

Phase 1: Recon

Using the Public Domain to Plan an Intrusion

Who and why?

- Recon is a tool of the 3l1t3
 - Not script kiddies trolling the web for unpatched systems
- Like bank robbers
 - Visit the branch
 - Note security cameras
 - When do guards rotate, how are they armed?
 - What type of vault?

So what do they look for?

- Social Engineering
- Whois database analysis
- Information about staff
 - Social Networks and message boards
- Job ads
- DNS interrogation
- Google Hacks

Social Engineering Greatest Hits

- Call the help desk
 - Hi, I'm new and I'm having some trouble finding any policy info on password complexity requirements...
- Call a user
 - Hi, I'm from IT security and I need to ask you a few things about your activity. We've seen some odd traffic and you could have a virus. Can I get you to check a few things...
 - Spoofing caller ID is trivial
- In person...
 - Hi, I'm from IT. We've got some extra new monitors, mice, and keyboards. Want one? (complete with keylogger)
- In the parking lot...
 - [unsuspecting user] Ah, somebody dropped their thumbdrive. I should look at what's on it and maybe I can figure out who it belongs to.
- Dumpster diving – People throw away the darndest things - an oldie, but goodie

Search the Fine Web (STFW)

- Whois Database – www.whois.net
 - Contains Administrative and Technical POCs
 - LinkedIn? Facebook?
 - What are they're technical specialties?
 - Maybe I should call them posing as a recruiter? What would they tell me about themselves? What does that tell me about their network and systems?
 - Name servers with IPs
 - Now use www.arin.net to get assigned IP range
 - Email format
 - Physical address
 - Phone number format

Job Ads – quick hypothetical example

- Wanted: Network Administrator
 - Must have experience with Cisco Pix firewalls, IOS 5.3(x), knowledge of BGP. Linux, Window, Macintosh, s system administration experience a plus.
 - What do we know?
 - They're running an old firewall
 - Without having updated IOS
 - They're either very large, or manage their internet router
 - They're probably small because they like to double-up on duties
 - They run a mixed OS environment
 - Chances are, they don't have anyone watching their firewall right now

Phone Directories

- Here's everyone in my organization's...
 - Name
 - Office Phone
 - Email
 - Department
 - Title
 - Gold mine for social engineers – often first stop for spear-fishers

DNS Interrogation

- Zone Transfers
 - Nslookup - If your DNS is vulnerable, can provide attackers with:
 - System names
 - Do your system names indicate function? (ftp.uah.edu)
 - IP addresses
 - OS Types
 - \$ dig @[IP address] [domain] -t AXFR
 - Command can perform zone transfers on modern linux (gets around limitations on nslookup)
 - Now we've got a list of targets and OS's for some vulnerability scanning

Google Hacks

- In an interview after being imprisoned, noted hacker Adrian Lamo was asked what his favorite hack tool was. He answered...Google.
- Google Directives – Maximize the precision of your searches
 - Site:[domain] – allows you to restrict your search to a specific domain
 - Link:[web page] – see everyone who links to a site...useful for identifying business relationships

Google Hacks (Cont.)

- Intitle:[terms] – searching for “index of” can show you directory structure of web folders if developers forgot to put an index page
 - Any source code in there?
- Filetype:[suffix] – show me all the powerpoint files in your domain
- Literal matches (“ “) – searches for particular strings
- Up to 10 can be chained together
 - Site:somebigbank.com filetype:xls “ssn”
 - This will search all of Some Big Bank’s web content, searching for any Excel spreadsheets that have the abbreviation SSN in them.
 - You could use “cache:” to search older content that they’d removed, but google had crawled in in the recent past.

The Moral of the Story?

- Be careful what you put in the public domain!
- Check your DNS for vulnerability to Zone Transfers
- Restrict access to information that could be used against you
- Use these techniques on yourself and your organization – know what's there



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Questions?

<http://its.uah.edu>

