

Information Assurance Symposium
HAMPTON UNIVERSITY



“What Do Companies Want?”

Are Ethical Hackers Welcome?

A Survey of Major Companies

- This presentation is a brief survey of several major companies in regards to:
 - Ethical Hacking
 - Where possible, a company statement is included.
- Software companies are used because they typically address ethical hacking directly.
- Other companies address it through code of conducts and it is difficult to find a technical perspective.

Oracle

- "In 1994, Oracle was the first vendor to complete ITSEC and TCSEC security evaluations. Now, with over twenty independent security evaluations for its products, Oracle is the undisputed leader in independent security evaluations." [1]
 - An important element of security evaluations is "penetration testing"
- Penetration Testing [1]
 - Penetration testing is primarily targeted at network-based software products and systems (e.g., on-line stores, auctioneers, business-to-business e-commerce, etc.). An attempt is made to penetrate and breach the network infrastructure upon which the products and systems are built. Penetration testing mirrors attacks by an external entity (e.g., a hacker) on a target system. Examples of penetration testing include bypassing firewalls, breaching firewall security and masquerading using false proxies, to mention a few.

Microsoft

- "Attack and Penetration Testing provides security checks that are critical for assessing the security of the Microsoft corporate network.
- Microsoft IT recommends that every enterprise IT department conduct some form of Attack and Penetration testing. Use the business value of the data in each system to determine which systems to assess first, and how many resources to add to the team.
- Enterprise IT departments can outsource this work to consultants or build a team in-house. Building an internal Microsoft IT team has reduced costs, improved overall IT security, and helped Microsoft IT improve Microsoft enterprise products through product feedback in pre-release testing." [2]

Microsoft has approximately 3000 documents devoted to penetration testing.

IBM

- IBM is very active in ethical hacking.
- There are a number of IBM Journal publications in this area.
- Perhaps even more revealing is that IBM offers numerous penetration testing services.
 - One particular service.

Other Sources

- Certified Ethical Hacking

- <http://www.codemiles.com/sell-and-advertise/ethical-hacking-t3364.html>

- Legal issues

- <http://www.abanet.org/buslaw/blt/2008-09-10/raether.shtml>

- Security concerns

- <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/summary?doi=10.1.1.24.1733>

- Ethical Hacking services

- <http://www.global1direct.com/global1direct/security.html>

Summary

- It is quite clear that our Universities need to take a close look at ethical hacking and penetration testing, in some form
- This is a growth area that is (by nature) academic and not training.
 - By not providing instruction in this area we are “short changing” our students.

References

- [1] Computer Security Criteria: Security Evaluations and Assessment: *An Oracle White Paper*
 - July 2001
- [2] Microsoft IT Attack and Penetration Testing Team
 - December 2004
 - <http://social.technet.microsoft.com/Search/en-US/?query=penetration%20testing&ac=3>
- [3] C. C. [Palmer](#) Ethical hacking, IBM Systems Journal, Volum 40, Number 3, 2001
- [4] Express penetration testing services, <http://www-935.ibm.com/services/us/index.wss/offering/gts/a1029491>