Capstone Engagement

Assessment, Analysis, and Hardening of a Vulnerable System

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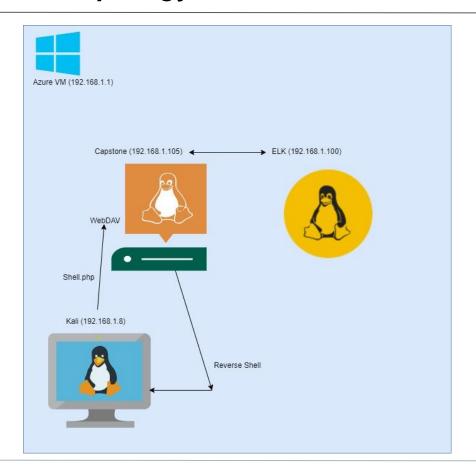
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Network Topology



Network

Address Range: 192.168.1.0/24

Netmask: 255.255.255.0 Gateway: 192.168.1.255

Machines

IPv4: 192.168.1.1 OS: Windows Hostname:

ML-RefVm-417858

IPv4: 192.168.1.105

OS: Linux

Hostname: server1

IPv4: 192.168.1.8

OS: Linux

Hostname: Kali

IPv4: 192.168.1.100

OS: Linux

Hostname: linux_kernel

Red Team Security Assessment

Recon: Describing the Target

Nmap identified the following hosts on the network:

Hostname	IP Address	Role on Network
Azure Machine	192.168.1.1	The VM that acts as the network we are doing our penetration testing on.
Capstone (Target Machine)	192.168.1.105	The target of our attack. It has a vulnerability on the /webdav page that we used to upload a .php file
Kali (Attacking Machine)	192.168.1.8	The machine we used to build and upload our payload to the target machine.
ELK (Network Monitor)	192.168.1.100	This machine is used to log all of the data and display on Kibana.

Vulnerability Assessment

The assessment uncovered the following critical vulnerabilities in the target:

Vulnerability	Description	Impact
Use the CVE number if it exists. Otherwise, use the common name.	Describe the vulnerability.	Describe what this vulnerability allows the attacker to do.
Weak Passwords	The short passwords containing primarily just lowercase text was very easy for hydra to brute force.	This allowed the hacker access to Ashton's account.
Broken Access Controls	User with access to sensitive data compromised the system with their public biography.	Using this users disregard to security access controls we were able to brute force his password and gain access to sensitive data.
Code Injection	We were able to upload a .php script to the website and click on it giving us meterpreter access.	At that point we had root access and we owned the network.

Exploitation: Weak Passwords

01

Tools & Processes

Using the Kali Linux tool Hydra we were able to brute force Ashton's password.



Achievements

From logging in to the secret folder we were able to find a step-by-step guide to uploading to the WebDAV network.



hydra -l ashton -P rockyou.txt -s 80 -f -vV 192.168.1.105 http-get /company_folders/secret_fold er

Exploitation: Broken Access Controls

01

Tools & Processes

We used ashton's disregard for security to figure out we could use cross site scripting in the first place and then once able to access the secret folder he had written down steps to upload a file to the web server.



Achievements

This gave us an insight as to how to utilize cross site scripting and also how to upload a file to the server.





Exploitation: Code Injection

01

Tools & Processes

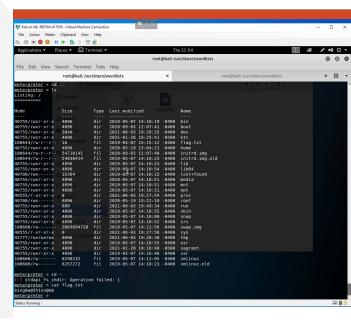
We linked the Kali box to the Capstone server using msfconsole and form there we just went to the file explorer and connected to the /webdav IP and dragged and dropped out shell.php file.

02

Achievements

Once the shell.php file was run we were now monitoring using meterpreter and we had access to the system as a root user.



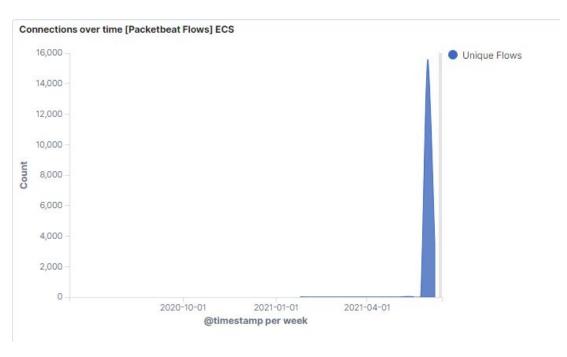


Blue Team Log Analysis and Attack Characterization

Analysis: Identifying the Port Scan



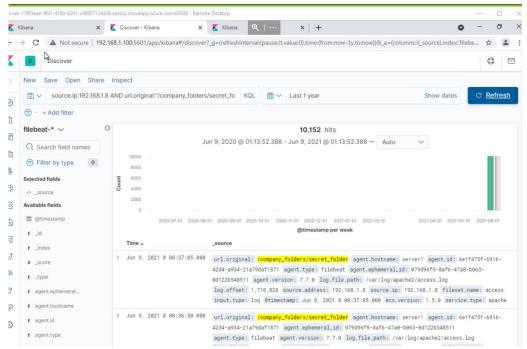
- Port Scan occurred on June 7
- How many packets were sent, and from which IP?
 3486 packets sent
- The increased number of connections over time



Analysis: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory



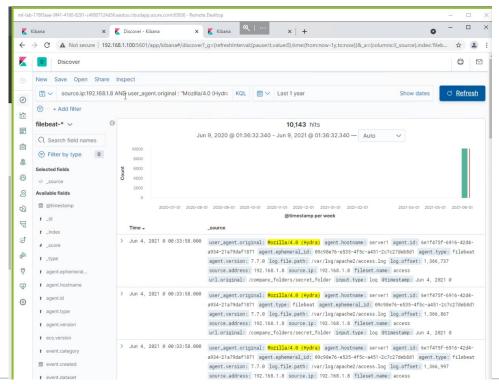
- Requests were made between 1AM and 2 AM and 10,152 requests were made.
- The company_folders/secret_folder and in it was instructions to upload to /webdav



Analysis: Uncovering the Brute Force Attack



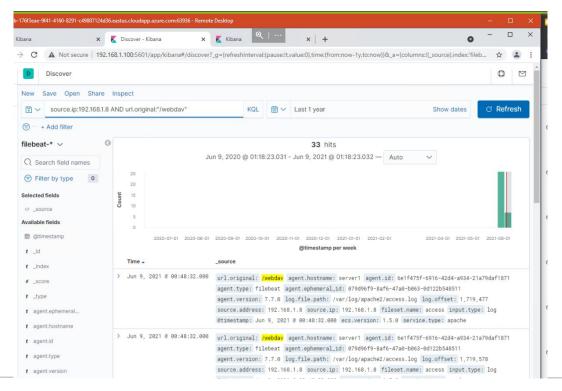
- 10,143
- 10,142 were made before the attacker cracked the password



Analysis: Finding the WebDAV Connection



- 33 requests were made to the WebDAV
- The file requested was the password.dav



Blue TeamProposed Alarms and Mitigation Strategies

Mitigation: Blocking the Port Scan

Alarm

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

Detecting the number of SYN packets over time.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?
30 per minute

System Hardening

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

Set up a strong firewall that doesn't allow network mapping. Disable ICMP messages to send back no information.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide required command lines.

A strong firewall will keep attackers from yielding any info from running a port scan.

Mitigation: Finding the Request for the Hidden Directory

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future unauthorized access?
Set up a failed login alert.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?
Send an alert after 5 failed login attempts

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block unwanted access?
Block external IP addresses from the hidden directory

Describe the solution. If possible, provide required command lines.

Edit the config file to allow only access from the local network.

Allow 192.168.*

Mitigation: Preventing Brute Force Attacks

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future brute force attacks?
An alarm for failed logins

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?
5 failed login attempts

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block brute force attacks?
Two-factor Authentication

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line(s). Use a phone to authenticate the each login.

Mitigation: Detecting the WebDAV Connection

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future access to this directory?
Set up an alarm if any external IP tries to connect to the WebDAV

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?
Send an alert any time an external IP is detected.

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to control access?
Block connections from any external IP

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line(s).

Allow 192.168.*

addresses

Mitigation: Identifying Reverse Shell Uploads

Alarm

What kind of alarm can be set to detect future file uploads?
Set an alert for any put requests on the network.

What threshold would you set to activate this alarm?
Set an alert any time a put request is made on the network

System Hardening

What configuration can be set on the host to block file uploads?
Block all put requests from external IP addresses.

Describe the solution. If possible, provide the required command line.

This will allow people only on the local network with access to make put requests and upload to the network.

