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Paul Vixie and David Conrad on BINDv9 and Internet Security

According to Bernstein's definition of "security hole", yes. Of course, \$500 will almost certainly be in the noise compared to the cost of recovering from a breach that would meet Bernstein's

Generalizing, BIND version 8 has been hacked on forever and it is really unpleasant to work on. I don't think there is anyone that would choose to work on it except under some form of duress :-). As for working on BIND version 9, it was funded by a bunch of organizations and the development was outsourced to Nominum, Inc. with the requirement that the results of the development be Open Source. As a result, the development of BINDv9 was more along the lines of a traditional large scale development project with a set of requirements specified by customers (funders/ISC) which we at Nominum did our best to meet.

These requirements significantly constrained the design. In particular, BIND version 8 backwards compatibility,

the technology more available and more usable to end users. Security has to be end to end, and the endpoints right now are very weak since end-user security is either expensive, complex/unusable, fragile, or all three. Usually it's all three. I expect DNSSEC to be used as a key distribution platform for other applications, including shell access, e-mail, and file exchange. Eventually we have to make good security ubiquitous or the "haves" will continually raid and control the "have nots".

Seeing computer security as primarily risk assessment and management instead of site or

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