INTELLIGENT DEFENCE

infosecurity EUROPE

Adam Compton – Senior Security Consultant

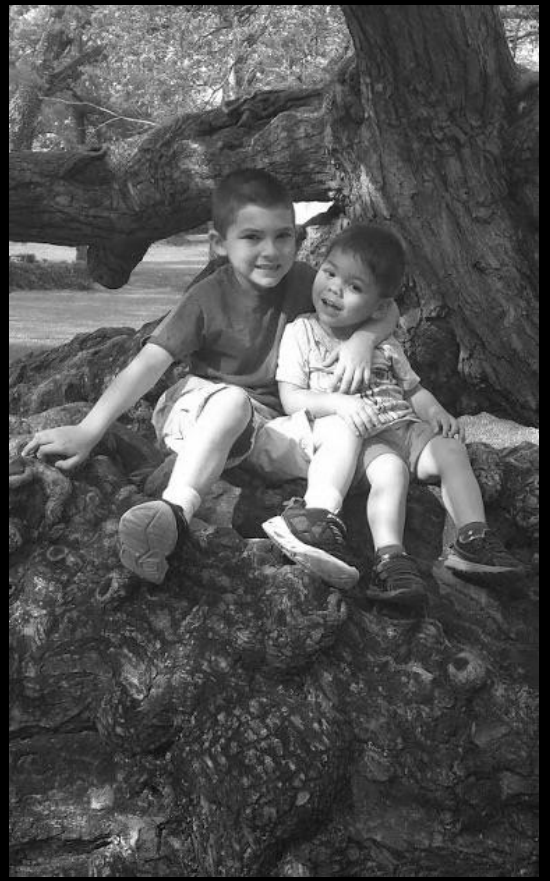
Learning From Mistakes - They Will Happen

RAPID7

Me Me Me…

- Who am I?

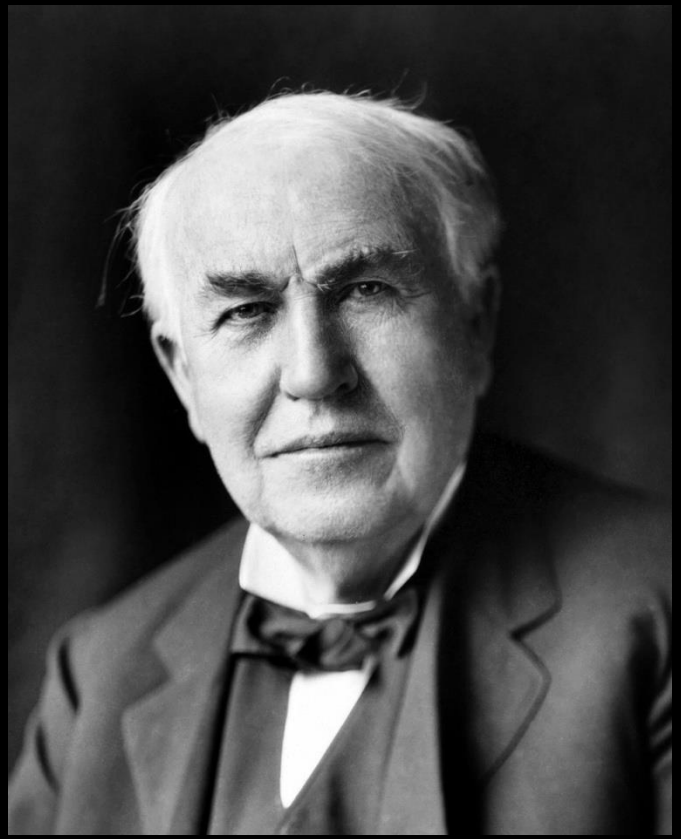
- Simple answer:
  - Father/Husband/Son/Brother
  - Programmer/Pentester/Researcher
  - Hillybilly



RAPID7

“I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.”

- Thomas Edison



RAPID7

“The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing.”

- Henry Ford

Watch those octets

- /bin/sh used to truncate commands after a certain length
- AAA.BBB.237.0/24 != AAA.BBB.2
- Nmap used to auto-append implied CIDR notation
  - AAA.BBB.2 -> AAA.BBB.2.0/24
- AAA.BBB.2.0/24 != AAA>BBB.237.0/24

“You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone. Close the door on the past. You don't try to forget the mistakes, but you don't dwell on it. You don't let it have any of your energy, or any of your time, or any of your space.”

- Johnny Cash

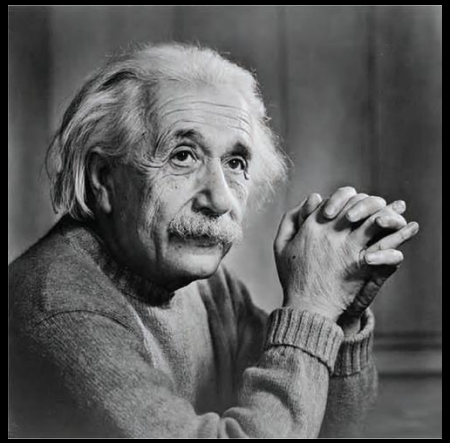
RAPID7

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."

- Winston Churchill

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.”

- Albert Einstein



“Mistakes are a part of being human. Appreciate your mistakes for what they are: precious life lessons that can only be learned the hard way.

“Unless it's a fatal mistake, which, at least, others can learn from.”

- Al Franken

“Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail.”

- Confucius

Takeaways

- Always double check everything
- If something does not feel right, it probably isn’t
- Never rely on just one access vector
- It is okay to make mistakes

Questions ? Comments ? Thoughts ? Stories ?

adam_compton@rapid7.com

@tatanus