Vulnerability, Threat, and Risk



Attributes of Threat Actors

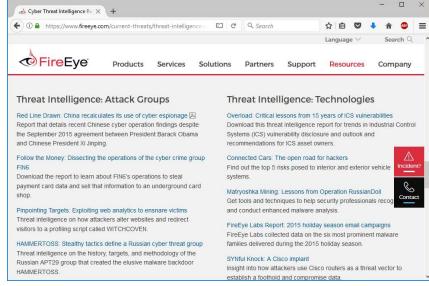
- Known threats versus adversary behaviors
- Internal/external
- Intent/motivation
 - Maliciously targeted versus opportunistic
 - Accidental/unintentional
- Level of sophistication
 - Resources/funding
 - Adversary capability levels

Hackers, Script Kiddies, and Hacktivists

- The "Lone Hacker"
 - White hats versus black hats versus gray hats
 - Authorized versus non-authorized versus semi-authorized
- Script kiddies
- Hacker teams and hacktivists

State Actors and Advanced Persistent Threats

- State-backed groups
 - Attached to military/secret services
 - Highly sophisticated
- Advanced Persistent Threat (APT)
- Espionage and strategic advantage
- Deniability
- False flag operations



Screenshot used with permission from fireeye.com.

Criminal Syndicates and Competitors

- Criminal syndicates
 - Operate across legal jurisdictions
 - Motivated by criminal profit
 - Can be very well resourced and funded
- Competitors
 - Cyber espionage
 - Combine with insider threat

Insider Threat Actors

- Malicious insider threat
 - Has or has had authorized access
 - Employees, contractors, partners
 - Sabotage, financial gain, business advantage
- Unintentional insider threat
 - Weak policies and procedures
 - Weak adherence to policies and procedures
 - Lack of training/security awareness
 - Shadow IT

Attack Surface and Vectors

- Attack surface
 - Points where an attacker can discover/exploit vulnerabilities in a network or application
- Vectors
 - Direct access
 - Removable media
 - Email
 - Remote and wireless
 - Supply chain
 - Web and social media
 - Cloud

