

CPR E 431

BASICS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM SECURITY

Security Auditing, Legal and Ethical Aspects

Security Auditing



Video Summary

- Auditing Physical Access
- Protecting Audit Trail Data
- Windows Event Categories
- Unix System Log
- Audit Review and Analysis
- SIEM System

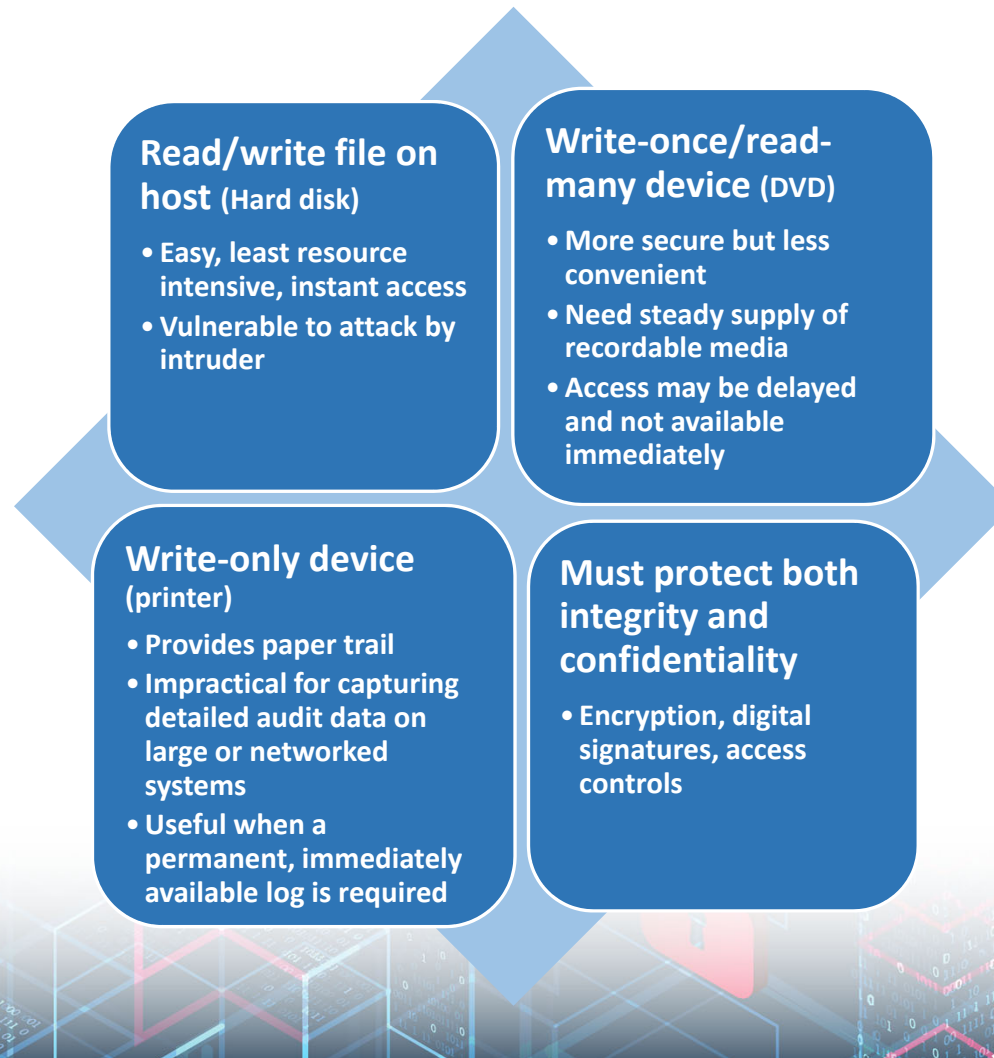


Physical Access Audit Trails

- Generated by equipment that controls physical access
 - Card-key systems, alarm systems
- Sent to central host for analysis and storage
- Data of interest:
 - Date/time/location/user of access attempt
 - Both valid and invalid access attempts
 - Attempts to add/modify/delete physical access privileges
 - May send violation messages to personnel



Protecting Audit Trail Data



Windows Event Log

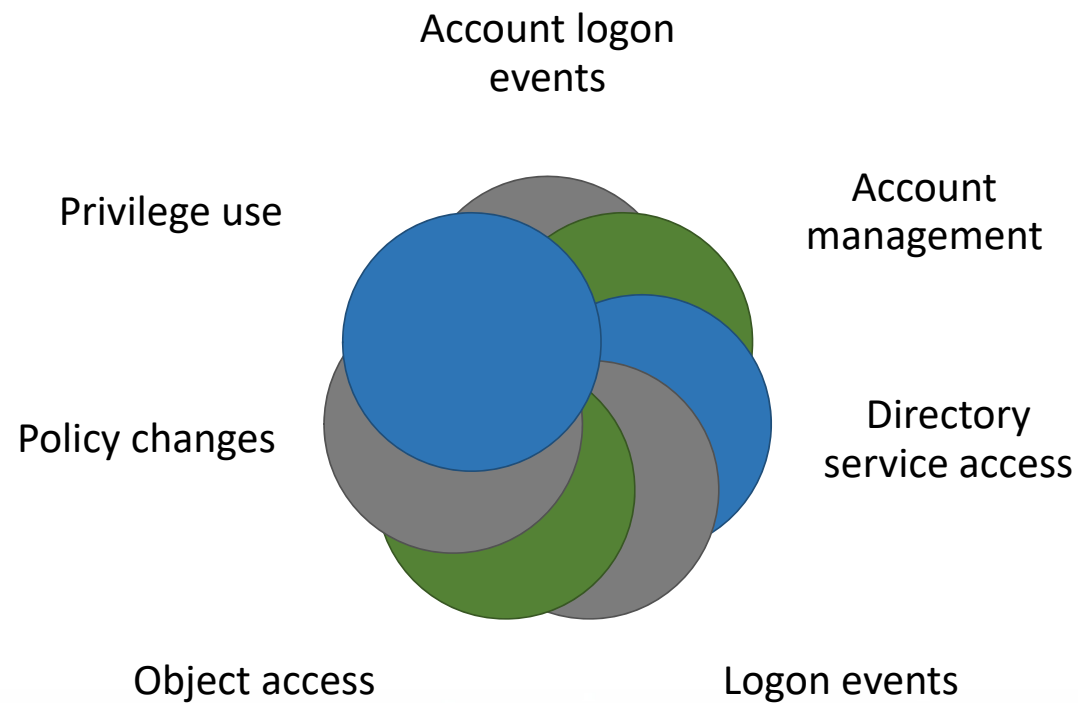
➤ Three types of event logs:

- System: system related apps and drivers (installed system services)
- Application: user-level apps
- Security: This event log is for exclusive use of the Windows Local Security Authority

```
Event Type:      Success Audit
Event Source:    Security
Event Category:  (1)
Event ID:        517
Date:            3/6/2006
Time:            2:56:40 PM
User:            NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer:        KENT
Description:     The audit log was cleared
Primary User Name:  SYSTEM      Primary Domain:  NT AUTHORITY
Primary Logon ID:  (0x0,0x3F7)   Client User Name: userk
Client Domain:     KENT         Client Logon ID: (0x0,0x28BFD)
```

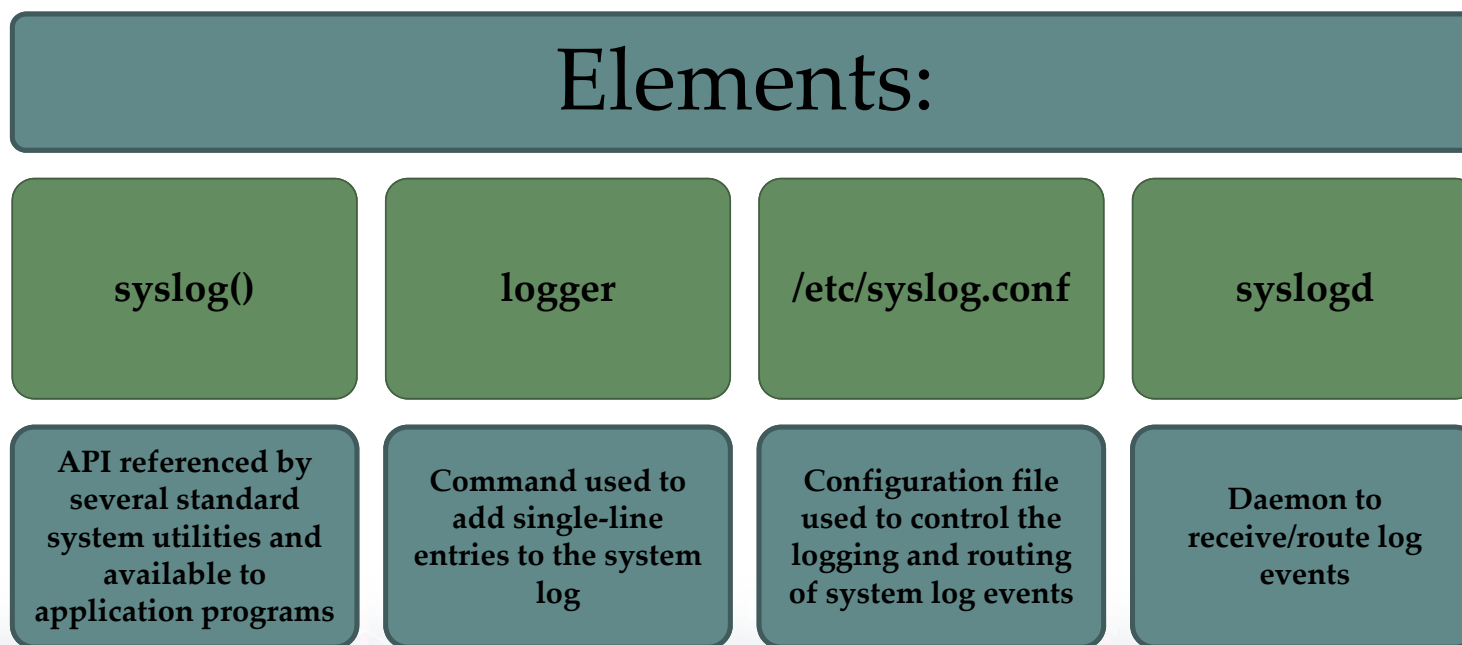
Example of data exported from a Windows system event log

Windows Event Categories



UNIX Syslog

- UNIX's general-purpose logging mechanism
 - Found on all UNIX / Linux variants



Syslog Service

Basic service provides:

A means of capturing relevant events

A storage facility

A protocol for transmitting syslog messages from other machines to a central machine that acts as a syslog server

Extra add-on features may include:

Robust filtering (priority)

Log analysis

Event response

Alternative message formats

Log file encryption

Database storage

Rate limiting of syslog messages (maximum limit)

Syslog Protocol

- A transport protocol allowing hosts to send IP event notification messages to syslog servers
 - Provides a very general message format
 - Allowing processes and applications to use suitable conventions for their logged events

```
Mar 1 06:25:43 server1 sshd[23170]: Accepted publickey for server2 from  
172.30.128.115 port 21011 ssh2  
Mar 1 07:16:42 server1 sshd[9326]: Accepted password for murugiah from  
10.20.30.108 port 1070 ssh2  
Mar 1 07:16:53 server1 sshd[22938]: reverse mapping checking getaddrinfo for  
ip10.165.nist.gov failed - POSSIBLE BREAKIN ATTEMPT!  
Mar 1 07:26:28 server1 sshd[22572]: Accepted publickey for server2 from  
172.30.128.115 port 30606 ssh2  
Mar 1 07:28:33 server1 su: BAD SU kkent to root on /dev/tty2  
Mar 1 07:28:41 server1 su: kkent to root on /dev/tty2
```

Types of Audit Trail Analysis

Audit trails can be used in multiple ways

- This depends in part on when done

Possibilities include:

- Audit trail review after an event
 - Triggered by event to diagnose cause and remediate
 - Focuses on the audit trail entries that are relevant to the specific event
- Periodic review of audit trail data
 - Review bulk data to identify problems and behavior
- Real-time audit analysis
 - Part of an intrusion detection function

Audit Review

➤ Audit review capability provides administrator with information from selected audit records

- Actions of one or more users
- Actions on a specific object or resource
- Actions on a specific system/security attribute

➤ May be filtered by time/source/frequency



Approaches to Data Analysis

Basic alerting

- Indicate interesting type of event has occurred

Baselining

- Define normal versus unusual events/patterns
- Compare with new data to detect changes
- Thresholding is the identification of data that exceed a particular baseline value

Windowing

- Detection of events within a given set of parameters

Correlation

- Seeks relationships among events

SIEM Systems

- Software is a centralized logging software package similar to, but much more complex than, syslog
- Provide a centralized, uniform audit trail storage facility and a suite of audit data analysis programs
- **There are two general configuration approaches:**
 - Agentless
 - SIEM server receives data from the individual log generating hosts without needing to have any special software installed on those hosts
 - Agent-based
 - An agent program is installed on the log generating host to perform event filtering and aggregation and log normalization for a particular type of log, and then transmit the normalized log data to a SIEM server, usually on near-real-time basis for analysis and storage



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