

CMSC 491/791 Active Cyber Defense HW 4

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Due: October 2, 2019 at 7:00pm

Setup:

-Download a Windows Server 2008 .iso file from the following website:

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=5023>

-Once you have done this, install Windows Server 2008 in VirtualBox.

Install Active Directory Domain Services on the server, including the other supplemental services required (DNS, etc).

-Download Mimikatz from:

<https://github.com/gentilkiwi/mimikatz/releases>

Questions:

- 1) Create a group policy object which will enforce the following policies: (16 pts)**
 - a) Enforce a minimum password length of 8 characters**
 - b) Prohibit access to the control panel**
 - c) Prevent windows from storing LanMAN (LM) hashes**
 - d) Disable SMBv1**

Export the group policy object as a file and attach it to your homework submission.

- 2) For each of the four policy requirements from the previous question, explain in a sentence or two why that policy helps increase security. (16 pts)**
 - By enforcing a minimum password length, makes it harder for a password to be brute forced.
 - By prohibiting access to the control panel, it makes it harder for an attacker to change settings on the users machine.
 - By preventing LM from storing hashes, it protects it from the weakness of the LM hashing. By disabling it, windows will be forced to use NT hash which is stronger.

-By disabling SMBv1, it reduces the vulnerabilities that were found and exploited with the SMBv1 protocol. An example of an exploit using the vulnerability is the wanacry ransomware.

3) **In your own words, explain the difference between a forest and a domain. (8 pts)**

A forest is a group of domains that are connected together and share information

A domain is the name of the local network to connect to the group of computers

4) **What is the process name for PID 4? Describe what this process does. What happens if you kill PID 4? (10 pts)**

PID4 = System

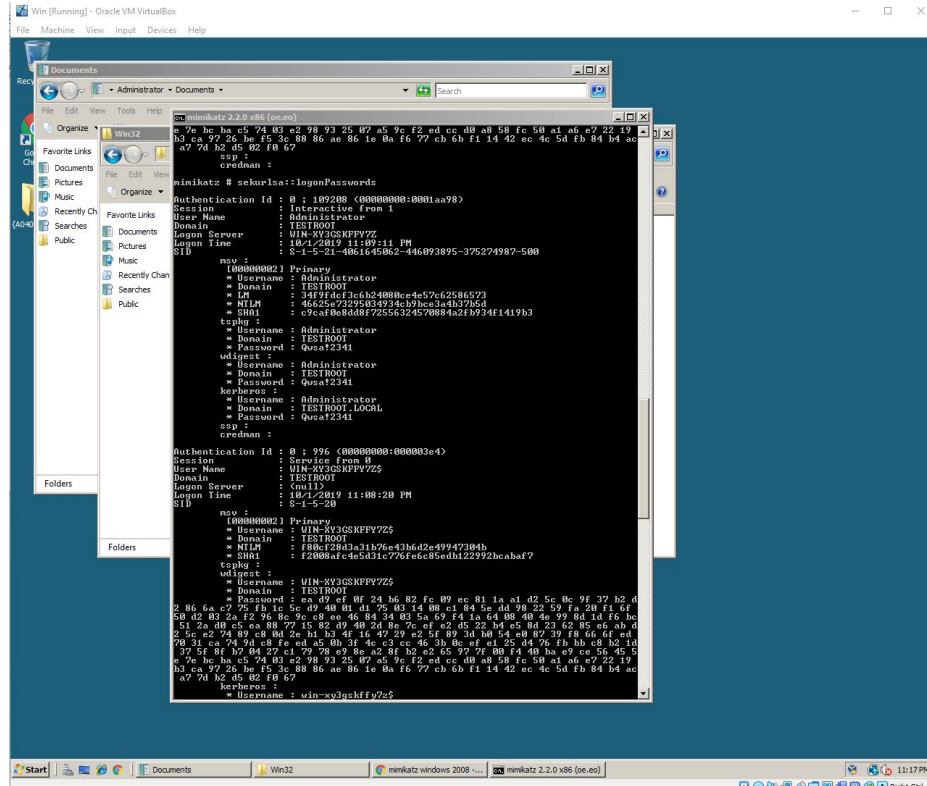
Trying to kill PID4 causes an error in which PID4 can't be terminated due to access restrictions.

5) **Which registry key stores a list of every website you've typed in internet explorer? How did you find this information? (10 pts)**

HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Internet Explorer\TypedURLs

I found this information by looking at the windows registry of the current user. Since I was looking for internet explorer, I looked for the IE, then looked through the registry until I found the key that stored the websites.

6) **Run the mimikatz tool on your server as Administrator. Include a screenshot of the results. Answer the following questions: (15 pts)**



a) **What impact could a tool like this have on the security of an entire enterprise network?**

A tool like this can compromise the network as an admin password can easily be found and used to get into the network.

b) **What was introduced in Windows versions starting with 8.1 to make these types of attacks more difficult?**

Passwords are no longer stored in memory making it harder for these attacks.

c) **What is the underlying process type which makes this protection work?**

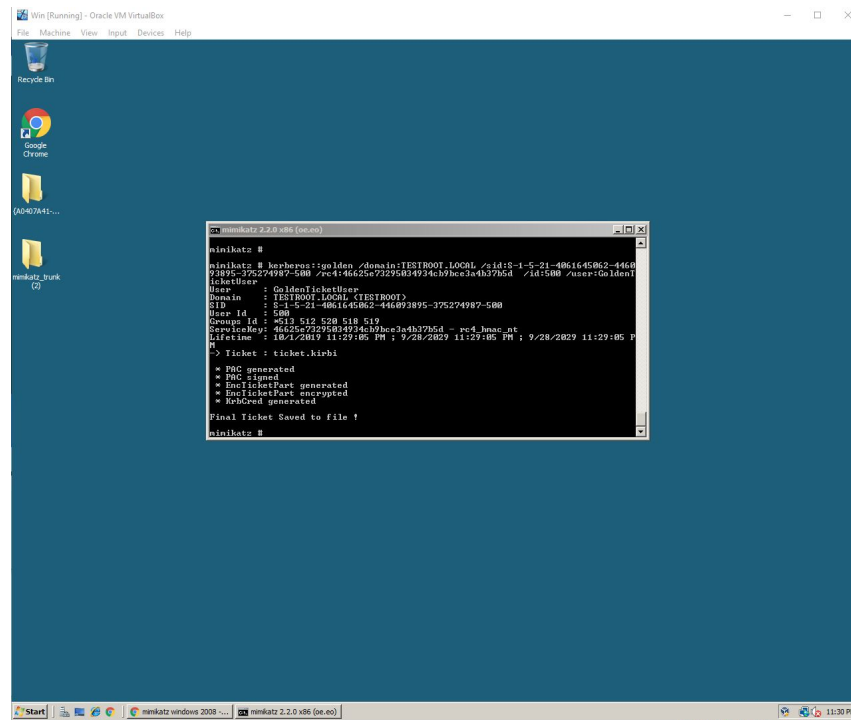
Since mimikatz scrapes the memory of a computer, by moving the passwords off of memory, the passwords are now encrypted and unable to be seen without decrypting them first.

7) **What is the difference between a golden ticket and a silver ticket in the context of active directory? (10 pts)**

A golden ticket is a ticket that is given by the ticket domain controller, but is actually a forged ticket. So it allows an owner of this ticket to move around anywhere on a system as the system assumes that a ticket from the controller is always valid.

A silver ticket is a forged ticket that is given by the ticket granting server.

- 8) Install a golden ticket into your VM's Active Directory using mimikatz or your choice of tools. Provide a screenshot and describe what you did to install the golden ticket. (15 pts)



To create a golden ticket, mimikatz has its own tool in which all it needs is the domain you wish to create the ticket for, the SID of the user, the password hash of the admin, and lastly name you want to be seen as in the system. Conveniently, most of the information mimikatz can grab. So its mostly just taking the information and running the command to get the ticket made.