

# Assignment Report 1

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## Executive Summary

Bob, a professor of Computer Science, got an email from the Network Operations Center (NOC) at the University saying that his lab's server was infected with a worm -- the NOC determined this because of a huge spike in Internet traffic which occurred at 4 in the morning. Bob immediately shut it down and brought it in to be imaged, and doesn't think it was infected, but the University wants independent confirmation before they will put it back online. Bob mentioned the following account files are on the machine: 'bob', 'eric', 'kevin', 'peter' and 'takeda'.

The purpose of the examination is to find out whether the server was compromised or not. If it was compromised the questions are how / what happened and what needs to happen before the system is put back into service.

The examined image file shows the following major findings:

Each of the users' directories 'bob', 'eric', 'kevin' and 'takeda' contain a file called ".bash\_history". This file contains the history of the commands executed by the individual users and all of the users made commands on the 2010-01-04 around 18:00 CET. When viewing at the history of commands of the individual users, worth mention are the following:

1. Bob - shut down the system on the 2010-01-04 around 18:00 CET
2. Eric - made multiple logins and logouts of the system on the 2010-01-04, which might seem suspicious.
3. Takeda - extracted an eggdrop .tar file which is an IRC bot - described in detail in the Report Findings section.
4. Kevin - used a command to synchronize music at the 4th hour of the day, in other words, at 4 in the morning - every day. This causes a huge spike in Internet traffic.

All findings are further detailed in the section "Report Findings".

## Methodology

The examination was performed by loading and mounting the image from the command line. By browsing through the different files the examiner could see in the auth.log which files were modified as latest. Furthermore, the examiner performed the "chkrootkit" - which is a common security scanner which helps to search the local system for signs that it is infected with a "rootkit" (rootkit is a program which takes control over a computer without the user knowing about it). Later on, the examiner downloaded the image file and opened it with the software autopsy. This allowed the examiner to browse through the different files within a User Interface and view different time stamps more easily, which was not possible from the command line.

## Report Findings

An analysis was performed on the files of the different users which had access to the machine and are listed in the log file - meaning that they were logged in the system and made changes in the system shortly before Bob's shutdown. The findings will be shown in CET, but in the auth.log file, the time of modifications and access is with -9h offset. Explanation example: One file was modified on 2010-01-04 18:00:25 CET or visible in auth.log file modified on 2010-01-04 9:00:25 because of the -9h offset. The following are the different users:

- Bob

Bob's account shows 5 files, where only 1 was modified on 2010-01-04 18:00:25 CET. The file which shows the stated activity is: .bash\_history. The other four files are .bash\_logout .bashrc .profile .sudo\_as\_admin\_successful During the analysis of the file .bash\_history the examiner has found that it was modified on 2010-01-04 18:00:25 CET with the command:

sudo shutdown -h now

Bob noted in his statement that "He immediately shut it down and brought it in to be imaged". The command on the 2010-01-04 18:00:25 CET confirms Bob's statement, since this command shuts down all processes, turns off the CPUs and returns the control to a ROM monitor of the mainboard needing the user to press the power button to get a power supply.

- Eric

Eric's account shows 4 files, where only 1 was modified on 2010-01-04 17:57:47 CET. The file which shows the stated activity is: .bash\_history. The other three files are .bash\_logout .bashrc .profile During the analysis of the file .bash\_history the examiner has found that it was modified on 2010-01-04 17:57:47 CET with the following two commands alternately:

mutt

logout

Eric was logging in and out at within a 2-minute window starting at 17:56:06 CET and ending at 17:57:47 CET alternately. The examiner has found no further evidence of why this was done, but logging in and out does not cause a huge spike in Internet traffic.

- Kevin

Kevin's account shows 4 files and 3 directories, where 2 directories and 1 file were modified on 2010-01-04. Modified were in total 3, explained as follows:

1. ".ssh" directory contains files:

id\_rsa

id\_rsa.pub

Both of these files were modified on 2010-01-04 17:56:08 CET. These files are key-based logins which allow a more secure way of connecting between different machines than password-based authentication. The date of modification means therefore that they were created at that time.

2. "links" directory contains:

Multiple .mp3 files

Multiple .gif files - which are shown as deleted

One README file - which is shown as deleted

All these files were modified 2010-01-04 between 17:56:10 CET and 17:58:15 CET. The examiner has found that all these files were created during a very short 2 minutes window, which might cause traffic.

3. ".bash\_history" file was modified 2010-01-04 17:56:13 CET. During the analysis of the file .bash\_history the examiner has found that there are not countless commands, and therefore the examiner has decided to explain the entire flow of the commands entered by Kevin, which are visible in the ".bash\_history" file. Kevin entered several commands, where the examiner explains the flow of the commands as follows:

Kevin created a music directory and viewed a quick summary of every user that logged into the computer. He printed the user information to the console output and after that opened the music directory. After that, Kevin looked at what files are within the music directory and used the command "crontab -l" →

The crontab (short for "cron table") is a list of commands that are scheduled to run at regular time intervals on the computer system. The crontab command opens the crontab for editing and allows to add, remove, or modify scheduled tasks. Furthermore, Kevin used the commands: "echo "0 4 \* \* \* rsync -aq --del --rsh="ssh" -e "ssh -l kevin" "kevin.dynip.com:My\_Music/" "~/music"" | crontab -" → which is a command to synchronize music at the 4th hour of the day, in other words, at 4 a.m. Afterward, Kevin viewed which processes were currently running on the computer, generated his ssh keys, and created the links directory. Kevin used the command "find ../music -exec ln -s {} \;" → which searches for a directory tree of a file system and creates a hard link between files. A hard link creates an exact copy of a file → which explains why the .mp3 files are in the links directory and why it was modified on the 2010-01-04 even though the synchronization at 4 a.m. was scheduled for the music directory. Kevin later used commands to remove all .gif files and also the README file from the links directory and logs out of the system.

The other three files which show no activity are .bash\_logout .bashrc .profile

- Peter

No activity

- Takeda

Takeda's account shows 5 files, and 1 directory, where 2 files and 1 directory were modified on 2010-01-04. The files which show the stated activity are: `.bash_history` and `eggdrop1.6.19`. And the directory `eggdrop`. Modified were in total 3, explained as follows:

1. "eggdrop" directory → modified on 2010-01-04 17:58:14 CET, which means that it was extracted at the specified time. Eggdrop is the most advanced IRC robot available. An IRC bot is a set of scripts or an independent program that connects to Internet Relay Chat as a client, and so appears to other IRC users as another user. An IRC bot differs from a regular client in that instead of providing interactive access to IRC for a human user, it performs automated functions.

2. "eggdrop1.6.19" file was deleted at 2010-01-04 18:00:25 CET.

3. ".bash\_history" file was modified 2010-01-04

During the analysis of the file `.bash_history` the examiner has found that it was modified on 2010-01-04 17:58:15 CET. During the analysis of the file `.bash_history` the examiner has found that there are not countless commands, and therefore the examiner has decided to explain the entire flow of the commands entered by Takeda, which are visible in the `.bash_history` file. Takeda entered several commands, where the examiner explains the flow of the commands as follows:

First, Takeda views the current time, how long the system has been running, how many users are currently logged on, and the system load averages for the past 1, 5, and 15 minutes. Furthermore, Takeda also prints the name, version and other specifications about the operating system, and displays information about all network interfaces currently in operation. With the command `"tar xzf eggdrop1.6.19+ctcpfix.tar.gz"` Takeda extracts / uncompresses the tar file to the `eggdrop1.6.19` folder and enters the specified folder. Meaning of the commands `"./configure"` `"make"` and `"make install"` → The configure script is responsible for getting ready to build the software on a specific system and makes sure all of the dependencies for the rest of the build and install process are available. `"make"` is used to build the software. This runs a series of tasks defined in a Makefile to build the finished program from its source code. Now that the software is built and ready to run, the files can be copied to their final destinations. The `make install` command will copy the built program, and its libraries and documentation, to the correct locations. The command `"find`

eggdrop1.6.19 -delete" removes / deletes the eggdrop1.6.19 and after that Takeda logs out.

## Conclusion

After running the "chkrootkit" - which is a common security scanner - the output indicated that the system is not infected. Furthermore, after examining all the users' history of commands, the conclusion is that the system is not infected and the huge spike in Internet traffic which occurred at 4 in the morning was caused by Kevin's command to synchronize music at the 4th hour of the day, in other words, at 4 a.m.

## Exhibits/Appendices

### Users files and .bash\_history of commands

Bob's files with activity timestamps:

```
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home$ cd bob
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/bob$ ls -la
total 24
drwxr-xr-x 2 1000 1000 4096 Jan  4 2010 .
drwxr-xr-x 7 root root 4096 Jan  4 2010 ..
-rw----- 1 1000 1000  21 Jan  4 2010 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000 1000 220 Sep 12 2009 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000 1000 3115 Sep 12 2009 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000 1000  675 Sep 12 2009 .profile
-rw-r--r-- 1 1000 1000   0 Dec 23 2009 .sudo_as_admin_successful
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/bob$
```

Bob's .bash\_history with executed commands:

```
GNU nano 2.5.3      File: .bash_history
sudo shutdown -h now
```

Eric's files with activity timestamps:

```
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home$ cd eric
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/eric$ ls -la
total 24
drwxr-xr-x 2 1004 1004 4096 Jan  4 2010 .
drwxr-xr-x 7 root root 4096 Jan  4 2010 ..
-rw----- 1 1004 1004  576 Jan  4 2010 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 1004 1004 220 Mar  2 2009 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 1004 1004 3115 Mar  2 2009 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 1004 1004  675 Mar  2 2009 .profile
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/eric$
```

Eric's .bash\_history with executed commands:



```

GNU nano 2.5.3      File: .bash_history
mutt
logout
mutt
logout
mutt
logout
mutt
logout
mutt
logout
mutt

```

Peter's files with activity timestamps:

```

lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home$ cd peter
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/peter$ ls -la
total 20
drwxr-xr-x 2 1001 1001 4096 Jan  4  2010 .
drwxr-xr-x 7 root root 4096 Jan  4  2010 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 1001 1001  220 Mar  2  2009 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 1001 1001 3115 Mar  2  2009 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 1001 1001  675 Mar  2  2009 .profile
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/peter$ |

```

Peter's .bash\_history with executed commands:

```

GNU nano 2.5.3      File: .bash_history
|

```

Kevin's files with activity timestamps:

```

lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home$ cd kevin
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/kevin$ ls -la
total 36
drwxr-xr-x 5 1003 1003 4096 Jan  4  2010 .
drwxr-xr-x 7 root root 4096 Jan  4  2010 ..
-rw----- 1 1003 1003  337 Jan  4  2010 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 1003 1003  220 Mar  2  2009 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 1003 1003 3115 Mar  2  2009 .bashrc
drwxr-xr-x 2 1003 1003 4096 Jan  4  2010 links
drwxr-xr-x 2 1003 1003 4096 Jan  1  2010 music
-rw-r--r-- 1 1003 1003  675 Mar  2  2009 .profile
drwx----- 2 1003 1003 4096 Jan  4  2010 .ssh
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/kevin$ |

```

Kevin's .bash\_history with executed commands:



```
GNU nano 2.5.3      File: .bash_history
mkdir music
logout
w
id
ls -al
cd music
ls
cd ..
crontab -l
echo "0 4 * * * rsync -aq --del --rsh="ssh" -e "ssh -l kevin" "kevin.dynip.com:$
crontab -l
ps x
ssh-keygen
cat .ssh/id_rsa.pub
logout
mkdir links
cd links
find ../music -exec ln -s {} \;
ls
logout
cd links
ls -l
rm *.gif
ls -l
rm README
logout
```

Takeda's files with activity timestamps:

```
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home$ cd takeda
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/takeda$ ls -la
total 1036
drwxr-xr-x  3 1002 1002   4096 Jan  4  2010 .
drwxr-xr-x  7 root root   4096 Jan  4  2010 ..
-rw-r--r--  1 1002 1002    199 Jan  4  2010 .bash_history
-rw-r--r--  1 1002 1002    220 Mar  2  2009 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r--  1 1002 1002   3115 Mar  2  2009 .bashrc
drwxr-xr-x 10 1002 1002   4096 Jan  4  2010 eggdrop
-rw-r--r--  1 1002 1002 1024745 Jan  1  2010 eggdrop1.6.19+ctcpfix.tar.gz
-rw-r--r--  1 1002 1002    675 Mar  2  2009 .profile
lnuitsai@workbench:/images/sda1/home/takeda$ |
```

Takeda's .bash\_history with executed commands:

```
GNU nano 2.5.3      File: .bash_history
uptime
uname -a
fgrep takeda /etc/passwd
ifconfig
irssi
logout
tar xzf eggdrop1.6.19+ctcpfix.tar.gz
cd eggdrop1.6.19
./configure
make config
make
make install
cd ..
find eggdrop1.6.19 -delete
logout
```

Latest activity performed on 2010-01-04 by the different users:

[illegible]



[illegible]

```
Jan 4 08:57:44 server sshd[10655]: Accepted password for eric from 192.168.56.1 port 47410 ssh2
Jan 4 08:57:44 server sshd[10655]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session opened for user eric by (uid=0)
Jan 4 08:57:45 server sshd[10655]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session closed for user eric
Jan 4 08:57:46 server sshd[10717]: Accepted password for eric from 192.168.56.1 port 47411 ssh2
Jan 4 08:57:46 server sshd[10717]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session opened for user eric by (uid=0)
Jan 4 08:57:47 server sshd[10717]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session closed for user eric
Jan 4 08:58:15 server sshd[2531]: pam_unix(sshd:session): session closed for user takeda
Jan 4 09:00:01 server CRON[11303]: pam_unix(cron:session): session opened for user root by (uid=0)
Jan 4 09:00:01 server CRON[11305]: pam_unix(cron:session): session opened for user root by (uid=0)
Jan 4 09:00:01 server CRON[11303]: pam_unix(cron:session): session closed for user root
Jan 4 09:00:03 server CRON[11305]: pam_unix(cron:session): session closed for user root
Jan 4 09:00:19 server login[2207]: pam_unix(login:session): session opened for user bob by LOGIN(uid$
Jan 4 09:00:25 server sudo:      bob : TTY=tty1 ; PWD=/home/bob ; USER=root ; COMMAND=/sbin/shutdown$
```