AppSec EU 2013 University Challenges Brief Summary by nks0ne

Abstract

Read this brief summary about the OWASP AppSec EU 2013 University Challenges provided by Hacking-Lab and its CTF team.

Martin Knobloch, Global Education Manager at OWASP is organizing the so-called University Challenges. Teams from the conference closer or wider area are invited to build up teams that will fight against each other in a university competition.

Thanks for the the German OWASP organization committee for supporting this OWASP initiative!

Location

The AppSec EU Conference took part in Hamburg, Germany at a stunning venue, the Emporio in Hamburg (http://www.emporio-hamburg.de/) at the top level of the Emporio building.

A fantastic 360° panoramic view on Hamburg's famous harbor and the whole city awaited all attendees..

(Live Cam: http://www.emporio-hamburg.de/das-quartier/weitsicht-live/rundum-live/)

The Teams

Three teams joined the University competition:

1. the lambdas (OWASP Locals Hamburg)
2. FluxFingers (RWTH Aachen CTF Team) http://www.fluxfingers.net/
3. HFU (Hochschule Furtwangen)

Gaming Rules

The Rules were pretty simple:

- At least 6 challenges were open at the same time, the teams could solve them in their own order
- Every team got identical points for the breakthrough (the more challenges the more points)

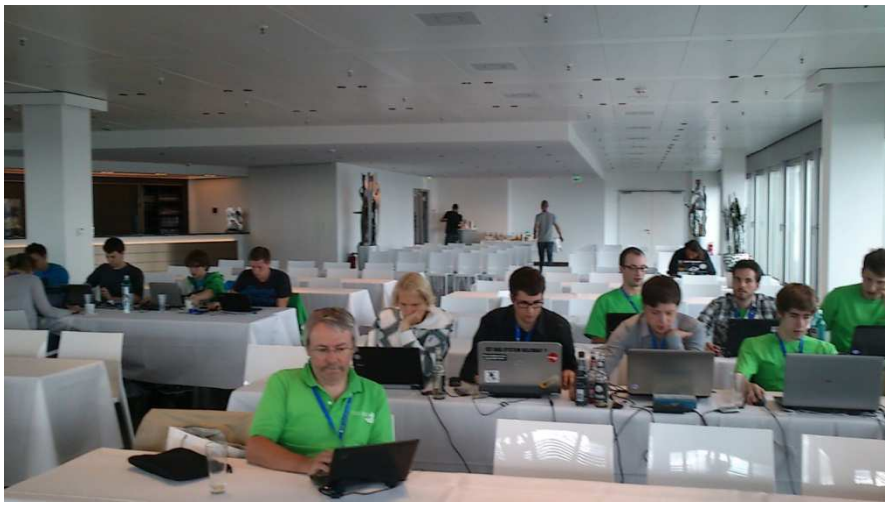
We had the following level of challenges

Day 1 Journal

With some delay, the challenges started at about 9:15 (20.08.2013). Some attendees had a few problems with their Wi-Fi setup but in the end everything worked out fine. The first solutions was submitted within the first 40 minutes by the team "HFU".

The teams "the lambdas" and "HFU" were running a neck-to-neck race. The "FluxFingers" did not send a single solution the first day. At the end of the first day the team "HFU" was leading with 83 Points, followed by "the lambdas" on second place.

After the solution submission was closed for that day, a few team members gathered together and did further work on the challenges until 18:00 and most probably even in the hotel too.



Scoring of Day 1

Team "HFU":

ID	Challenge Name	Categories	Level
2651	Web Security: Cross Site Request Forgery		EASY
7155	Browser Password Disclosure		EASY
2663	JavaScript Malware Analysis		EASY
2664	JSON Hijacking Attack		MEDIUM
7030	Linksys SSL Break		MEDIUM
2690	HTML5 Cross Origin Resource Sharing		EASY

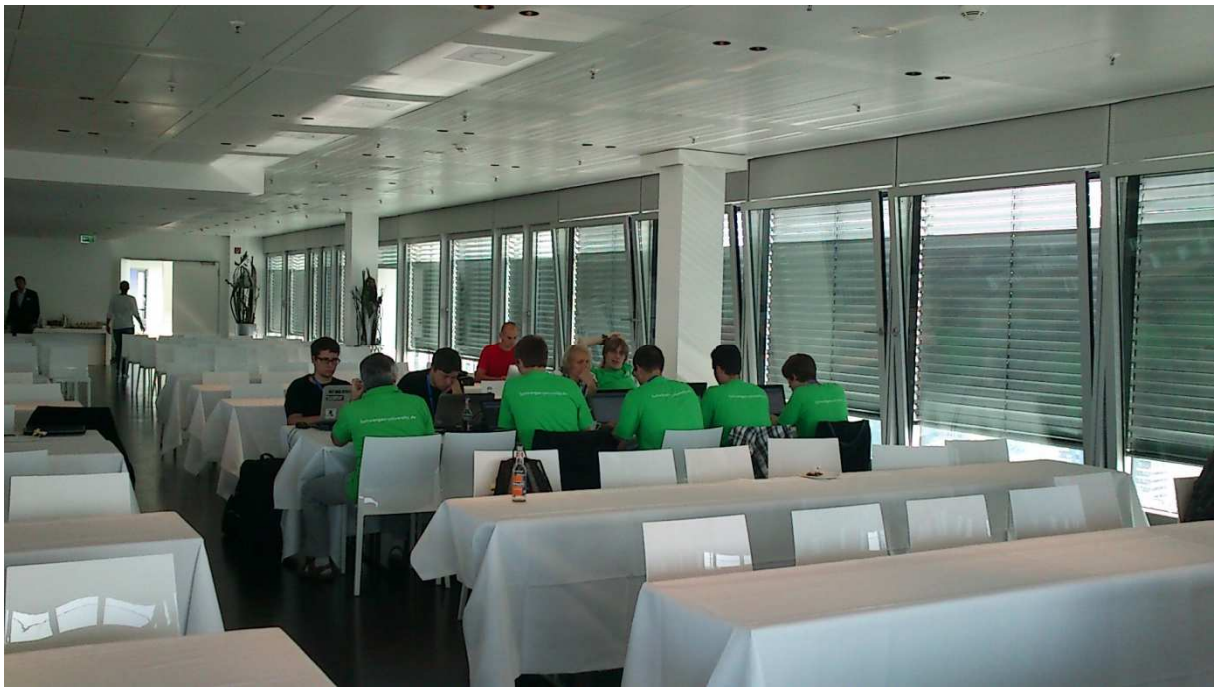
Team "The Lambdas"

ID	Challenge Name	Categories	Level
7155	Browser Password Disclosure		EASY
7030	Linksys SSL Break		MEDIUM
2651	Web Security: Cross Site Request Forgery		MEDIUM
2663	JavaScript Malware Analysis		EASY

Day 2

The FluxFingers showed that keeping it low-profile was just a tactical decision, the submitted several solutions directly in the morning.

Whereas the "lambdas" where pretty weak this day (which is excused since they are a team of conference helpers), the teams "HFU" and the "FluxFingers" where not missing a beat. Both teams worked extremely focused and the top position switched again and again.



These challenges have been solved on day 2:

Team "HFU":

ID	Challenge Name	Categories	Level
7019	AES Bit-Flipping Attack		MEDIUM
7000	Web Security: Observation Plugin - Live Http Headers		HARD
7010	Network Security: DNS Host Name Change		MEDIUM
8008	Buffer Overflow Server.exe		HARD
7157	Uncover the Bad Boys		MEDIUM
7029	Tomcat Misconfiguration		MEDIUM
7104	Web Shell		MEDIUM
7105	eNotary		HARD

Team "FluxFingers":

ID	Challenge Name	Categories	Level
7106	Fake The MAC		HARD
2663	JavaScript Malware Analysis		EASY
7030	Linksys SSL Break		MEDIUM
2664	JSON Hijacking Attack		MEDIUM
7019	AES Bit-Flipping Attack		MEDIUM
7155	Browser Password Disclosure		EASY
2690	HTML5 Cross Origin Resource Sharing		EASY
7025	Database Hijack CarGame Challenge		HARD
2651	Web Security: Cross Site Request Forgery		MEDIUM
7041	Struts2 Vulnerability		HARD
8008	Buffer Overflow Server.exe		HARD
7104	Web Shell		MEDIUM
7000	Web Security: Observation Plugin - Live Http Headers		HARD
7105	eNotary		HARD

Team "The Lambdas":

ID	Challenge Name	Categories	Level
2665	Camtasia XSS		MEDIUM
7000	Web Security: Observation Plugin -Live Http Headers		HARD
7019	AES Bit-Flipping Attack		MEDIUM
2664	JSON Hijacking Attack		MEDIUM
2690	HTML5 Cross Origin Resource Sharing		EASY
8008	Buffer Overflow Server.exe		HARD

The Final Ranking

Finally the "FluxFingers" made the race and won the AppSec EU University Challenges 2013.

Rank	Team	Points
1.	FluxFingers	267
2.	HFU	177
3.	The lambdas	148

Congratulations to the winners!

Appendix

If you are interested in the conference program the schedule is available here http://sched.appsec.eu/ and there are the video recordings available here: https://www.its.fh-muenster.de/owasp-appseceu13/rooms/