Research Paper
Cyberattack Case Study

May 21, 2024

1 Cyberattack Case Study

In this assignment you'll write a short analysis of a significant cyberattack that:

- Occurred in the last 5 years

- Impacted more than one million accounts or had significant national or financial impact

- Exposed personally identifiable information (**PII**) or caused significant military, infrastructure, political, or financial consequences/impact

1.1 Important report criteria

Make sure your paper addresses the following items about the cyberattack that you've selected.

- The history of its development
  - Is this attack the first from the attack's creator?
  - Were previous attacks successful?
  - Was the attack sponsored by government entity, or a suspected government entity?

- The purpose of the attack

- Its intended usage domain (For example *focused on hospitals, fast food restaurants, online sales, medical records, etc.*), and the general characteristics of the attack's penetration strategy
  - Domains could include a specific industry, application, web platform, or piece(s) of infrastructure. (For example, consider internet access, wireless communications, or cloud providers as infrastructure.)
- One distinctive feature or trait that set it apart from other attacks, either historically or technologically
- Whether it or any of its descendants remain in use, and why do those descendants still exist

1.1.1 Document requirements

Make sure the report is formatted as follows:

- **12 point font**
- **1 inch margins**
- **Line spacing set to 1.5**
- *minimum* 3 pages of text
  - More pages are allowed to provide for images
  - *There is still the three pages of text minimum*

You need **two references**, one of which may be an online reference to the cyberattack and the other of which should be a manual, textbook, or contemporary article describing it.

This is not a formal research paper but you must cite any source you use using the UCF APA Guidelines and Tools, and you must write all material in your own terms, not merely copy and paste.

1.1.2 Suggested Outline

Please make sure that your paper addresses all the items in the *Report Criteria*. It will help you to organize your paper based on the outline suggested below.

1. Introduction

2. History of development
   - Was the sponsor or creator a government agency or affiliate?
   - What was the motivation? (Money, strategic, infrastructure, etc.) Be specific.

3. History of attack with discussion of the attack's impact on the chosen target(s)

4. General characteristics

5. Usage domain(s) - or target group(s)

6. Active descendants

7. What actions were taken to prevent similar attacks

8. What punitive actions were executed against the attacker(s)

Be sure to include at least one possible solution that would prevent this type of attack or similar attacks.

1.2 APA Citation Resources

- Book Citation

  BOOK

  Print version:

  - General Form:

    Last, F. M. (Date). *Book title* (edition, if other than first). Publisher.

  - Examples:

    Parker, R. M., Jr. (2003). *Bordeaux: A consumer's guide to the world's finest wines* (4th rev. ed.). Simon & Schuster.

    O'Halloran, R. M., Jarvis, K., & Allen-Chabot, A. (Eds.). (2006). *Cases in hospitality and tourism management.* Pearson/Prentice Hall.

- Magazine or Journal Citation

  JOURNAL OR MAGAZINE ARTICLE

  Print version:

  - General Form:

    Last, F. M. (Date). Article title. *Journal Title, volume*(number), pages.

  - Example:

    Monteson, P. A., & Singer, J. (2004). Marketing a resort-based spa. *Journal of Vacation Marketing, 10*(2), 282-288.

- Full UCF APA Citation Guidance
  Rosen APA Guidelines

1.3 Submission Instructions

Submit your assignment to WebCourses as a Microsoft Word, OpenOffice or PDF file.

1.4 Grading

The assignment shall be submitted via *WebCourses*. There should only be one file in the submission. That file should be a PDF, a WORD document, or an OpenOffice document.

Make sure that the page number is in the upper right corner.

Table 1.1: Grading Rubric

Deduction	Description
- 50 -> -80	Plagiarism as detected by ***Turnitin***
- 50 -> -80	Does not meet minimum length.
- 50	Report does not address financial, military, political, or strategic attack's impact on confidentiality, integrity, or availability (CIA)
- 50	No references or citations.
- 5	APA Citations do not follow formatting recommendations shown below
- 10	Does not address the attack's **history** - origin (company or organization) - purpose (CIA?)
- 10	Does not explain usage domain(s) or target(s). Some example usage domains & targets: - industrial controls - power/energy production - power/energy distribution - manufacturing - science - biology - chemistry - munitions - simulation - project management - games - etc.
- 10	Does not address whether any active descendants still in use/development
Start with 100 points and deduct per the schedule above	