

INFO-6065

Ethical Hacking  
& Exploits

Post Exploit



# Agenda

- Review of Lab Activities
- Scope of work
- Post-Exploit Activities
- Environmental analysis
- Pillaging
- Data exfiltration
- Lab 10 Overview

# Lab Review

# Backdoor Connections

One way to connect to the backdoor is from the attacking system

- Set up a netcat server on the target VM, listening for an incoming connection on port 1234
  - What options let you know it is a server instance you are setting up?
- This allowed us to connect at will, but it also lets anyone else connect
- Seen by vulnerability scanners

# Backdoor Connections

Another way is to modify your registry entry so the target machine will phone home to a netcat server listening on Kali

- This is a more realistic use of netcat as a backdoor
- It won't be seen by vulnerability scanners
- It will only attempt to connect to the Kali machine
- You aren't leaving a hole in the defenses of the target machine that others could connect to
  - Very bad in a production environment
  - Hackers don't stop trying to get in when you are doing a pentest

# msfvenom

Msfvenom replaced msfpayload and msfencode

- The functionality of both msfpayload and msfencode have been combined into a single tool

Msfvenom still has the same two primary functions

## **Creating a payload**

- Generating the executable binary from the payload

## **Encoding the payload**

- Changing the binary structure of the payload to avoid detection by antivirus programs

# Msfvenom Options

Some of the most used options:

- **l** used to generate a list of payloads, encoders, etc.
- **p** specifies the payload to use
- **e** specifies the encoder to use
- **b** allows you to specify bad characters to avoid (\x00)
  - \x00 represents a null byte
- **a** specifies the architecture (x86, x64, etc.)
- **platform** specifies the target platform
- **payload-options** lists the payloads options
- **f** specifies the output format
- **help-formats** lists the possible formats

# Bash Scripting

- At their simplest from, they allow you to run several terminal commands one after another
  - The commands are specified in a file
  - You need to make the file executable to run it
- Allows you to create useful scripts to perform common tasks
- Automates simple tasks to save time
- It is good practice to specify the shell you want the terminal to run the script in
  - `#!/bin/bash`



# Scope of Work

## Scope of Work

Pen testers need to protect themselves by establishing a clear set of rules for engagement:

- Contract or statement of work needs to be signed
- Review any existing security policies
- Ensure all local laws and regulations are followed
- Have an incident response plan in case of unexpected findings

# Client Security Policies

## **Acceptable Use Policy – What does it cover?**

The following needs to be taken into consideration:

- Personal use of company equipment
- Personal employee data on systems
- Ownership of data/rights on client systems
- Ownership of data/rights on company systems

# Protect the client

## **Protecting the client – What does that mean?**

The following needs to be taken into consideration:

- Any modifications must be previously approved in writing
- Establish which systems are mission critical of “off limits”
- Document any actions against systems

## Protect the client

- Document any changes or modifications so that they can be returned to their original configurations
- Ensure that any data that is uncovered remains protected using encryption (client and tester)
- Ensure any compromised systems require a form of authentication for access
  - Reverse connections
  - Login prompts
  - Certificates

## Protect the client

- All sensitive data or information gathered for a pen test report needs to be properly sanitized
  - Screenshots
  - Databases
  - Passwords
- All data needs to be destroyed once the test is complete and the report is submitted

## Protect the client

- If the pen tester finds any previous compromise to the systems being tested:
  - Record all actions taken (timestamped)
  - Gather all logs and any evidence of the intrusion
  - Report findings to the client
  - Invoke appropriate incident response

**Note:** Logs should be backed up prior to testing and not removed, cleared or modified unless specific authorization has been obtained in the contract or statement of work

# Environmental Analysis



# Network Infrastructure

Compromised systems can be used to:

- Scan for additional subnets
- Identify network routers/switches
- DNS Servers
- Identify network servers

# Network Infrastructure

Check for any services running on the compromised system

- Domain accounts
- Neighbor discovery
- VPN connections
- Video Surveillance

Check for installed software on the compromised system

# Network Infrastructure

Are there external services being used or third party vendors?

- Office 365
- Hosting
- IT Support
- Social Media

# Post-Exploit Activities

# Post-Exploit

Once a system has been exploited there are a few things to consider:

- How valuable is the data on the compromised system?
- Can persistent access be maintained?
- Can the system be used to elevate privileges?
- Can the system be used to further exploit the network?

## EoP: Escalation of Privilege

There are several techniques an attacker can use to elevate their privileges once they have a compromised a system

- Use a local exploit
- Upgrade to meterpreter shell

Goal is to bypass UAC on Windows and obtain system or admin level privileges

On Linux, root privileges are the goal

# Meterpreter

There are several techniques an attacker can use to elevate their privileges once they have a meterpreter session

- Use getsystem from within meterpreter to attempt to get system privileges
- getprivs can be used to try to turn on all the privileges for the current service
- Migrate to a process running with higher privileges
- Do a hashdump then attack the Administrator account
- Add another account with elevated privileges

# Meterpreter Commands

You can get a list of all the commands available in meterpreter by issuing the **help** command

```
meterpreter > help
```

Core Commands	
Command	Description
?	Help menu
background	Backgrounds the current session
bg	Alias for background
bgkill	Kills a background meterpreter script
bglist	Lists running background scripts
bgrun	Executes a meterpreter script as a background thread
channel	Displays information or control active channels
close	Closes a channel
detach	Detach the meterpreter session (for http/https)
disable_unicode_encoding	Disables encoding of unicode strings
enable_unicode_encoding	Enables encoding of unicode strings
exit	Terminate the meterpreter session
get_timeouts	Get the current session timeout values
guid	Get the session GUID
help	Help menu
info	Displays information about a Post module
irb	Open an interactive Ruby shell on the current session



## psexec

Module that is used to gain access to a system that the attacker has the password or hash for

- Allows the attacker use the actual username and password, or the username and the hash of the password
- Using the hash removes the need to spend time cracking the hash
- Once the attacker gets the Admin hash, they will likely have access to multiple machines

## psexec

- Allows you to compromise a system remotely if you have either the password, or hash, for an account
- We can use multi/handler and **freegame.exe** to get the hashes, then we can use psexec to establish a new meterpreter session
  - Allows you to connect at will
  - Multi/handler requires an action by the user
    - Running freegame.exe

Many of the activities a hacker performs to exploit a machine will leave traces in the event log

- System administrators are notorious for not looking at their event logs

**clearev** is a meterpreter tool that will wipe the event logs on the remote machine

- This can be a sign to an alert administrator that someone has attacked the machine
  - They still need to find out what the attacker did

# Sniffing

Once an attacker has a machine on the remote network, they can use it as a scanner

- meterpreter's sniffer tool can dump PCAP files to the attacking system for later analysis
- PCAP files should be saved with the .cap file extension

Sniffing from a remote machine is often better because it will likely have access to more internal networks

# Sniffer Options

## Sniffer Commands

=====

Command	Description
-----	-----
sniffer_dump	Retrieve captured packet data to PCAP file
sniffer_interfaces	Enumerate all sniffable network interfaces
sniffer_release	Free captured packets on a specific interface instead of downloading them
sniffer_start	Start packet capture on a specific interface
sniffer_stats	View statistics of an active capture
sniffer_stop	Stop packet capture on a specific interface

```
meterpreter > sniffer_interfaces
```

```
1 - 'WAN Miniport (Network Monitor)' ( type:3 mtu:1514 usable:true dhcp:false wifi:false )
2 - 'Intel(R) PRO/1000 MT Network Connection' ( type:0 mtu:1514 usable:true dhcp:false wifi:false )
3 - 'Intel(R) PRO/1000 MT Network Connection' ( type:0 mtu:1514 usable:true dhcp:false wifi:false )
```

# Pivoting

Pivoting refers to using an exploited machine as a staging point for further attacks

**autoroute** is a meterpreter tool that allows attackers to exploit dual-homed machines

- Computers with NICs on two different networks
- Sets up a route to the second network and passes the packets through
  - allows for scanning and attacking the second network

# Timestomp

- Timestomp is a meterpreter tool that allows an attacker to modify time related file attributes
  - Date Modified
  - Date Accessed
  - Date Created
- This information is often used during digital forensics to track an attack
  - Investigators find an obviously malicious file, then search for other files that were modified around the same time

## getgui

- Tool for creating remote desktop sessions
  - Allows an attacker to enable remote desktop on the target machine
  - Allows for the creation of user accounts with remote desktop privileges
    - Accounts don't show up on login screens or in the user access in control panel
- Has a built in feature that creates a script to remove all traces after it has been used



# More Useful Commands

- `getuid`
  - Get the user ID of the meterpreter sessions
- `migrate`
  - Migrate your meterpreter session to another process PID
- `set`, `unset`, `setg`, `unsetg` and `save`
  - Temporarily and globally setting options
  - **save** can be used in combination with `setg` to save state
- `eventvwr` (on Windows machine)
  - Open event viewer

# Troubleshooting Commands

## Stdapi: Networking Commands

=====

Command	Description
-----	-----
arp	Display the host ARP cache
getproxy	Display the current proxy configuration
ifconfig	Display interfaces
ipconfig	Display interfaces
netstat	Display the network connections
portfwd	Forward a local port to a remote service
resolve	Resolve a set of host names on the target
route	View and modify the routing table

# hashdump and run hashdump

In the previous lab we needed to have enough privileges associated with our exploit to have enough permissions to use hashdump

- There are two ways to get around this problem
  - You can migrate to a process with appropriate permissions
    - I make you do it this way in the lab to highlight the different privileges associated with different processes
  - If you used getsystem first, you could use the run command in combination with hashdump

<http://blog.cobaltstrike.com/2014/04/02/what-happens-when-i-type-getsystem/>

# getgui

## Tool for creating remote desktop sessions

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# Password Cracking

Pen testers will need to have their own curated password lists

Lists can be trimmed or appended depending on needs

- Password policies (>6 characters, etc.)
- **CeWL** adding organizational keywords

# Password Cracking

CrackStation.net has a 15GB (uncompressed) wordlist file:

<https://crackstation.net/crackstation-wordlist-password-cracking-dictionary.htm>



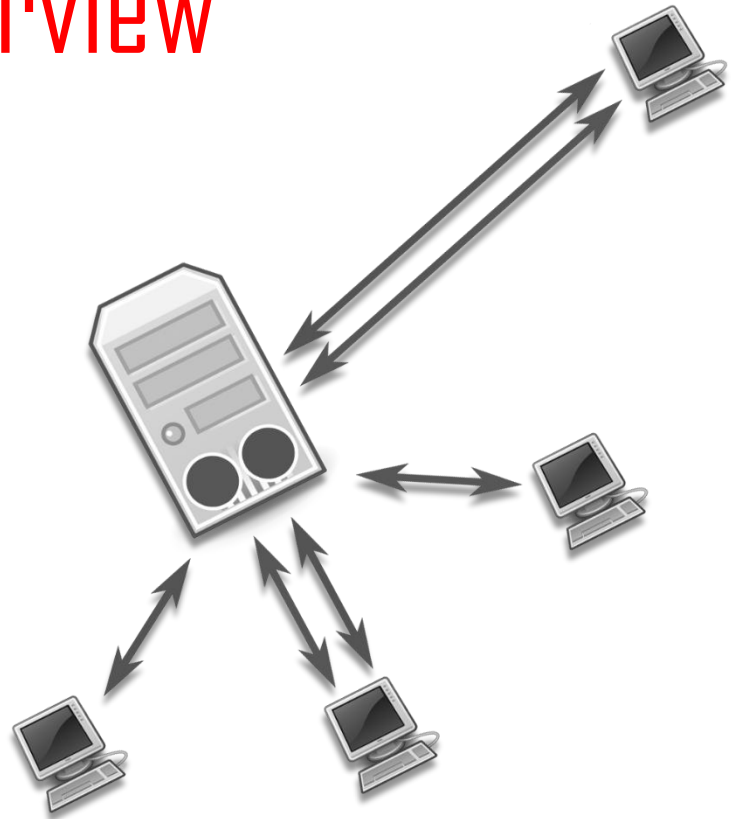
## CrackStation's Password Cracking Dictionary

I am releasing CrackStation's main password cracking dictionary (1,493,677,782 words, 15GB) for download.

### What's in the list?

The list contains every wordlist, dictionary, and password database leak that I could find on the internet (and I spent a LOT of time on this). It also contains every word in the Wikipedia databases (pages-articles, retrieved 2010, all languages) as well as lots of books from [Gutenberg](http://www.gutenberg.org). It also includes the passwords from some low-profile database breaches that were being sold in the underground y

# Lab 10 Overview



## Lab 10: Post-Exploit Activities

- Meterpreter
- **MS17-010:** EternalBlue
- Post Exploit
- Creating remote desktop sessions
- Event Viewer
- Timestomp
- Sniffing traffic from a compromised Dual Homed machine