Penetration testing is a series of activities undertaken to identify and exploit security vulnerabilities. It helps confirm the effectiveness of the security measures that have been implemented. This paper provides an overview of penetration testing it discsusses the benefits, the strategies and the methodology of conducting penetration testing. The methology of penetration testing included phases:test prepration,test and test analysis. The test phases involves the following steps: inform .This paper further illustrates how to app this methodology to conduct penetration testing on two example web applications

Keywords

Security Testing Vulnerability Assessment,Penetration Testing, Web Application Penetration Testing

1.INTROUCTION

Security is one of the Major issues of Information Systems. The growing Connectivity Computers Through the internet, The increasing extensibility of Systems, and the unbridled growth of the size and Complexity of the systems have made software security a bigger now than in the past .Further more it is a business imperative to adequately protect an organization information assets by following a comprehensive, and structured approach to provide protection from the risks an organization might face .In an Attempt to solve the security problem and comply with the manded security regulations, Security experts have developed various security assurance methods including proof of correctness, layered design, Software engineering environments and penetration testing.

Penetration testing is a comprehensive method to test the complete, Integrated, Operational, and trusted Computing base that Consist of hardware, Software and people. The Process involves an active analysis of the System for any potential Vulnerabilities, Including poor or improper system configuration, hardware and software flaws, and operational weakness in the process or technical countermeasures.

Penetration testing is different from security functional testing. The latter demonstrates the correct