

# **Professional Pen Testing & Learning From Your Mistakes**

# Who / What / Why

## Who am I?

- Adam Compton
  - security researcher, pentester, programmer
  - **NOT** a presenter

## What am I presenting?

- A **VERY** basic engagement methodology
- Lessons learned from over a decade of engagements

## Why should you listen to me?

- I have ~~made~~ seen LOTS of mistakes ;)

# Sample Methodology

- Pre-Engagement Interactions
- Information Gathering
- Threat Modeling
- Vulnerability Analysis
- Exploitation/Post Exploitation
- Report Writing
- Report Delivery/Follow-up Call

*You can also check out <http://www.pentest-standard.org>*

# Pre-Engagement Interactions



*“Our team **WILL** find **ALL** of the vulnerabilities.”*

*...*

*“You don’t want us to use any computers, OK, we can do that.”*

**So, who is bored?**



The sad story of the  
world's most unfortunate  
consulting team.

# Once upon a time ...

... there were three information security consultants ...





# A New Engagement ...

... for a large international diaper company ...





# External Information Gathering ...

... without verifying the provided IP addresses

...



# Social Engineering ...

... reused old phishing template ...  
... forgot to replace all instances of old  
customer names ...



# External Penetration Test ...

... enabled the host firewall on the compromised system ...



# Time for Travel ...

... got their shots, bought their tickets, gathered their equipment, and flew to "Kiss-My-Ass-Goodbye"-astan ...



# Internal Assessment ...

... during the dividing of the targets, one network range was forgotten/overlooked ...

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d[S_1]}{dt} &= -k_f [S_1][S_2][En] + k_r [EnS_1S_2], \\
 \frac{d[S_2]}{dt} &= -k_f [S_1][S_2][En] + k_r [EnS_1S_2], \\
 \frac{d[P_1]}{dt} &= k_{cat} [EnS_1S_2], \\
 \frac{d[P_2]}{dt} &= k_{cat} [EnS_1S_2], \\
 \frac{d[En]}{dt} &= -k_f [S_1][S_2][En] + k_r [EnS_1S_2] \\
 &\quad + k_{cat} [EnS_1S_2], \\
 \frac{d[EnS_1S_2]}{dt} &= k_f [S_1][S_2][En] - k_r [EnS_1S_2] \\
 &\quad - k_{cat} [EnS_1S_2].
 \end{aligned}$$

# Internal Pentest ...

... spent a few hours pentesting each other's machines ...



# Setting off the Egress Alerts ...

... the consultants had forgot to disable all of their p2p clients ...





# Wireless Audit ...

... had never noticed how suspicious he looked  
... until he was surrounded by guards ...



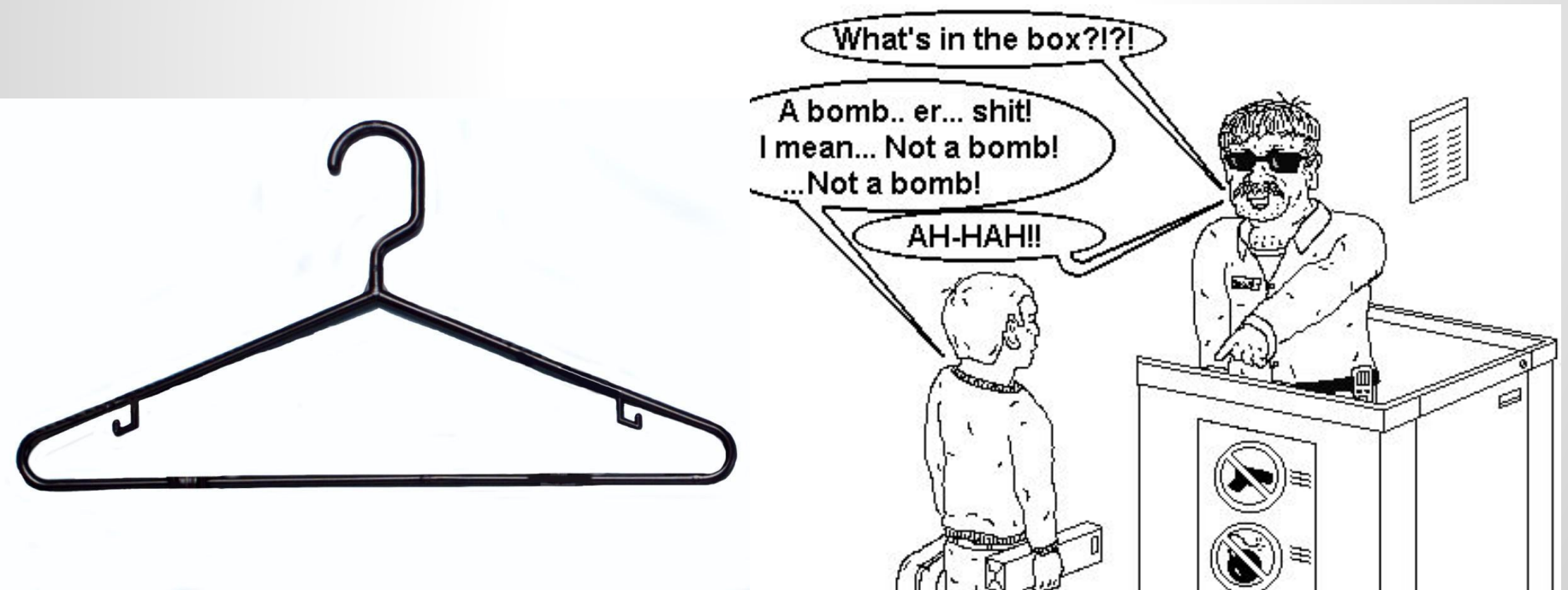
# Wireless Audit ...

... had never noticed how suspicious he looked  
... until he was surrounded by guards ...



# Going Home ...

... it was totally ok to leave the country with 1 plastic coat hanger ...



# Lost a Co-Worker ...

... quit while onsite at a customer ...



# Report Writing ...

... everyone had thought that the others were going to gather the screenshots ...



# Report Delivery ...

Finally, the report was completed and delivered to the customer... with many many mistakes and issues...



# General Lessons Learned

"Measure twice, cut once."

When unsure, ask questions.

Never assume you know everything.

...

Share your mistakes.



# Questions/Contact Info

**THANK YOU**

Any questions?

I can be contacted at:

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@PentestLessons