# Capstone Engagement Assessment, Analysis, and Hardening of a Vulnerable System

### **Table of Contents**

This document contains the following sections:

01 Network Topology

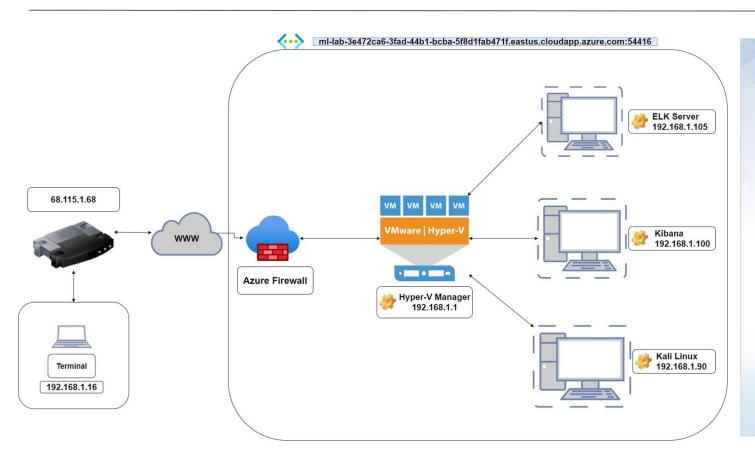
Red Team: Security Assessment

03 Blue Team: Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

Hardening: Proposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies



## **Network Topology**



### Network

Address Range: 192.168.1.0/24

Netmask: 255.255.255.0

Gateway: 10.0.0.1

### **Machines**

IPv4: 192.168.1.1 OS: Windows 10

Hostname: ML-REFVM-

684427

IPv4: 192.168.1.105

OS: Linux

Hostname: Capstone

IPv4: 192.168.1.100

OS: Linux Hostname: ELK

IPv4: 192.168.1.90 OS: Kali Linux

Hostname: Kali

# Red Team Security Assessment

# **Recon: Describing the Target**

### Nmap identified the following hosts on the network:

Hostname	IP Address	Role on Network
ML-RefVm-684427	192.168.1.1	NAT Switch
Elk Server	192.168.1.100	Log Manager and Visualization
Capstone	192.168.1.105	Web Server and Final Target
Kali Linux	192.168.1.90	Red Team Platform

### **Vulnerability Assessment**

### The assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in the target:

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Apache 2.4.29 Directory Listing Enabled	A simple enumeration scan reveals the entire file structure of the site with indexed files.	Quickly map points of interest and shows what files are available to be investigated
WebDav Vulnerability	WebDav is essentially an FTP service.	WebDav can allow an actor with stolen credentials to upload and download resources directly.
Unsanitized txt file hosted on-site	Ashton.txt specifically refers to a hidden directory on the site.	Knowing that the hidden directory exists the attacker can put all of their energy into one target.
No password lockout policy	There is no lockout if an incorrect password is entered after a set amount of attempts.	Using Hydra against the secret folder revealed the users password.

### **Exploitation: Apache Directory Listing**

01

Tools & Processes
Using nmap with flags such
as the -sS -O and -A I found a
wealth of information and
targets. Together with 'nmap
-v --script /root/hacking/httpenum.nse 192.168.1.105'
revealed the webdav
application.

02

### **Achievements**

I was able to locate the .txt file for ashton revealing the secret folder.



```
THE CONTROL OF THE CONTROL AND THE CONTROL OF THE C
```

```
PORT STATE SERVICE
80/tcp open http
http-enum:
/: Root directory w/ listing on 'apache/2.4.29 (ubuntu)'
[__/webday/: Potentially interesting folder (401 Unauthorized)
MAC Address: 00:15:50:00:04:0F (Microsoft)
```

```
### Company of a first f
```

# **Exploitation: No Password Lockout Policy**

01

**Tools & Processes** 

Knowing that the secret directory existed and knowing that Ashton was the page admin I used Hydra to attempt to bruteforce the password.

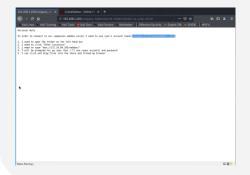
02

### **Achievements**

Hydra was able to crack the password and I gained access to the secret Directory. Once in I found a .txt Document detailing how to access the Webdav server. The user name of Ryan and a hashed copy of his password were also in the file.



```
| April | Apri
```



### **Exploitation: WebDay File Sharing**

01

Tools & Processes
After obtaining Ryans
hashed Password I used
crackedstation.com and was
able to obtain the plain text
password. Using this I used
Cadaver to connect to the
Webdav server and was able
to upload a reverse shell.

02

Achievements
I was able to generate a
reverse shell with full access
to the Webdav contents.

03

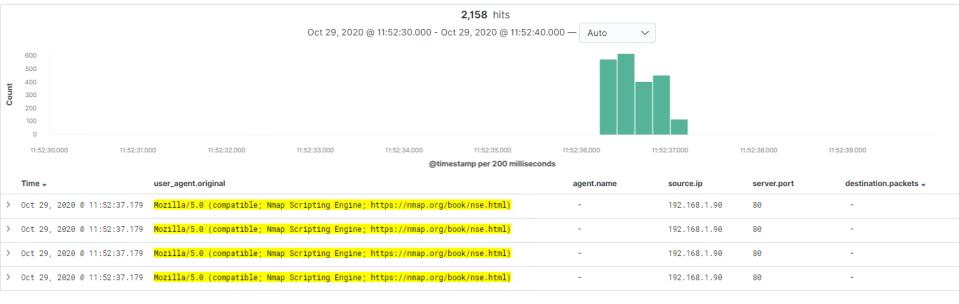


# Blue Team Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

### **Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan**



- What time did the port scan occur?
- How many packets were sent, and from which IP?
- What indicates that this was a port scan?



# Analysis: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory



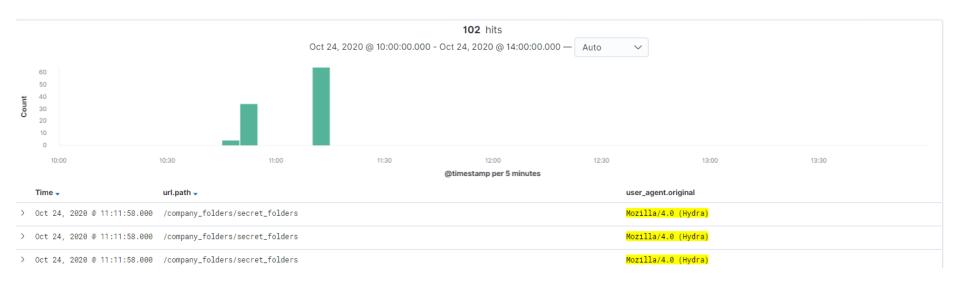
- What time did the request occur? How many requests were made?
- Which files were requested? What did they contain?



### **Analysis: Uncovering the Brute Force Attack**



- How many requests were made in the attack?
- How many requests had been made before the attacker discovered the password?



### **Analysis: Finding the WebDAV Connection**



- How many requests were made to this directory?
- Which files were requested?



# Blue Team Proposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies

### Mitigation: Blocking the Port Scan

### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future port scans?

A port ping and syn alarm can be set when the requests exceed more than 3 per second across multiple ports from the same originating IP.

### **System Hardening**

What configurations can be set on the host to mitigate port scans?

- 1. Drop incoming Ping request Packets.
- 2. Implement a CMS Manager to deny ping sweeps and port scans.

### Mitigation: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory

### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future unauthorized access?

Alert SOC whenever an unknown IP attempts to access the directory.

### System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block unwanted access?

- 1. Whitelist authorized internal IP's and explicitly deny all others.
- 2. Set-up two-factor authentication
- 3. Scrub all public facing documents for any mention of secret directories or proprietary company information.

### Mitigation: Preventing Brute Force Attacks

### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future brute force attacks?

Alert SOC when the number of failed logins exceeds 3, also alert SOC if the time between attempts is less than 5 seconds.

### System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block brute force attacks?

- 1. Enable user agent blocking from known Hydra sources.
- 2. Enable account lockout after 5 failed login attempts.
- 3. Enable account login delay timer between failed attempts.

### Mitigation: Detecting the WebDAV Connection

### Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future access to this directory?

Alert SOC when an IP outside of the Whitelist is attempting to access the WebDav Service.

Alert the SOC of any file upload(s) originating from outside the Corporate Network.

### System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to control access?

- 1. Enable Two-factor Authentication
- 2. Deny access by IP's outside of the network.

### Mitigation: Identifying Reverse Shell Uploads

### **Alarm**

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future file uploads?

Alert SOC if any attempt is made to upload files from outside the Corporate Network.

### **System Hardening**

What configuration can be set on the host to block file uploads?

- Deny uploading of .php files.
- 2. Deny uploads from IP's outside the Corporate Network.

