Capstone Engagement

Assessment, Analysis, and Hardening of a Vulnerable System

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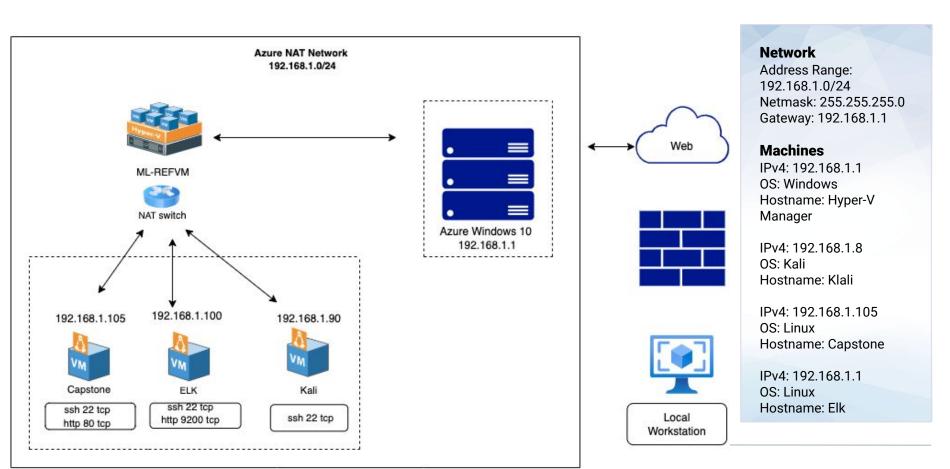
Blue Team: Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

Hardening: Proposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies



Red Team vs Blue Team

Network Topology



Red Team Security Assessment

Vulnerability Assessment

Insecure Passcode Brute Force on Web

Access

Reverse Shell

Nmap, Port Scanning

The assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in the target:

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Enabled Directory Listing	Allow us to review the lists of files and directories that exist on web server	 Got information on user Ashton on the company site. In addition, got other information pertaining the company about secret folder

insecure passcode

Upload the php shell

Meterpreter

machine

Access page with Ashton's username in addition to the the

Set up listener with msfvenom

The command Nmap to locate

open ports on the capstone

Allows us to access Ashton's

Leads us to find the hash for

Allows us to access the

Review files for clues/flag

Open ports - ie: Port 80

account

Ryan's account Secret Folder

company's server

Recon: Describing the Target

Nmap identified the following hosts on the network:

Hostname	IP Address	Role on Network
Elk	192.168.1.100	Monitoring Machine.
Kali	192.168.1.90	Attack Machine.
Capstone	192.168.1.105	Target webserver.
Hyper V Manager / Windows Host Machine	192.168.1.1	Virtualizes hardware into virtual servers.

Exploitation: Directory Listing

01

Tools & Processes

How did you exploit the vulnerability? Which tool (Nmap, etc.) or techniques (XSS, etc.) did you use?

- Command: nmap -sV 192.168.1.8/24
- Provides hosts on the network
- Locate open ports

02

Achievements

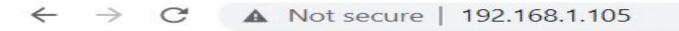
What did the exploit achieve? For example: Did it grant you a user shell, root access, etc.?

- Located files -> employee and company information
- Employee Ashton

03



Directory Listing Cont. ScreenShot



Index of /

Name	Last modified	Size Description
company_blog/	2019-05-07 18:2	23 -
company_folders/	2019-05-07 18:2	27 -
company_share/	2019-05-07 18:2	22 -
meet our team/	2019-05-07 18:3	34 -

Apache/2.4.29 (Ubuntu) Server at 192.168.1.105 Port 80

Directory Listing Cont. ScreenShot



Exploitation: Brute Force

01

Tools & Processes

How did you exploit the vulnerability? Which tool (Nmap, etc.) or techniques (XSS, etc.) did you use?

- Located Ashtons information
- Hydra against url path utilizing rockyou.txt to brute force login attempts
- Access using Ashton's username and insecure passcode

02

Achievements

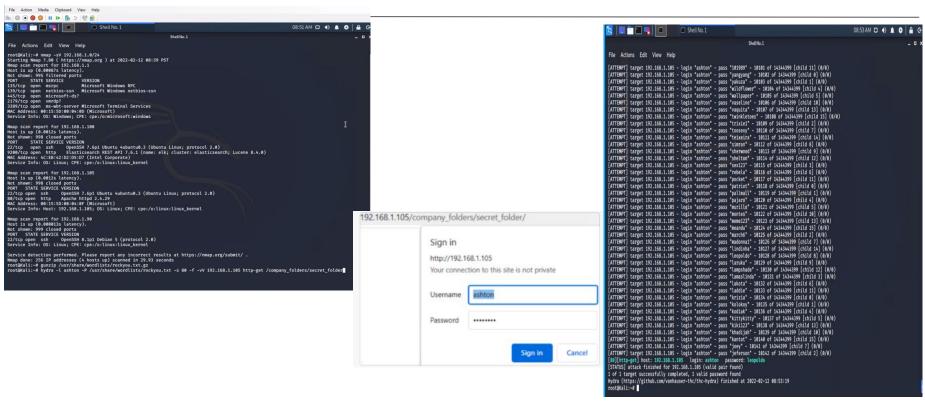
What did the exploit achieve? For example: Did it grant you a user shell, root access, etc.?

- Provided us with Ashton's passcode
- Allowed us to find the secret file
- Lead us to another employee's passcode

03



Brute Force Cont. ScreenShot



Exploitation: Reverse Shell

01

Tools & Processes

How did you exploit the vulnerability? Which tool (Nmap, etc.) or techniques (XSS, etc.) did you use?

- Command msfvenom to set up listening host on Kali Machine - Port 4444
- Command msfconsole on capstone machine to php reverse tcp shell payload
- Receiving host on IP192.168.1.105 port 4444

02

Achievements

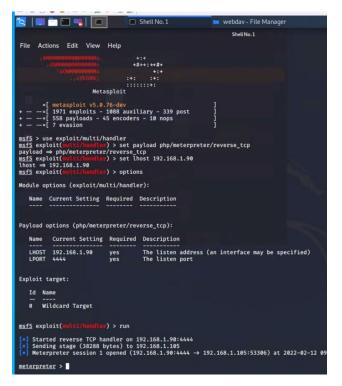
What did the exploit achieve? For example: Did it grant you a user shell, root access, etc.?

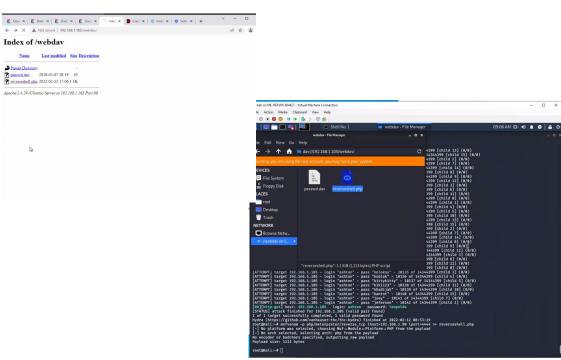
- Able to upload the script from file explorer to webday site
- Login in as Ryan using previously info - to exploit the shell
- Activated meterpreter in Kali machine
- Review files and find the flag

03



Reverse Shell Cont. Screenshot





Exploitation: Nmap Port Scanning

01

02

Tools & Processes

- Command Nmap -sV 192.168.1.0/24
- Allows us to scan any and all open ports on the networking pertaining to the set IP range

Achievements

- ☐ Learned IP address
 192.168.1.105 had port
 80 tcp version http
 running apache
- Used IP in browser to get to the website of the company





Nmap Port Scanning Cont. Screenshot

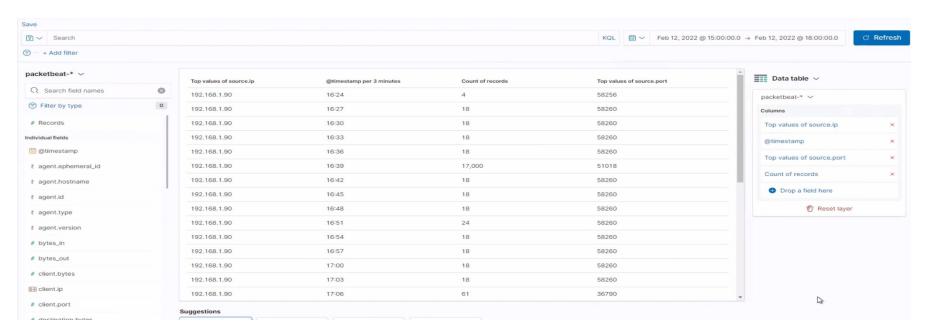
```
08:40 AM 🖂 🔞 🐧
File Actions Edit View Help
root@Kali:-# nmap -sV 192.168.1.8/24
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2022-02-12 08:39 PST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.1
Host is up (0.00087s latency).
Not shown: 995 filtered ports
PORT STATE SERVICE
                            Microsoft Windows RPC
139/tcp open nethios-ssn Microsoft Windows nethios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds?
2179/tcp open verdp?
3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server Microsoft Terminal Services
MAC Address: 88:15:50:88:84:80 (Microsoft)
Service Info: OS: Windows: CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows
Nmap scan report for 192,168,1,100
Host is up (0.0012s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
                     OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu Aubuntu8.3 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.8)
9200/tcp open http Elasticsearch REST API 7.6.1 (name: elk; cluster: elasticsearch; Lucene 8.4.0)
MAC Address: 4C:EB:42:D2:D5:D7 (Intel Corporate)
Service Info: OS: Limux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Nmag scan report for 192,168,1,185
Host is up (0.0012s latency).
Not shown: 998 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp open ssh CpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu8.3 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
80/tcp open http Apache httpd 2,4,29
MAC Address: 88:15:50:88:84:8F (Microsoft)
Service Info: Host: 192.168.1.185; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux kernel
Nmap scan report for 192.168.1.98
Host is up (0.000013s latency).
Not shown: 999 closed ports
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp open ssh OpenSSH 8.1p1 Debian 5 (protocol 2.0)
Service Info: OS: Linux: CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux kernel
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (4 hosts up) scanned in 29.93 seconds
root@Kali:-#
```

Blue Team Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan



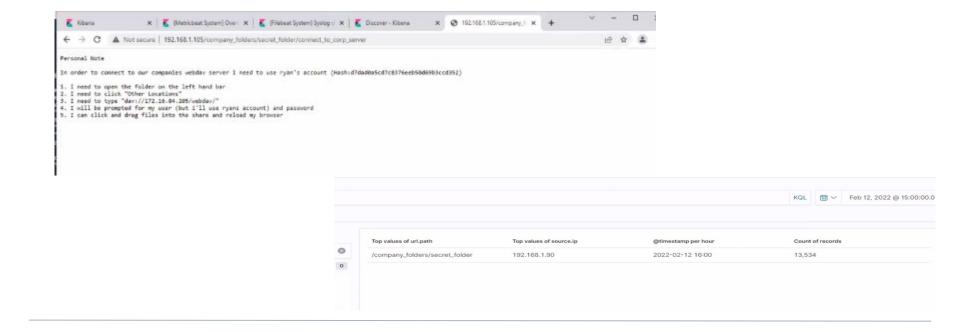
- What time did the port scan occur? 2/12/22 at 16:39
- How many packets were sent, and from which IP? 17 thousand packets sent from IP 192.168.1.90
- What indicates that this was a port scan? The several ports scanned in the seconds.



Analysis: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory



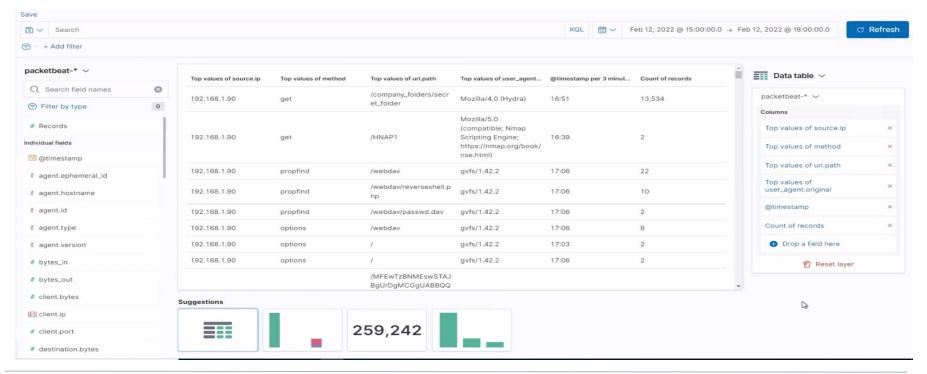
- What time did the request occur? 16:00 on 2.12.22
- How many requests were made? 13,534 request
- Which files were requested? What did they contain? Company's secret folder, Continued employee Ryan's information (passcode hash).



Analysis: Uncovering the Brute Force Attack



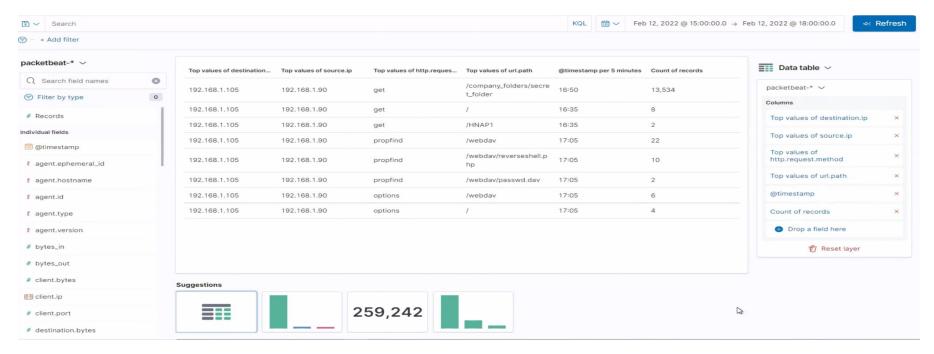
- How many requests were made in the attack? 13,534 requests
- How many requests had been made before the attacker discovered the password? 13,533 attempts



Analysis: Finding the WebDAV Connection



- How many requests were made to this directory? 40 request
- Which files were requested? Reverseshell.php and passwd.dav



Blue TeamProposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies

Mitigation: Blocking the Port Scan

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future port scans?

 Activate threshold or filter if traffic is detected from one source that is connecting to various ports

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

- □ The threshold should be set to >0 if source is coming from an IP besides the host's IP
- Any IP trying to access any closed ports should activate the filer or alert.

System Hardening

What configurations can be set on the host to mitigate port scans?

- Installing a firewall
- Closed unused/inactive ports
- Block ping requests
- ☐ Set Slunk on host for port scans

Describe the solution. If possible, provide required command lines.

- ☐ Set Filtering/alerts to watch the traffic
- Create inbound rules

Mitigation: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future unauthorized access?

By setting an alert to go off when access is attempted

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

The threshold should be >0, for all machines accessing it.

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block unwanted access?

☐ The directory should not allowed to exist on the server

Describe the solution. If possible, provide required command lines.

nano the etc/apache/httpd.conf and remove indexes in nano from options

Mitigation: Preventing Brute Force Attacks

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future brute force attacks?

 An alert can be issued if unauthorized attempts are made is from the server

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

Threshold set to >70 to allow a period of time for mistakes or forgotten passcodes.

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block brute force attacks?

- Set a limit on logins to a whitelist of IP address
- limit the number of unsuccessful attempts
- Require a number of letters and numbers to ensure stronger passcodes are set

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line(s).

 Set or configure policies on the server to limit the number of failed attempts

Mitigation: Detecting the WebDAV Connection

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future access to this directory?

 By blacklisting all external IP addresses that are outside the range of the server

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

□ The threshold should be set at >0 , and any attempts should set off the alert

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to control access?

By restricting accessibility to the shared folders, make sure folders are not accessible from the web, and setting a firewall block.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line(s).

■ Nano etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf

Mitigation: Identifying Reverse Shell Uploads

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future file uploads?

- ☐ Firewall to block any traffic to the shared folder ports
- By setting an alert for uploaded files and PUT requests are made

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?

- Any and all traffic on the above ports would trigger an alert
- Threshold should be set >0 and set alert when upload and PUT requests are made.

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block file uploads?

⊇ Set rule that any and all uploaded files are from the local source

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line.

- Nano etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf
- Deny external IP
- ☐ Allow host and approved IPs only
- Deny all PUT requests

