

Module 6 Journal Entry

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Before joining the IT Industry and working in the field I didn't really have any misconceptions about cybersecurity. Something that did surprise me is how easy some systems are to compromise, how lacking a lot of the biggest companies and organizations security is, and how important social engineering is to the overall hacking space. After working in the industry for 3 years I have realized all of things to be painfully true especially how easy certain organizations would be to completely compromise. We have critical infrastructure organizations that have open email ports, default passwords, unlocked CNC cabinets, and passwords saved in excel spreadsheets. These things can be detrimental to an organization's security if someone who knows what they are doing gets their hands on them, not to mention former employees looking to get back at their previous employers.

Another big surprise was how easy social engineering is and how much information you can get. I have done some personal projects and it is crazy how much information you can find about someone who overshares on social media. If you're someone who shares pictures of your cars especially you are one of the easiest targets whereas if you're someone who just posts pictures when you go hiking or what not you can still maintain a lot of privacy. Especially with how big some of the latest social security data leaks have been, you can pretty much impersonate someone by finding the city they live in and their name. I think this really brings up the question: should our social security number be a static number for our entire lives or should it change to a 2fa style counter?

References

Insider. (2021, March 16). *Hacker rates 12 hacking scenes in movies and TV* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6BqpU4V0Ypk>