safari 3+.

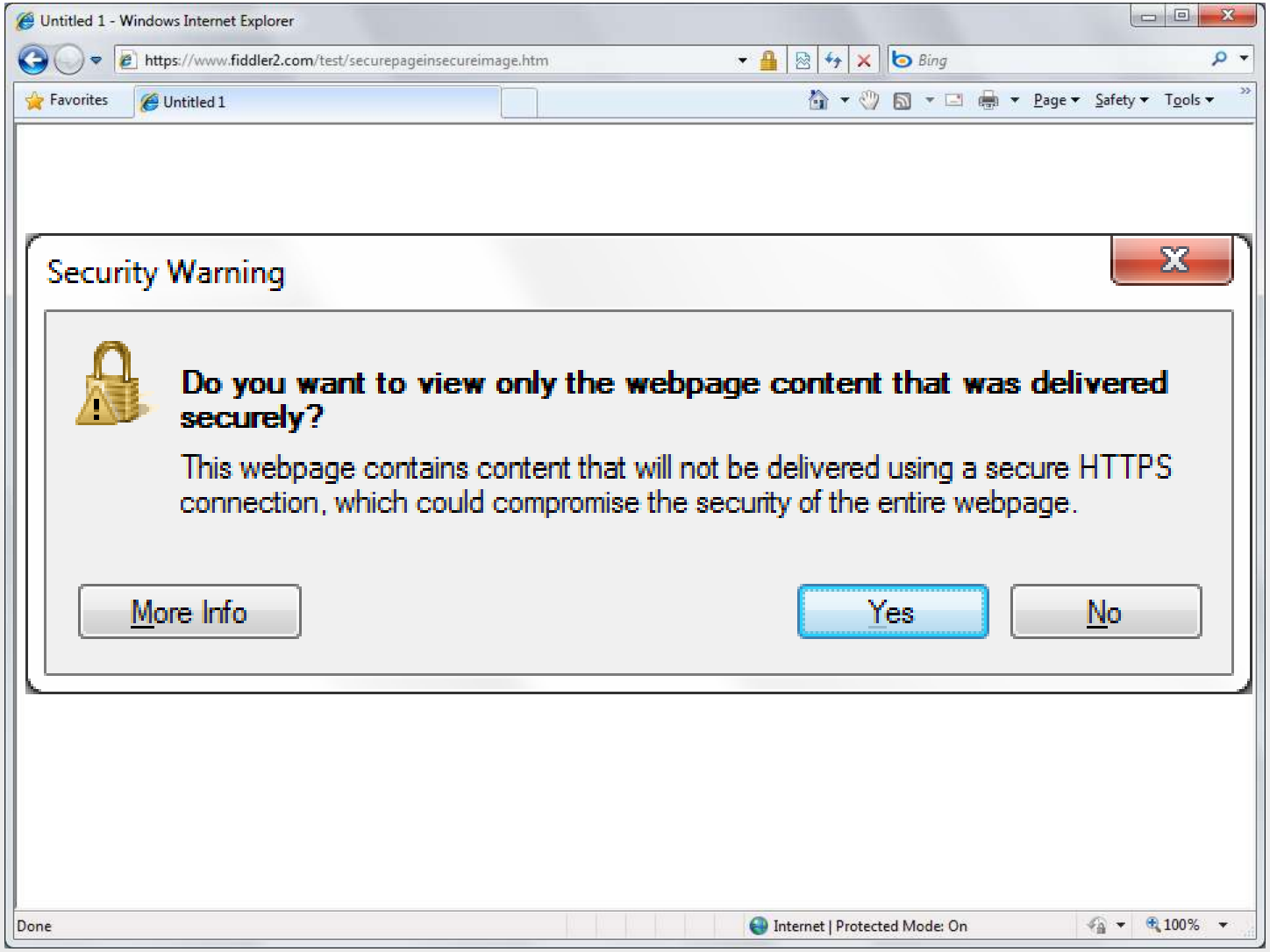
Over 10,000 sites with extended validation certificates.

Insecure Login Form?

Certificate Mismatch



Be Aware of Mixed Content



Mixed Content Example

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
   "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en"
   lang="en">

<head>
   <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible"
   content="IE=EmulateIE8" />
   <meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html;
   charset=iso-8859-1" />
   <link rel="shortcut icon" href="/favicon.ico" />
   <link href="http://example.com/CssReset.css"
   rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" />
   <link href="styles.css" rel="stylesheet" />
   <title>
...
```

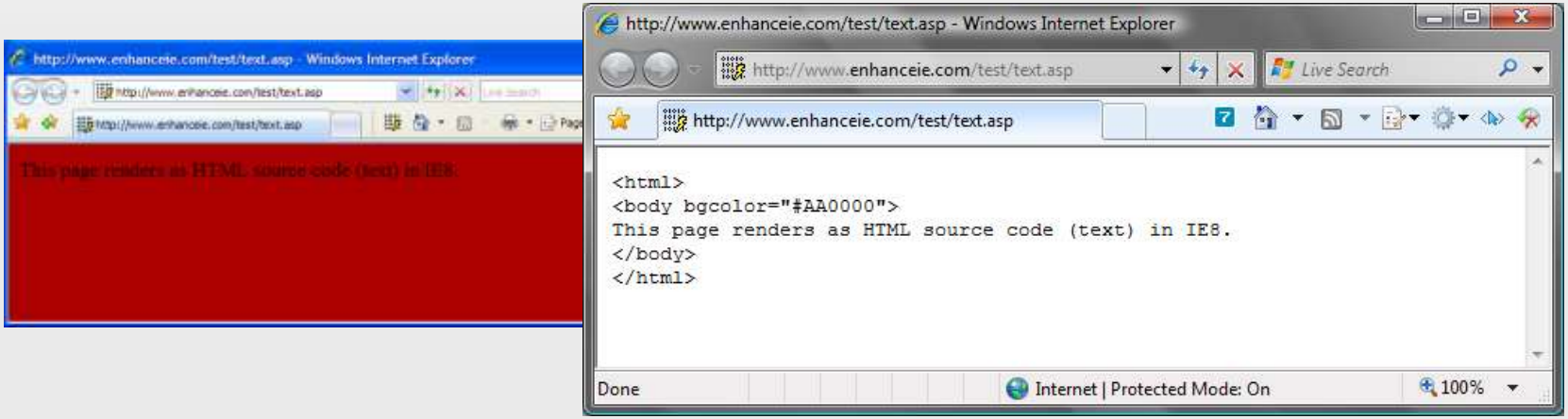
MIME-Sniffing

No upsniff from image/*

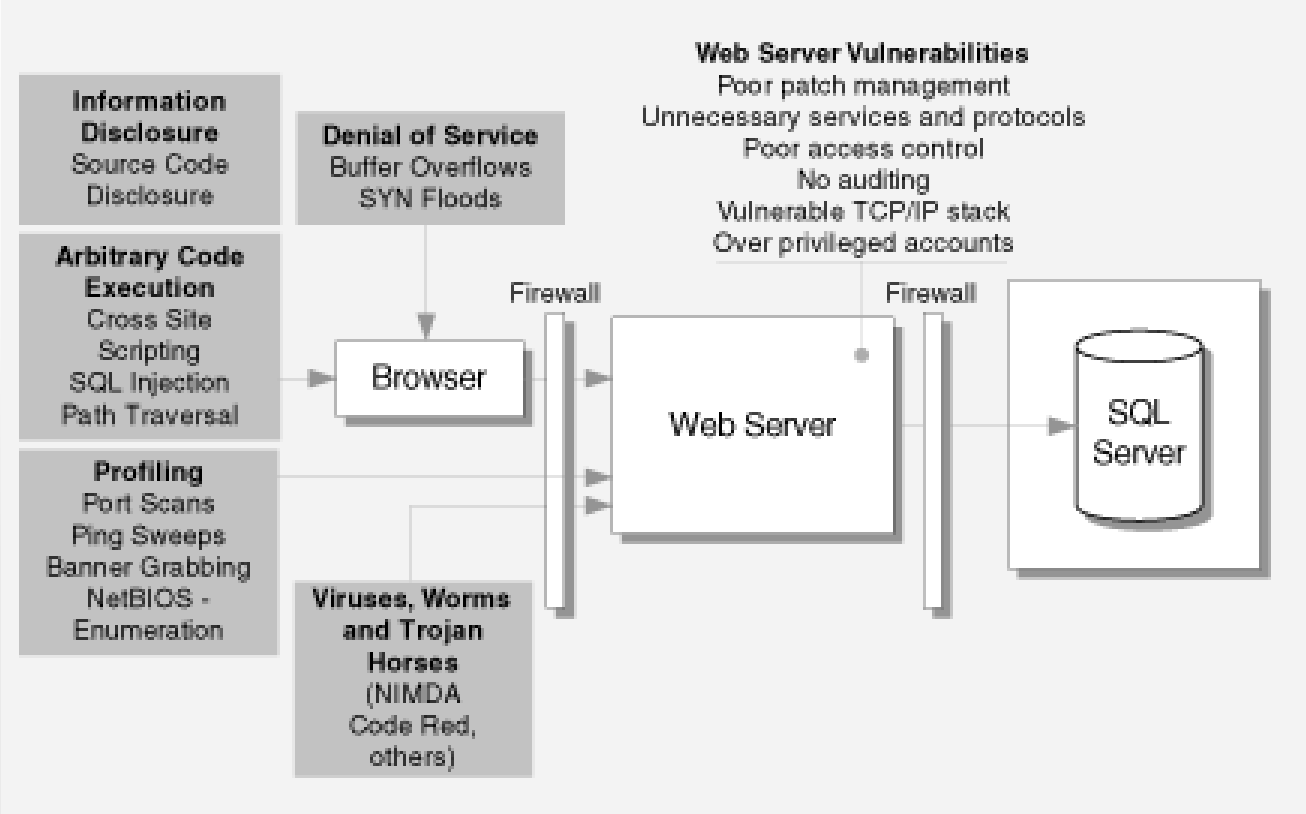
X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff

Option to force file save:

```
Content-Disposition:
attachment;filename="foo.doc";
X-Download-Options: NoOpen
```



Keep Your Servers Secure



Best Practices

- Ensure you're using Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) when appropriate
- Check users aren't being prompted for mixed content?
- Make sure your servers up to date
- Use best-practices for user accounts and passwords

Agenda

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Assume All User Input Is Evil

toStaticHTML() function

Client-side string sanitization, based on the Microsoft Anti-XSS Library.

```
window.toStaticHTML("This is some <b>HTML</b> with
embedded script following...
<script>alert('bang!');</script>!");
```

Returns:

```
This is some <b>HTML</b> with embedded script
following... !
```

Best Practices

- Don’t rely on client-side validation for input
- Use toStaticHTML() as one method to sanitize data

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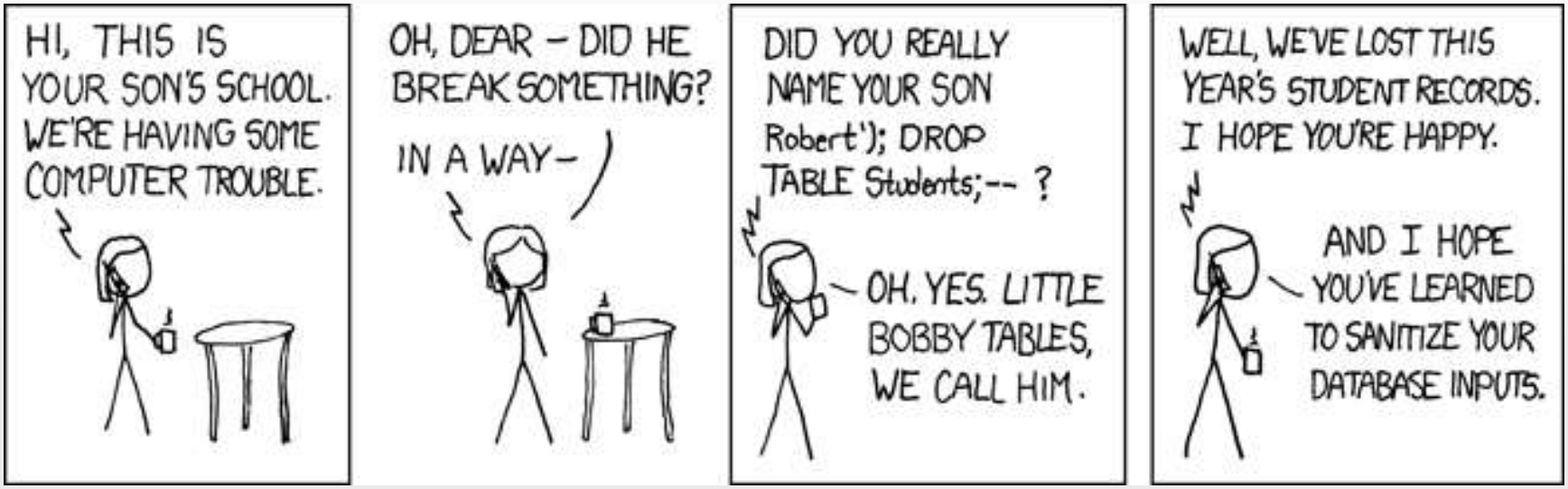
SQL Injection Attacks



Source: http://xkcd.com/327/

Protecting Against SQL Injection

Constrain User Input

- Use Type-Safe SQL Parameters

```
SqlDataAdapter myCommand = new SqlDataAdapter("AuthorLogin", conn);
myCommand.SelectCommand.CommandType = CommandType.StoredProcedure;
SqlParameter parm = myCommand.SelectCommand.Parameters.Add("@au_id",
SqlDbType.VarChar, 11);
parm.Value = Login.Text;
```

Using Escape Routines

```
private string SafeSqlLiteral(string inputSQL)
{
     return inputSQL.Replace("'", "''");
}
```

Best Practices

- Assume all user input is evil!
- Use parameterized statements instead of building queries

Agenda

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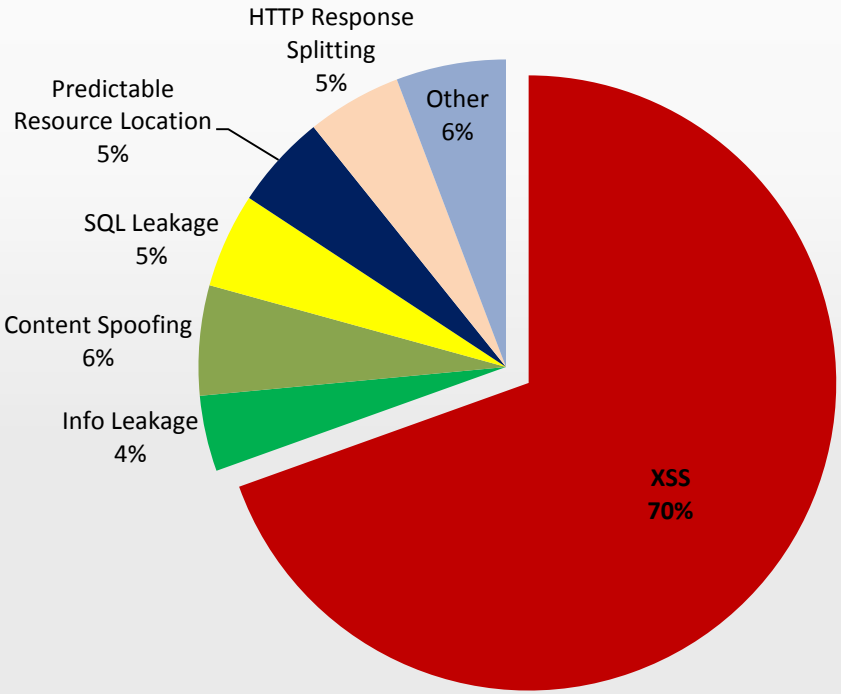
"XSS is the new buffer overflow."

–*Researcher Bryan Sullivan*

- Steal cookies
- Log keystrokes
- Deface sites
- Steal credentials (of a sort)
- Port-scan the intranet
- Launch cross-site request forgery (CSRF)
- Steal browser history
- Abuse browser/AX vulnerabilities
- Evade phishing filters
- Circumvent HTTPS

Threat Landscape

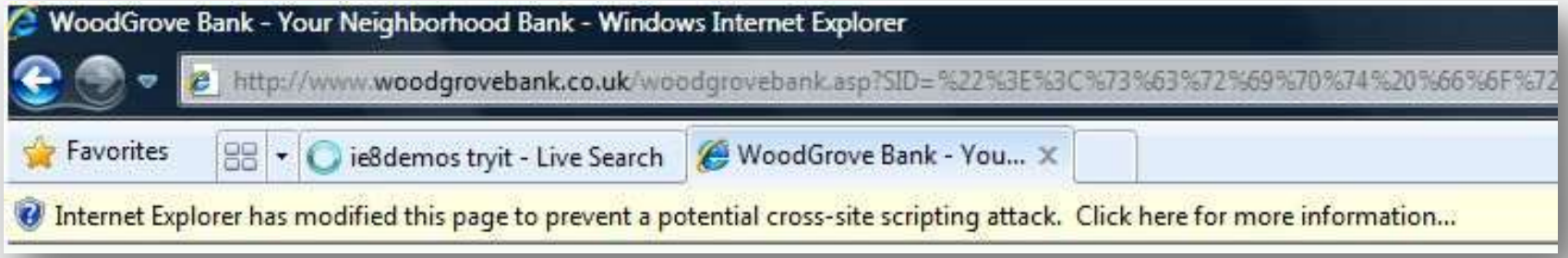
Web Site Vulnerabilities by Class



Source: Whitehat Security 8/08

Cross-Site Scripting Filter

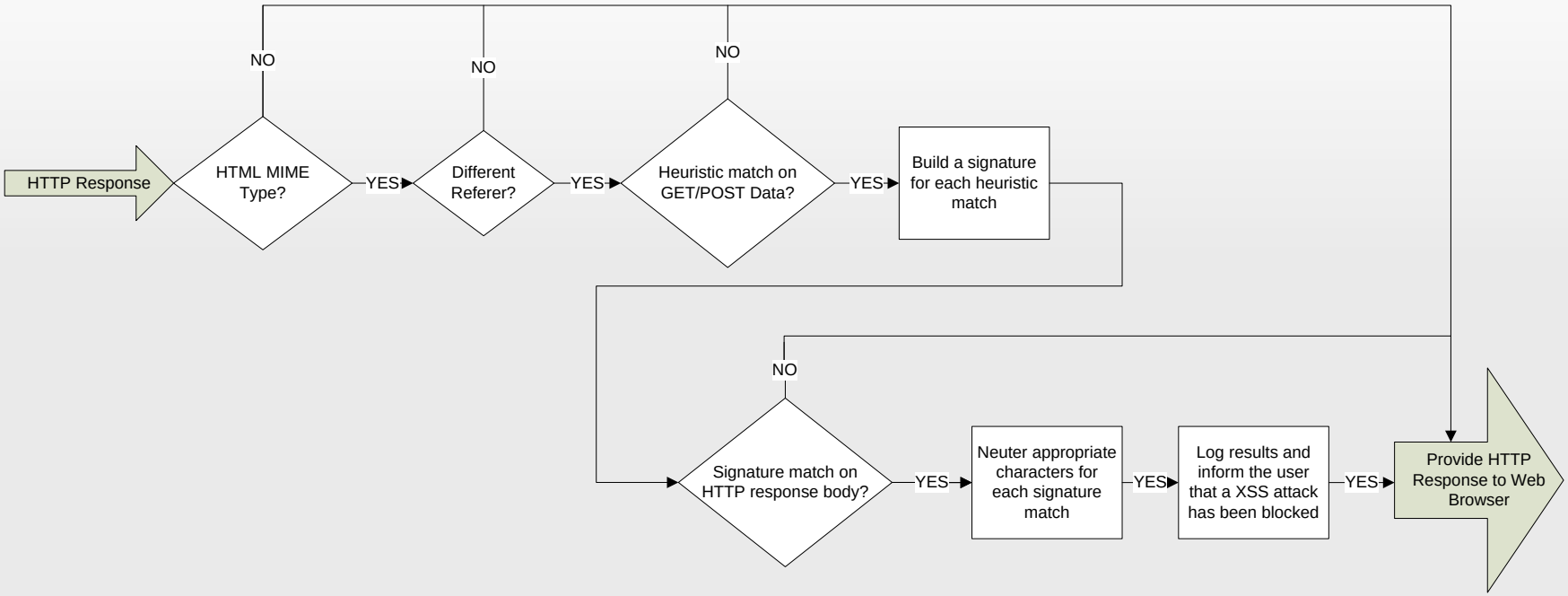
Identifies and prevents majority of XSS reflection attacks



XSS Filter

Intercept and prevent majority of Type-1 XSS attacks

Great performance and site compatibility



XSS Filter

Original script:

<SCRIPT src=http://hackersite.ie8demos.com/snoop.js>

Generated Signature:

<SC{R}IPT¤src¤=>

Neutered Script

<SC#IPT src=http://hackersite.ie8demos.com/snoop.js>

Best Practices

- Use the ASP.NET Anti-Cross-Site Scripting Library
  - http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/security/aa973814.aspx
- Disable US-ASCII codepage
- Disable sniffing of UTF-7 codepage
- Fix other codepage-related bugs
- Disable Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) expressions in Standards mode

Agenda

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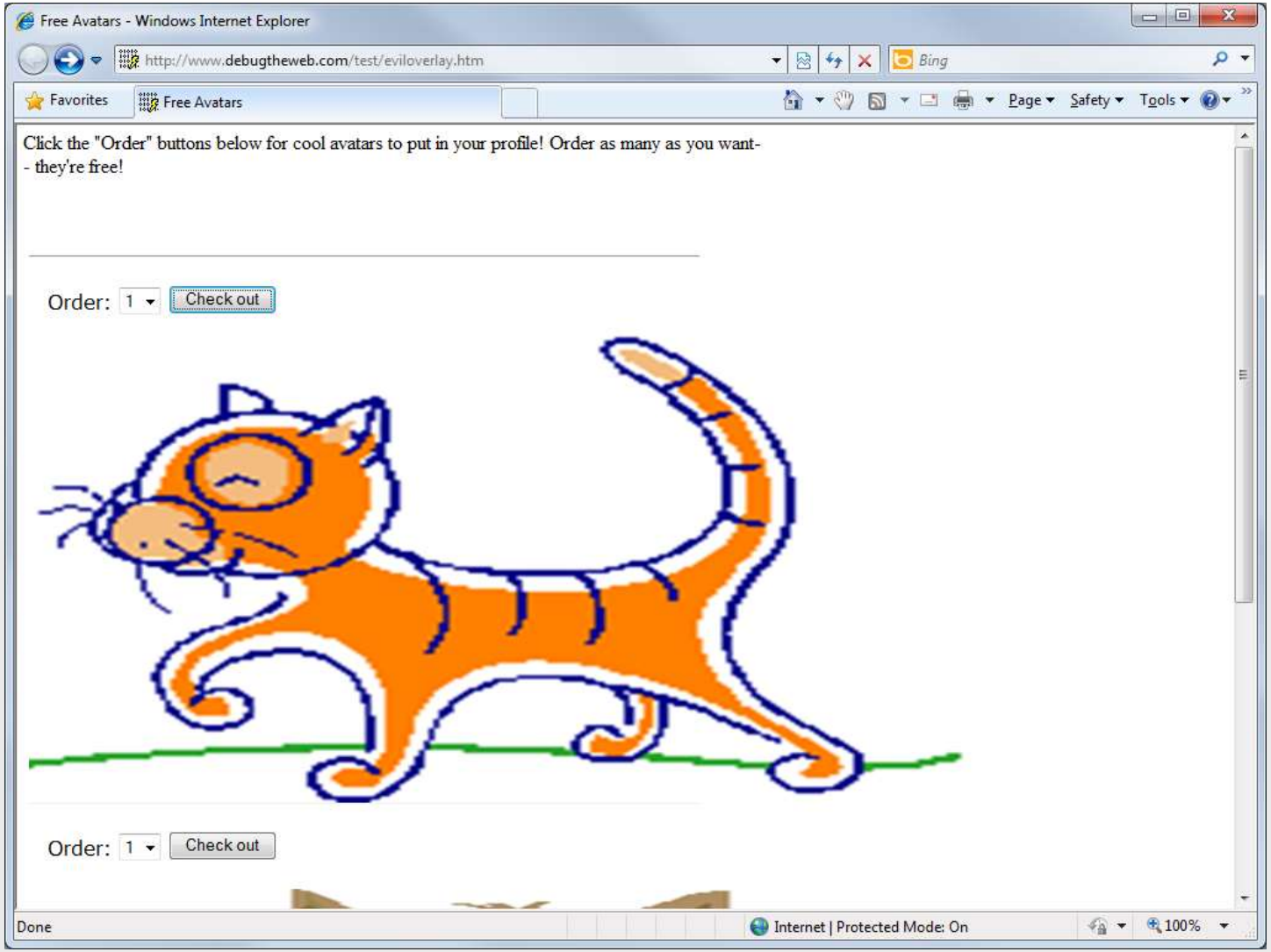
ClickJacking

ClickJacking Demo

ClickJacking – Free Avatars?

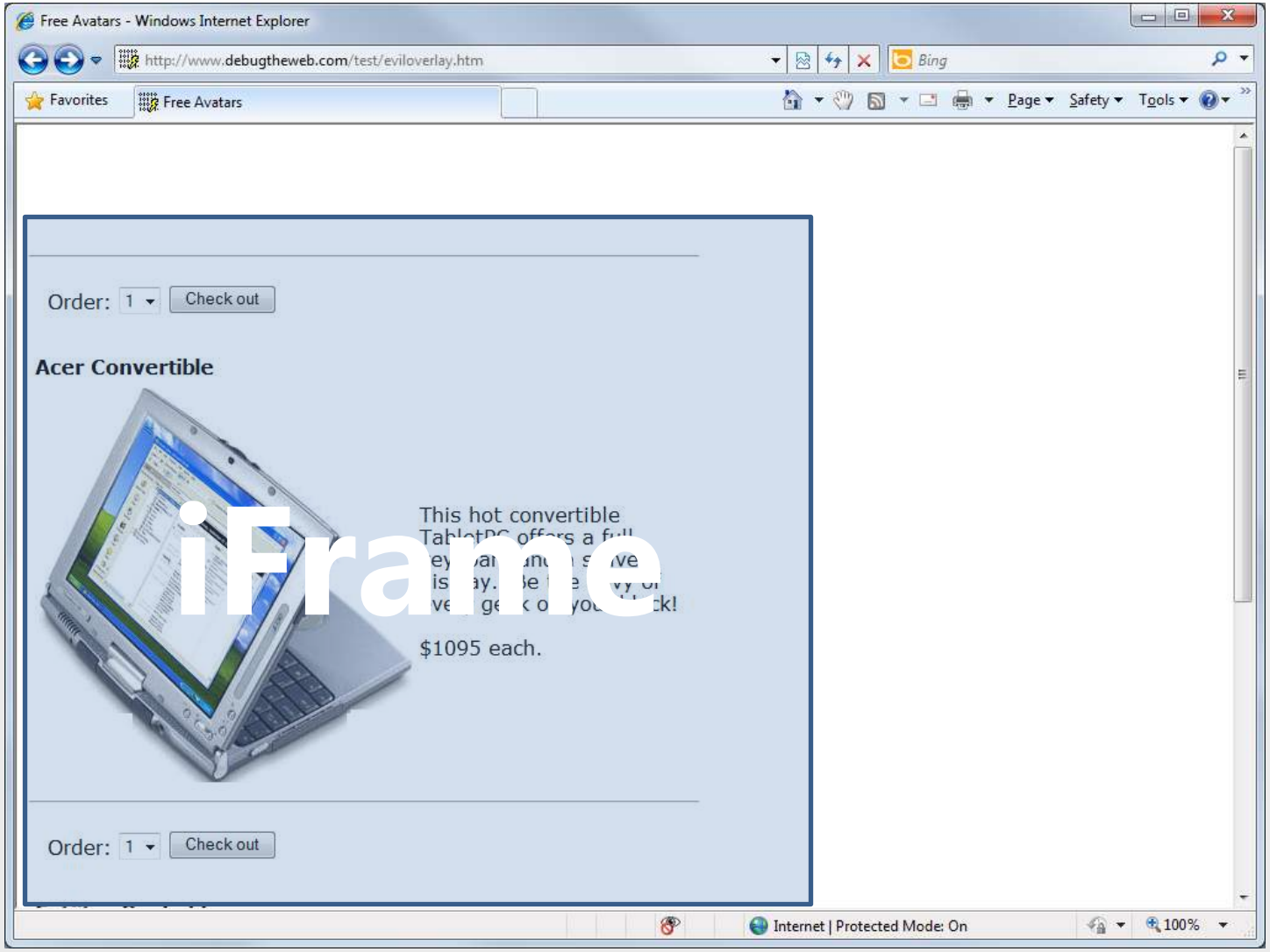


ClickJacking – The Evil Overlay

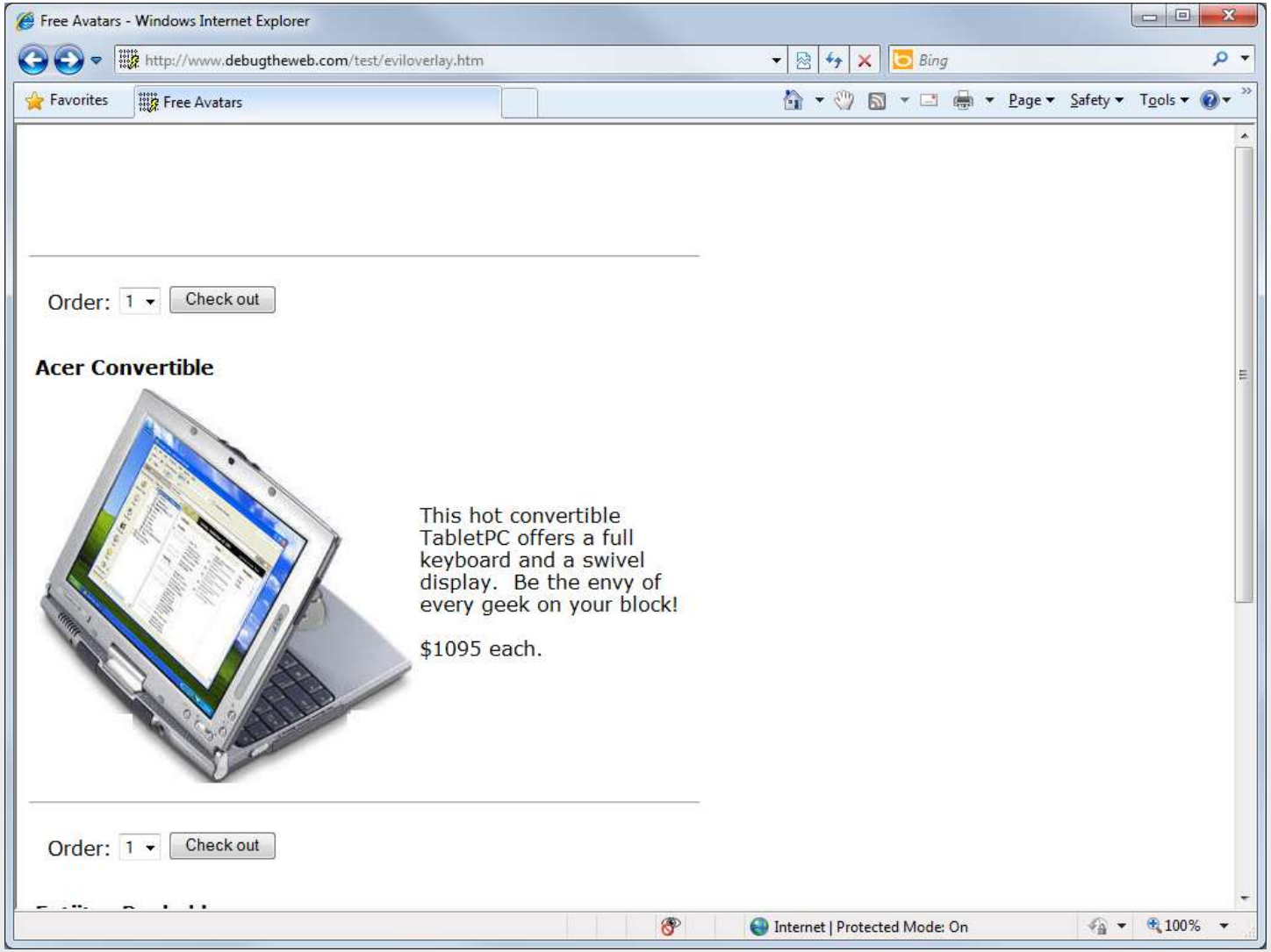
```
<iframe AllowTransparency="Yes"
  style="position:absolute; left:0px; top:30px;
  width: 581px; height: 1000px; z-index: 5;"
  id="I1" src="http://example.com" name="I1"
  border="0" frameborder="0" class="style2">
 Frames disabled.
</iframe>

<div style="margin: 10px; position: absolute;
  top:160px; left:0px; width:600px;
  height:380px; background: white; z-index:10">
 <img height="380" src="cat.gif" width="760" />
</div>
```

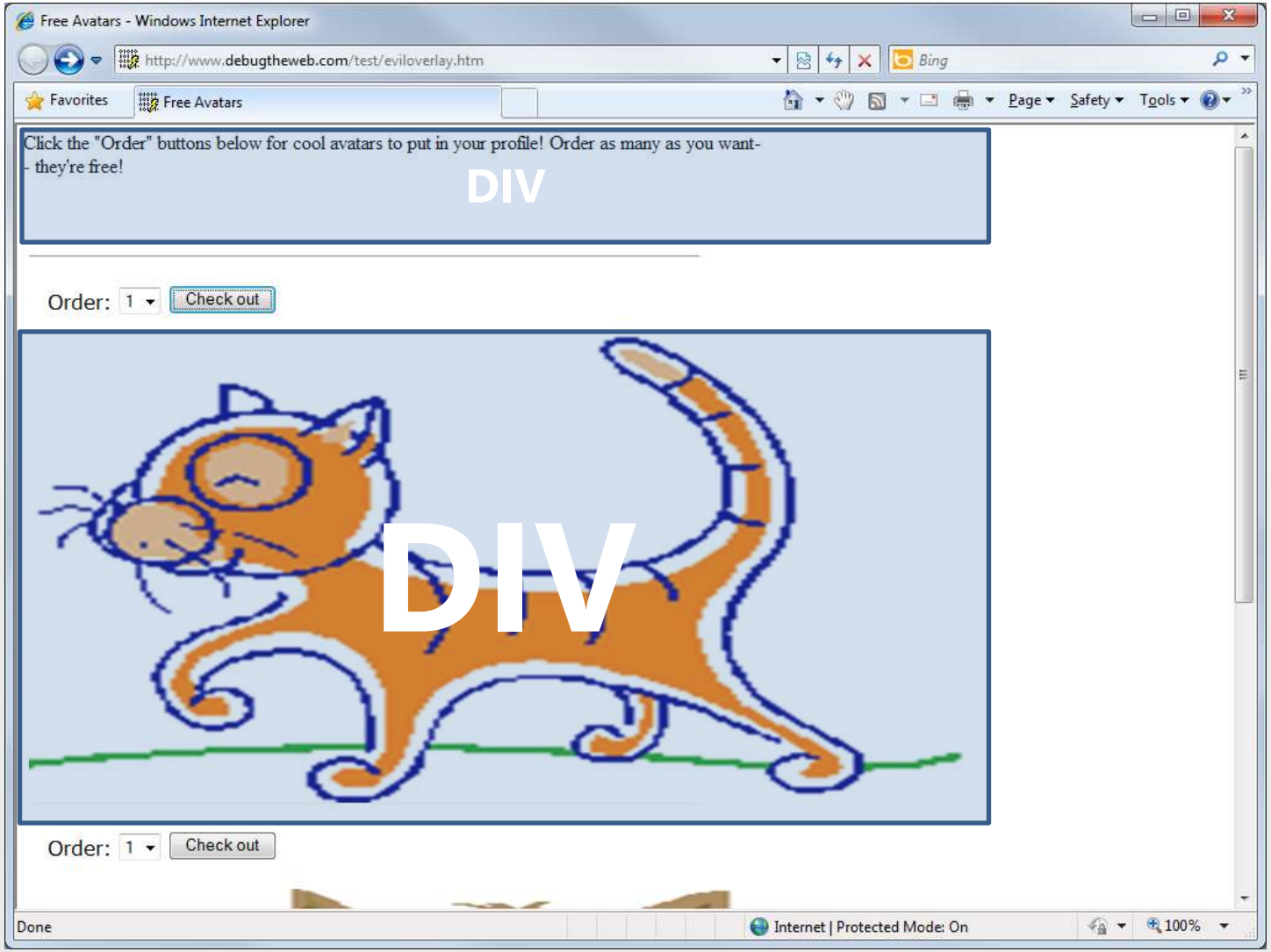
ClickJacking – The Evil Overlay



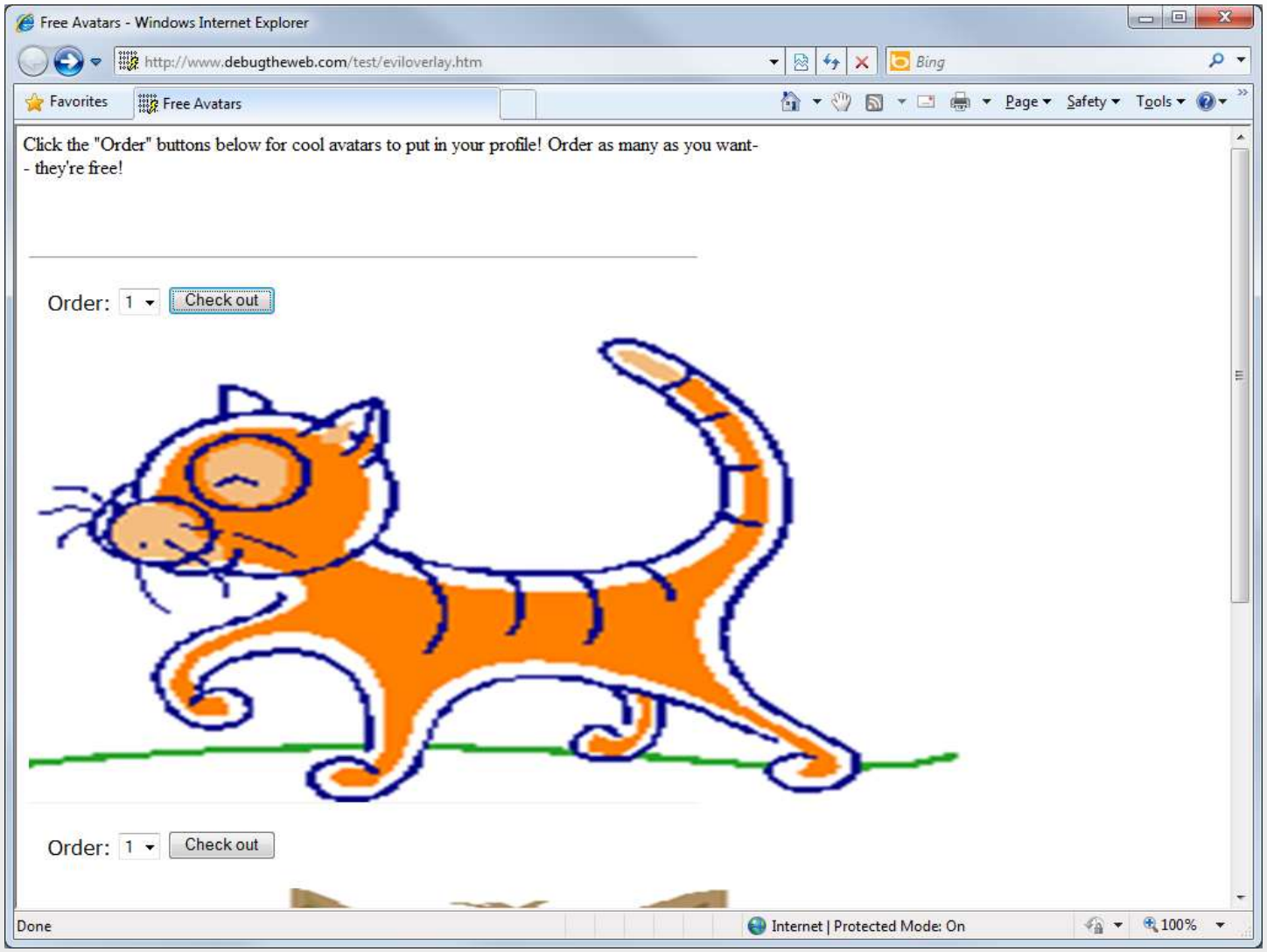
ClickJacking – The Innocent Page



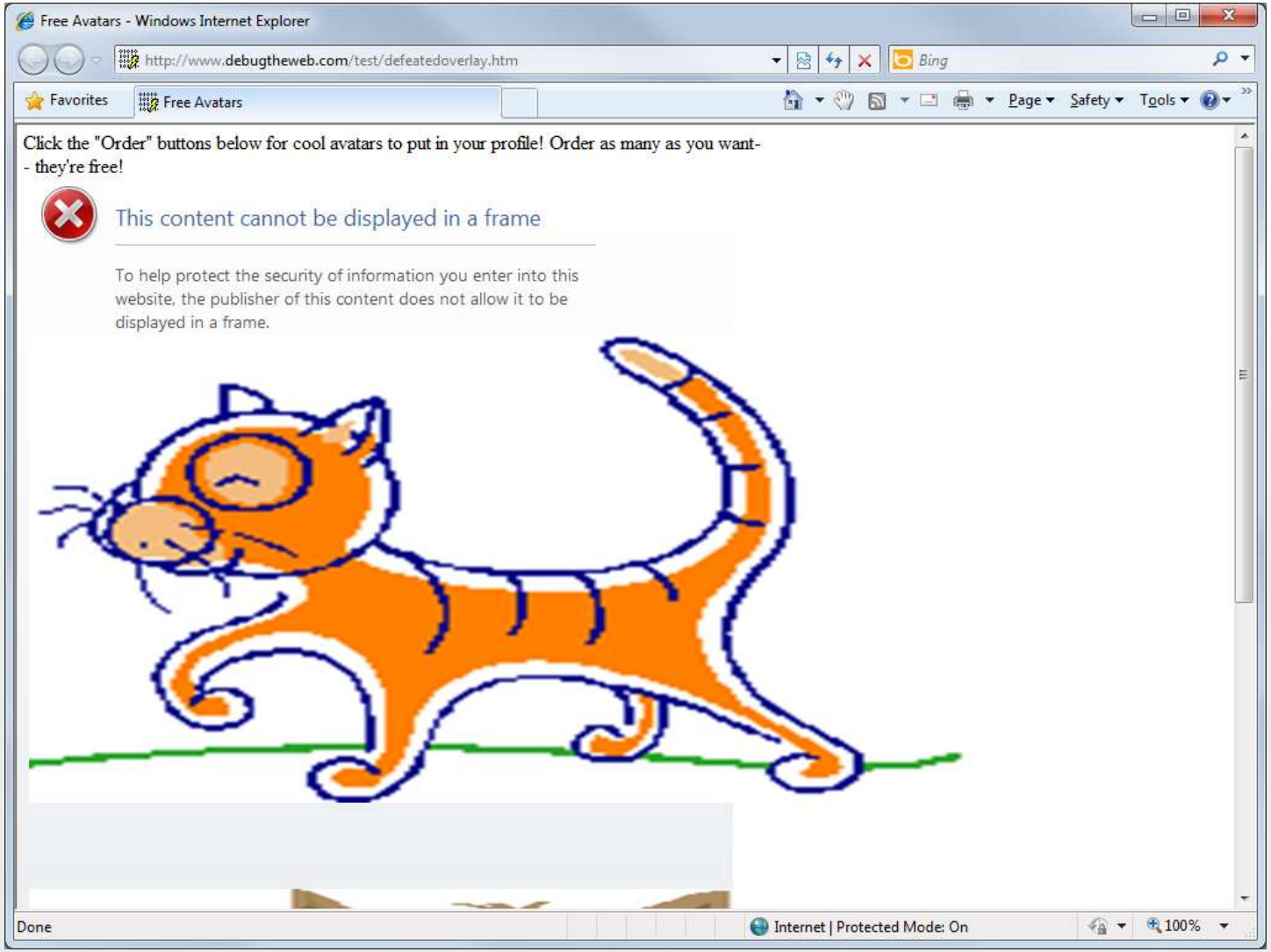
ClickJacking – The Evil Overlay



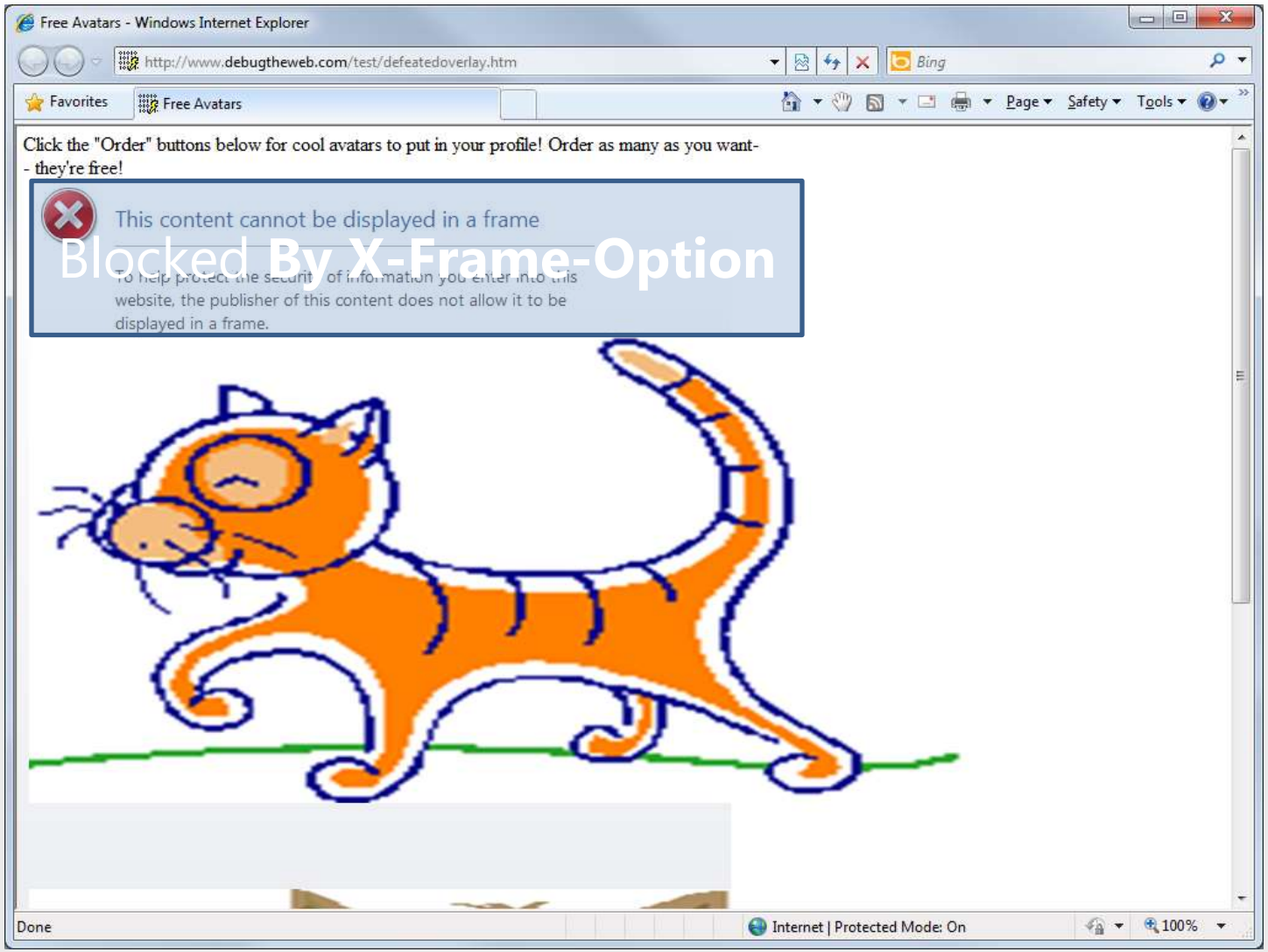
ClickJacking – Expensive Computers!



ClickJacking – Blocked



ClickJacking – Blocked



ClickJacking Protection

Frame Busting Scripts

- Used to determine if site is being rendered in a frame
- Can be defeated with a little knowledge and work

HTTP Response Header: X-Frame-Options

- Supported by Internet Explorer 8+, Opera 10.5+, Safari 4+, Chrome 4+
  - Options:
    - Deny – prevents the page from being rendered if it's within a frame
    - SameOrigin – prevents the page from rendering if it's within a frame from another top-level domain

Best Practices

- Use HTTP Response Header X-Frame-Options
- Don't use "sameorigin" if you have any page on your domain which accepts an arbitrary URL to frame

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JavaScript Object Notation

```
{"Weather":
{
    "City": "Seattle",
    "Zip": 98052,
    "Forecast": {
      "Today": "Sunny",
      "Tonight": "Dark",
      "Tomorrow": "Sunny"
    }
  }}
```

Native JSON Support

Based on Douglas Crockford's implementation of JSON2 and standardized in ECMAScript 5

```
JSON.stringify()
JSON.parse()
```

Best Practices

- Use JSON over eval() to transfer data between client and server
- Check for native JSON support before using other libraries

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Cross-Document Messaging (XDM)

Enables two domains to establish a trust relationship to exchange object messages

Provides a Web developer a more secure mechanism to build cross-domain communication

Part of the HTML5 specification

postMessage – Sending

```
// Find target frame
var oFrame =
document.getElementsByTagName('iframe')[0];

// postMessage will only deliver the 'Hello’
// message if the frame is currently
// at the expected target site
oFrame.contentWindow.postMessage('Hello',
    'http://recipient.example.com');
```

postMessage – Listening

```
// Listen for the event.  For non-IE, use
// addEventListener instead.
document.attachEvent('onmessage', function(e){
  if (e.domain == 'expected.com') {
     // e.data contains the string
     // We can use it here.  But how?
  }
});
```

Cross-Domain Requests (XDR)

Enables Web developers to more securely communicate between domains

Provides a mechanism to establish trust between domains through an explicit acknowledgement of sharing cross domain (as well as both parties knowing which sites are sharing information)

Proposed to W3C for standardization

Cross-Domain Requests (XDR)

```
// Creates a new XDR object
xdr = new XDomainRequest();
xdr.onload = alert_loaded;
xdr.timeout = timeout;
xdr.open("get", url);
// The request is then sent to the server
xdr.send();
```

Best Practices

- Use Cross-Document Messaging when transferring data between iFrames on a page
- Use Cross-Domain Requests when transferring data between different domains
- Cross-domain requests are anonymous, so only request and respond with cross-domain data that is not sensitive or personally identifiable

Questions and Answers

- Submit text questions using the "Ask" button

- Send us your feedback and content ideas in the survey
- Replay of this webcast will be available in 24 hours

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