

# Zachary Cutlip

zachary.cutlip at gmail.com

## Senior Vulnerability Researcher

Software security researcher with expertise in embedded device exploitation, software reverse engineering and vulnerability research.

## Honors & Awards

Speaker:

- Black Hat USA 2012 [1]
- DEF CON 20 [2]
- University of Wisconsin "Lockdown 2013"
- 44CON 2013
- BayThreat 4

## Projects & Publications:

- Bowcaster Exploit Development Framework [3]
- From SQL Injection to MIPS Overflows: Rooting SOHO Routers [4]
- Reverse Engineering and Exploiting the BT HomeHub 3.0b [5]

## Education

- Johns Hopkins University
  - Master of Science in Computer Science
- Texas A&M University
  - Bachelor of Business Administration in Information Operations Management

## Experience

### • Tactical Network Solutions, LLC

Senior Vulnerability Researcher, October 2011 – Present

- Developed tools and techniques for research and exploitation of embedded systems
- Reverse engineered proprietary networking API for a managed switch
  - Gained ability to write raw VLAN-tagged ethernet frames to the wire
- Reverse engineered, binary patched BT modem's UPnP stack to run in emulation
  - Developed proof-of-concept exploit entirely in emulation
- Implemented covert communications between cooperative processes embedded in traffic destined to a non-cooperating SSH server
- Reverse engineered SOHO router vendor's UPnP stack
  - Identified and exploited partially implemented functionality for remote firmware upload
- Co-instructed Introduction to Embedded Device Exploitation course.
- Helped develop Advanced Embedded Device Exploitation course

- Developed surreptitious embedded device firmware, enabling encrypted, remotely triggered connection to a target behind a well-defended boundary
- Developed a surreptitious implant capability tailored for a specific vendor's network infrastructure equipment
- Developed a method of accepting incoming TCP connections undetectable by traditional port scanning tools
- **Raytheon Applied Signal Technology (formerly Seismic, LLC)**  
Senior Security Engineer, November 2009 – October 2011
  - Security tool development for the National Security Agency
  - Added custom capability to an open-source penetration testing framework
  - Developed tool-chain for decrypting, analyzing, & manipulating proprietary Remote Desktop Protocol data
  - Developed parser for Windows PE executable files and DLLs
- **Tresys Technology, LLC**  
Senior Software Engineer, March 2007 – November 2009
  - Developed (JMS) guarding appliance developing in pure C on Linux
  - Led vulnerability assessment of distributed intrusion detection system, uncovering multiple vulnerabilities through software reverse engineering and architecture review
  - Developed SELinux Mandatory Access Control Policy
- **National Security Agency/USAF**  
Operating System Vulnerability Analyst, May 2004 – June 2006  
Officer-in-Charge, ISSE Guards, March 2003 – March 2004
- **12th Air Force Network Operations Security Center**  
Crew Commander, August 2001 – March 2003
- **612th Air Communications Squadron**  
Communications Plans Officer, July 2000 – August 2001

---

[1] <https://vimeo.com/64809593>

[2] <https://vimeo.com/64809592>

[3] <https://github.com/zcutlip/bowcaster>

[4] <http://tinyurl.com/agjr6bm> [pdf]

[5] <http://tinyurl.com/n9wnemp> [pdf]

---

Resume Source: <http://github.com/zcutlip/resume>