



Cybersecurity Management in Organizations II: Security Testing



**Meet Tyrus .M. Kamau, a really cool
guy :-)**



Discussion Topics

Vulnerability Management.

Security Testing & Role of Pen testing.

Pen Testing dimension & process.

Ethics of Pen testing.



Vocabulary 101: Let's define the terms

- **Vulnerability**: The state of being exposed or susceptible to harm or injury
- **Vulnerability Assessment**: The process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing (or ranking) the vulnerabilities in a system.
- **Penetration Test**: A method of evaluating the security of a computer system or network by simulating an attack from a malicious source

Why Perform a Penetration Test?

Penetration testing can help you answer:

- How security aware are my staff?
- How effective are my technical, physical and process based security mechanisms?
- How vulnerable are my home-grown web applications to attack?
- Are there unauthorized/insecure configured wireless/IoT devices present?

Example Tests:

- Social engineering
- Logical & physical attacks (external / internal)
- Web application attacks
- Wireless & IoT scans and attacks

Penetration Tests vs Hackers



What Hackers are not!



- They don't wear masks
- They aren't larger than life movie characters
- They do not have the ability to hack everything
- They don't necessarily have to be computer gurus

What Hackers are:

- Very very patient
- They persevere.
- They are profoundly passionate.
- Love to learn and practice.
- Normal people with one solid objective.



Penetration Tests vs Hackers..cont'd

Hackers exploit “path of least resistance”

– Penetration testers will attempt to find multiple points of entry

- **Hackers use opportunistic approaches**

– Penetration testing is methodical and repeatable allowing easy Verification

- **Hackers seek to gain information, cause damage**

– Penetration Testers gain sufficient access to illustrate breaches and stop!

- **Penetration Tests bounded by limitations which hackers do not face such as:**

1. Time bounded

2. Sensitive to the environmental restrictions

3. Tests may be narrow in scope, if required by client.

Traditional types of Security Tests

Black Box

Limited Knowledge
Application Attack
No source code



Grey Box

Full Knowledge
Security Code
Review with Full
Front-End Access



White Box

Full Knowledge
Security Code
Review with No
Front-End
Access

Rules of Engagement

- **Hack responsibly!**
- Written Permission
- Clear Communication
- Stay within scope
- No Denial of Service
- Don't change major state
- Restore state
-
-
-
-
-or should you?



**KEEP
CALM
&
FOLLOW
THE RULES**

Why traditional testing methods are dead

- It does not focus risk on Business, but on exposure of vulnerability
- Testing that replicates an attacker (sparring partner) has its hands tied.
- Your tester is defined within a .1% of the whole threat surface

Enter the Red Team Assessment

- It goes Beyond compliance
- It simulates the REAL WORLD attacks
- Hackers don't have scopes.... Why should a test?
- Do you really think testing .1% of your assets makes the COMPANY secure?
- You never know the value of what you have till its gone.

So what's the difference?

Penetration Testing	Red Teaming
Finding, evaluating and exploiting vulnerabilities in one dimension	Finding, evaluating and exploiting only vulnerabilities that make it possible to obtain the goals
Static methodology	Flexible Methodology
No matter attacker's profile	Obtain the attacker's profile
The security team are normally warned about the test	Without notice
Office Schedule	24 hours
Just finding and exploiting the vulnerability	Measures business impact of successful attacks

Case Study



The Sweet Spot

Developers and Auditors

Before



After



THANK YOU!



ANY QUESTIONS?

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