CIST 3381: Information Assurance and Security

Spring 2022

Reflection: Lab 5

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1. **You are working with Security Consulting as its security administrator. Your manager, Gloria Petrelli, has asked you to research network security scanners - Nessus and NMAP. Based on your research, write a report** 
   * **Comparing NMAP and Nessus.**
   * **How is Nessus useful for attackers and defenders?**

*(Minimum 200 words)*

Nmap and Nessus are very good and reliable scanners to use to scan a network. Nmap is an open source tool used to scan networks. Which is very popular in the cyber security field. Nessus is mostly used as an IT infrastructure vulnerability assessment tool. Both of these applications provide port scanning. Nessus is able to vulnerability scripts against systems while Nmap can not do this. Nessus is provided to both communities and professionals as a cost. But Nmap is completely free to install and use. Both of these tools are very easy to use. Nessus uses a GUI and Nmap uses both a GUI and command line to execute commands. Nessus is a very useful tool for both attackers and defenders. This tool is able to not only scan networks to find vulnerabilities but it has the ability to initiate attacks. For a tool to be able to do both scanning and attacking is very helpful for security companies. For defenders this tool can come in handy for defending your security. You can use this application to scan your own network in order to find possible vulnerabilities. This can help assist in increasing your security at the company. Once you are able to identify the vulnerabilities you have in your system you can take the proper steps to fix these patches.

1. **Reflect on your experience in this lab.** *(Read “Writing Your Lab Reflection”, available in the Left Panel).* *Minimum 200 words*

This lab was very knowledgeable and also a lot of fun. Going through this lab helped not only me but the rest of the class get hands-on experience on another pen testing tool. This tool was very cool and conducting the attack was a great experience. Being able to conduct a successful attack on a system is not only a great experience. But an amazing feeling to accomplish like this. This lab also definitely helped me confirm my decision to study in this field. This tool was very easy to install. Also it was extremely easy to use. In a matter of minutes I was able to fully understand how to use it to conduct an attack. After completing the lab it helped me understand the potential impact this tool would have on the attacking and defending side of security. For attacking this tool can be used to not only scan networks but implement attacks on a target. This tool can also be used to check for vulnerabilities on your own network to detect possible vulnerabilities you have. Doing this lab was a great experience.

**Deliverable:**

**Write and Save the responses in this file. Submit the file**