Brian Sniffen

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Recent Employment

CHIEF ARCHITECT & SENIOR DIRECTOR, Information Security, *Akamai Technologies* 2008–present

Hired to implement "Plan B," a vision of a research-based backstop to a traditional network-admin security team. By 2010, delivered results sufficient to replace the traditional team with an applied research team. We've hired for a long-term view and (typically) a background outside IT security—emphasizing fields with a strong Safety Engineering culture (Chem. Eng., Aero-Astro), or an adversarial focus (e.g., veterans). In 2016, that team is responsible for:

- Safety: Set Akamai's incident response, train first responders, and engage directly with crises. We did the work in 2012 and 2013 that let Akamai survive 2014 (Heartbleed, Shellshock, etc.) without trauma.
- Cryptography: Centralized crypto and specialized security engineering, leading re-investment in cryptographic excellence after a period of benign neglect.
- Debt Reduction: Technical leadership of the "severe vulnerability" process, a board-supervised, CEO-managed investment in serious technical debts across the company. Twelve of the top twenty actionable debts are mitigated or better, since 2013.
- Product & Platform Architecture: security architecture team reviewing new products, including bringing that team from CMM1 work coordination by e-mails and a chat system to CMM3 publication of professional reviews that have become the go-to resource for a technical overview across the company.
- Compliance: Healing a broken and burned out team. Company myth says we had push-button ISO 17799 assessments in 2006, but this had rotted by 2010. After two years of intense training, motivation, and re-organization, we have mature processes for assessments against PCI-DSS, HIPAA/HITRUST, ISO 27002, Sarbanes-Oxley, and FedRAMP. SOC2 is underway.

LEAD RESEARCHER, Secure Technology Solutions, *MITRE Corporation* 2003–2008

Designed and implemented a variety of security tools and programs for government sponsors, managed teams of up to 10 people on tasks of up to 4 full-time equivalents. Coordinated with remote contributors and sponsors while anticipating sponsor's future and inarticulate needs. Principal technical reference for trusted computing technology (TPMs). Publications are at `http://www.evenmere.org/~bts/#papers`

SECURITY ENGINEER, Systems Engineering, *Akamai Technologies* 2000–2002

Selected Skills & Conversation Topics

legend: ●superior, ◕current, ◑rusty, ○nascent/lapsed

comms	●writing, ◕editing, ●teaching, ●speaking
management	●walking around, ●one on ones, ●listening, ◕remote
lanaguages	●Haskell, ●Python, ◑OCaml, ◑C, ○C++, ◕Bash, ◑LATEX
natural languages	●American English, ◑Latin, ○Greek (Attic, Koine), ○Hebrew
web tech	◑XML, ◕HTML, ◑CSS, ◑SQL, ◑JS, ◕DNS, ●HTTP, ●TLS, ◕SMTP
tools	●git, ◕p4, ●GNU Make, ◕autotools, ◑CPSA, ◑Alloy, ●Emacs, ◕vi
network	●IPv4, ◑IPv6, ◕TCP, ◕UDP
topics	●board games, ◕amateur radio, ●modernist cooking, ◕cognition, ●conflict, ●planetary scale computing
authors	R. Coram, J. Boyd, A. Grove, N. Leveson, V. Rao

Patents

- Appraising systems with zero knowledge proofs; US 8422683 B2, US 8750520 B2
- Registry of modular services and a method for automatically selecting an appropriate service to provide particular logical guarantees; US 8300788 B2
- Attestation architecture and system; US 9276905 B2

Selected Talks & Publications

See `https://evenmere.org/~bts/#papers` and `https://evenmere.org/~bts/#talks`.

Education

Scientiae Baccalaureus, Computer Science and Engineering, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology* 2000

Plus continuing coursework on modern cryptography, mostly from Silvio Micali. Thesis: *Trust Economies in the Free Haven Project*, which informed early decisions in the Tor privacy-protecting network system.