Drive Destruction and Data Recovery

Truc L. Huynh, Master of Science in Computer Science

Purdue University Fort Wayne

Drive Destruction and Data Recovery

# Drive Destruction

Drives often destroy at the end of a drive or storage media's life span. There are a few methods to ensure data can’t be recorded from drives and removable media such as drilling holes through spinning disk drive platters, disassembly, and drive wiping using software to attempt to ensure that data cannot be obtained from the drive.

## Commercial Drive Destruction1

According to (1), third parties companies provide hard drive destruction such as shredding or crushing media before the pieces that remain are disposed of. Even with the ability to physically destroy the drive on-site, high-confidential organizations may not find it secure enough for their purpose.

## Data Recovery Methods

According to (1), there is a chance to recover drives that have not been physically destroyed. Commercial services offer the ability to recover data from an encrypted drive (in some cases, providers can also decrypt the data). Some data can be recovered from physical damage-platter inside hard drives. As a result, destroying media is necessary to ensure data security.

References

Chapple, M., & Seidl, D. (2023). *Cyberwarfare: Information Operations in a Connected World* (Second, pp. 9–20). essay, Jones & Bartlett Learning. (1)