Cybersecurity Bootcamp Assignment

Google Dorking Exercise

Objective

Use Google Dorks to locate publicly accessible documents or files from a reputable organization's domain that could reveal operational details or potential cybersecurity risks.

1. Google Dork Used - `site:nasa.gov filetype:pdf`

- site:nasa.gov: Restricts the search to NASA's official website(s).
- filetype:pdf: Filters results to show only PDF files (commonly used for reports, audits, and manuals).

2. Exposed File Found

- Document Title: NASA's Software Asset Management (Audit Report)
- Direct Link: https://oig.nasa.gov/docs/IG-23-008.pdf
- Date of Document: January 12, 2023

3. Brief Description of the Exposed Document

This document is an official audit report by NASA's Office of Inspector General reviewing NASA's policies, procedures, and practices around managing its software assets.
The report highlights:

- Decentralized software management practices leading to operational inefficiencies and increased risk.
- Financial impact: NASA spent over $35 million in 5 years on unused licenses, penalties, and fines.
- Cybersecurity risks due to lack of centralized tools, insufficient license tracking, and inadequate restriction of privileged access.
- Key recommendations for improving software asset management, oversight, and compliance.

4. Why This Matters (Cybersecurity Perspective)

While this report is intentionally published for transparency, the details within could aid adversaries in identifying procedural and technical weaknesses, and it demonstrates how much sensitive internal information is available to the public through simple, targeted searches.

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Date: 17/07/25