



# Methodology of a Hacker

Matthew Schmid  
Telemus Solutions, Inc.



# Today's Topics

- Introduction
- FBI Cyber Crime Report
- Information Warfare Techniques
  - Information gathering
  - Social engineering
  - Network reconnaissance
  - Finding and exploiting vulnerabilities
  - Controlling and maintaining access
- Top 10 Security Vulnerabilities



# Introduction

- Telemus Solutions, Inc.
  - Government and commercial security
  - Protecting the critical infrastructure
- Capabilities
  - Physical and IT vulnerability assessments
  - Security consulting
  - Systems engineering
  - Custom software development
  - Research and development



# FBI Cyber Crime Survey (2005)

Over 5,000 respondents with over 87% experiencing one or more incidents

1. Total financial losses and the reported number of incidents have declined
2. Website attacks and wireless attacks have increased
3. Insider attacks occur about as often as external attacks
4. Defense is focused on the perimeter and antivirus / antispyware solutions
5. Security awareness continues to improve



# Information Warfare Techniques



# Information Gathering

- WHOIS lookup
  - Find information about ownership and registration of networks
- Newsgroup postings
  - Learn what problems the system administrator is dealing with
- Google hacking
  - Find unintentionally published information
- Dumpster diving
  - Find account names, passwords, network info
  - Improperly disposed media

# Example: WHOIS HealthTechNet.org

## IPv4 whois information for 204.227.246.38

OrgName: Pillsbury Madison & Sutro, Inc.  
**NetRange:** 204.227.224.0 - 204.227.255.255  
CIDR: 204.227.224.0/19  
NameServer: SFNS01.PILLSBURYWINTHROP.COM  
NameServer: LANS01.PILLSBURYWINTHROP.COM  
NameServer: VANS01.PILLSBURYWINTHROP.COM  
NameServer: NYNS01.PILLSBURYWINTHROP.COM  
**smtp.shawpittman.com**                      **208.200.185.221**

OrgTechName: Network Engineering Group  
**OrgTechPhone:** 1-415-477-4917  
OrgTechEmail: hostmaster@pillsburywinthrop.com



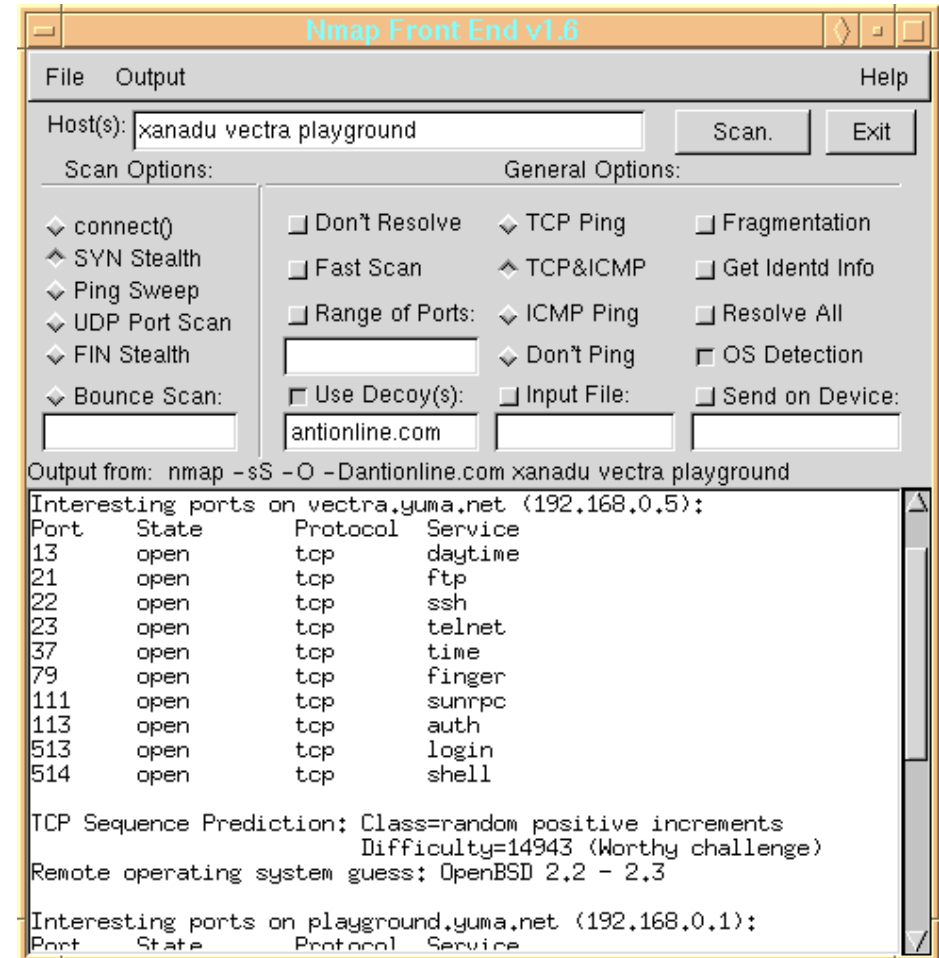
# Social Engineering

- Using gathered information to trick employees into compromising the organization's security
  - Provide accounts/passwords
  - Modify machine settings
  - Provide physical access
- Getting users to introduce a vulnerability to the system
  - Removable media
  - Email attachments
  - Active web content



# Network Reconnaissance

- Network and service mapping
  - Find out what servers are up/down
  - Identify operating systems
  - Identify open services and versions
- Tools
  - Port scanners
  - Network mappers
  - OS fingerprinters



# Wireless Networks

- Topology
  - Where is it connected?
- Access Points
  - No security
  - Default accounts
  - WEP vulnerabilities
  - Rogue access points
- Wireless on the laptop
  - Associations with other APs
  - Ad-hoc networks

```

Network List (Autofit)
Name      T W Ch Packts Flags IP Range      Size
<no ssid> A N 03 50 T4 209.45.202.2 1k
tsunami   A N 06 160 FT3 10.241.131.0 650B
tsunami   A N 06 34 FA4 10.241.131.194 78B
edshmidt1 A N 03 77 T4 192.168.3.10 908B
edshmidt1 A N 03 69 T4 192.168.3.125 768B
<no ssid> A N 02 9 0.0.0.0 0B
rouen     A N 03 15 T4 10.241.131.54 331B
wireless  A N 11 3 0.0.0.0 0B
bijeshkani A N 11 11 T4 195.157.47.70 5k
<no ssid> A Y 06 11 0.0.0.0 0B
Maumee Panthers A N 06 17 0.0.0.0 77B
Discovery1 A N 11 12 0.0.0.0 154B
VMS2      A N 07 24 0.0.0.0 154B
Maumee1   A N 03 9 0.0.0.0 62B
GMS1      A N 03 17 0.0.0.0 0B
Panther1  A N 04 5 0.0.0.0 0B
Columbia 2 A N 02 18 0.0.0.0 256B
Panther4  A N 05 3 0.0.0.0 0B
Apollo    A N 11 7 0.0.0.0 0B
Apollo1   A N 03 4 0.0.0.0 0B
Gemini    A N 03 1 0.0.0.0 0B
Columbia  A N 03 1 0.0.0.0 0B
2WIRE606  A Y 06 18 0.0.0.0 0B
2WIRE723  A Y 06 15 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A N 04 4 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A N 01 36 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A N 06 1 F 192.168.1.1 0B
dellwireless A N 06 24 T 0.0.0.0 976B
2WIRE903  A Y 06 45 0.0.0.0 0B
WLAN      A N 11 26 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A Y 06 2 0.0.0.0 0B
default   A Y 06 40 0.0.0.0 0B
NETGEAR   A N 11 4 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A Y 06 27 0.0.0.0 0B
2WIRE037  A Y 06 4 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A N 06 2 F 192.168.1.1 0B
MDP       A Y 10 38 0.0.0.0 0B
default   A N 06 11 0.0.0.0 0B
NETGEAR   A N 06 13 0.0.0.0 0B
<no ssid> A N — 5 0.0.0.0 0B
default   A N 06 28 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A N 06 1 0.0.0.0 0B
! zawodny A N 06 498 U4 192.168.2.1 104B
home      A Y 06 61 0.0.0.0 1k
wireless  A N 11 28 0.0.0.0 0B
linksys   A N 06 28 0.0.0.0 0B
cindy     A N 06 109 T4 192.168.0.1 25k
<no ssid> A N — 1 0.0.0.0 0B
Shaun     A N 03 2 0.0.0.0 0B

Info
Ntwrks 142
Pckets 2698
Cryptd 27
Weak 0
Noise 17
Discrd 17
Pkts/s 2

Status
Found new probed network " <no ssid> " bssid 00:02:2D:6D:35:80
Found new network "Shaun" bssid 00:06:25:DC:12:5F WEP N Ch 3 @ 11.00 mbit
Found IP 192.168.0.1 For cindy:00:0D:88:9F:94:53 via TCP
Found IP 192.168.2.1 For zawodny:00:30:AB:0D:1B:49 via UDP
Battery: 34% 0h30m0s
    
```

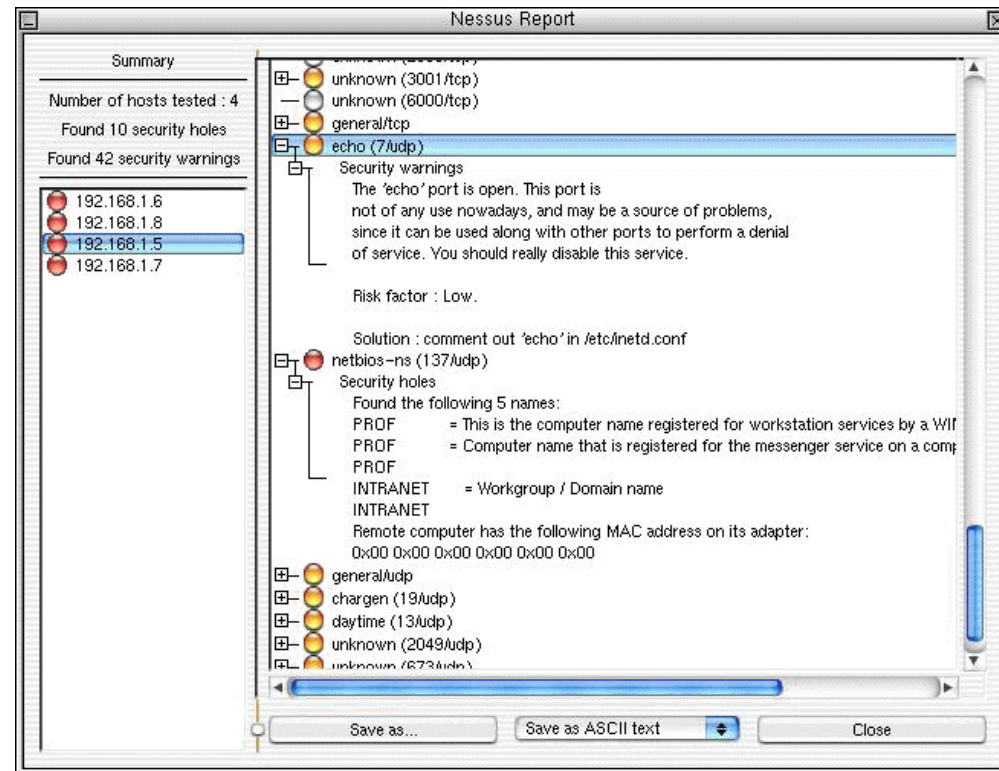
# Vulnerability Discovery

## ■ Identify issues

- Match service information to known vulnerabilities
- Scan specific machines for vulnerabilities

## ■ Tools

- OS vulnerability scanners
- Web vulnerability scanners



# Compromising the Target

- Exploit a vulnerability to gain access to the machine
- Tools
  - Exploit frameworks
  - Shellcode builders
  - Automated attack tools
  - Remote password crackers



EXPLOITS		PAYLOADS		SESSIONS	
Windows XP/2003/Vista Metasploit Escape() SetAbortProc Code Execution (win32_exec)					
HTTPHOST	Optional	HOST	<input type="text" value="0.0.0.0"/>	The local HTTP listener host	
HTTPPORT	Required	PORT	<input type="text" value="8080"/>	The local HTTP listener port	
CMD	Required	DATA	<input type="text" value="calc.exe"/>	The command string to execute	
EXITFUNC	Required	DATA	<input type="text" value="thread"/>	Exit technique: "process", "thread", "seh"	
Preferred Encoder:		Nop Generator:			
<input type="text" value="Default Encoder"/>		<input type="text" value="Default Generator"/>			
<input type="button" value="-Check-"/>		<input type="button" value="-Exploit-"/>			



# Controlling the Host

- Privilege escalation
- Backdoors
  - Allow the attacker to easily return
- Trojan horses
  - Disguise malicious programs
- Rootkits
  - Subvert the operating system itself
- Erasing tracks



# Example: Titan Rain

- Foreign attacks against a broad sector of USG and defense contractors in 2004/2005
  - Most targets were unaware of compromise
- Highly sophisticated attacks against perimeter defenses
  - Exhibited well-planned attack methodology
  - Customized tools and exploits
- Goals were data gathering and continued access
  - Organizations are still struggling to recover



# Gathering Data

- Documents of all kinds from compromised machines
- Documents from file servers
- Network traffic
- Keyboard loggers
- Email messages
- Recovering deleted data



# Example: Department of Veterans Affairs

- Employee had millions of records with personal information on his computer and external drive
- Computer and drive were stolen in a burglary
- Incident cost huge amount of time, money, and bad publicity
- Equipment was eventually recovered





# Expanding Control

- Leverage new resources to target other machines
  - Open shares
  - Unprotected hosts
  - Routers and firewalls
  - Network sniffing
  - Intranets
  - Control systems
  - Affiliated networks



# Conclusions



# Top 10 Security Vulnerabilities

1. Unpatched vulnerabilities in services
2. Weak authentication and passwords
3. Out-of-date antivirus/antispymware software
4. Unnecessary administrative privileges
5. Poorly configured access controls and file sharing
6. Inadequate wireless security
7. Mis-configured routers and firewalls
8. Lack of policy and education
9. Zero-day exploits
10. Flawed recovery procedures



# Summary

- Seemingly unimportant data can be leveraged by an attacker
- Perimeter security is critical, but not sufficient
- Effective security is a combination of technical solutions and good policies



# Thank You

Matthew Schmid, CISSP

[mschmid@telemussolutions.com](mailto:mschmid@telemussolutions.com)

Telemus Solutions, Inc.

<http://www.telemussolutions.com>