





September 9, 2019



# #1: Mismanagement of Assets



- Unable to identify what is connected to your network
- Unable to detect or prevent unauthorized software from running
- Hardware and Software inventories not accurate
- Unsupported systems running in the environment



# Solution: Hardware and Software Inventories

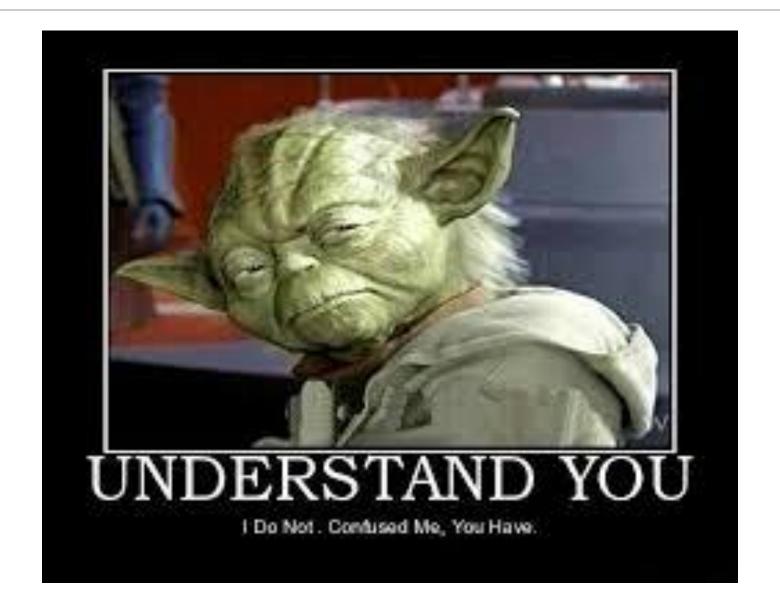


- Maintain Detailed Hardware Asset Inventory
  - Utilize active and passive discovery tools
  - Use DHCP logging
- Deploy Port Level Access Control (such as a NAC)
- Use client certificates to authenticate hardware assets
- Maintain Detailed Software Inventories
- Ensure software is supported (i.e. end of life)
- Only allow authorized software to run (application whitelisting)
- Remove unauthorized hardware and software



### #2: VA vs PT







## Vulnerability Scanning



#### **Pros**

- Can be automated / scheduled
- Easily test all objects connected to your network

#### Cons

- Prone to giving false positives
- Hard to prioritize remediation efforts (volume)
- Categorize as low risk, but is it?



### Penetration Testing



#### **Pros**

- Confirms exposure
- Find more granular issues that a vulnerability scan may not detect
- Can verify your detection and response capabilities (more on this later!)

#### Cons

- Manual, typically more expensive
- Testing may not hit every object (focus is sometimes limited)



### Solution: Do Both!







## #3: Vulnerability Management



- Not tied into your software and hardware inventories
- Not frequent enough or does not align with your patching process
- Too frequent and/or lack of resources to address issues identified in report
- Untrusted or non-credentialed scan
- Missing policies (frequency, risk ratings, etc.)



# Solution: Vulnerability Scanning Process & Configuration



- Include all hardware and software objects
- Align timing of vulnerability scanning with patch process
- Provide resources to manage vulnerability scan data
- Implement governance process to measure results against policies
- Perform a trusted or credentialed scan
- Define your policies and patch moderate and lower risk vulnerabilities (as applicable)
- Deploy automated patch tools
- Measure your effectiveness (metrics)



# #4: Pentesting Bang for Your Buck!



- Quality of your pen testers (rely on vulnerability tools)
- Not verifying your detective and response capabilities
- Limit scope and time





### Solution: Pentesting



- Make sure you are getting quality pentesters
- Include testing your detection capabilities
- Give them enough time to do a thorough pentest
- Include all types of penetration testing:
  - Internal network
  - External network
  - Web application
  - Wireless
- Schedule different scenarios as you mature (have a multi-year plan approach)



### **#5: Administrative Access**



- Misuse of administrator privileges is a primary method bad actors use
- Only "IT has admin access to the network" is not good enough
- Local administrator user accounts (i.e. workstations) all have the same password
- Not using a multifactor authentication
- Lack of basic monitoring



# Solution: Locking Down Admin Access



- Maintain an inventory of administrative user accounts (use automated tools)
- Change defaults
- Use dedicated admin accounts
- Use unique passwords (i.e. local administrator accounts)
- Use MFA
- Use a dedicated workstation for all administrator task
- Limit access to scripting tools (i.e. Powershell)
- Log and alert of changes to group membership and on unsuccessful login



## #6: Weak Configurations



- Default configurations
- Open services and ports
- Vulnerable protocols
- Unnecessary software running

"Our domain configuration is locked down using group policy (GPO's) from Active Directory. We push out our configuration that way"



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- Maintain a standard security configuration for all authorized operating systems and software
- Deploy system configuration management tools to enforce configurations
- Implement system configuration monitoring systems
- Maintain secure images and securely store master images
  CIS Benchmarks™





### #7: You're Blind to Activities



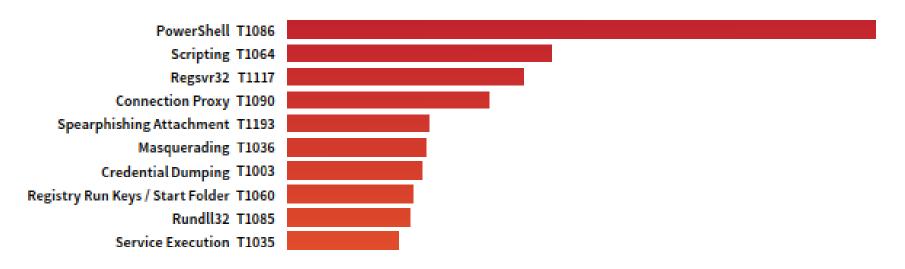
- Lack of centralization and correlation of logs
- Log collection scope is limited
- Monitoring systems (i.e. SIEMs) are not being managed
- Device clocks are different
- Logs are not properly analyzed to detect bad actors' activities



### Solution: Implement a SIEM



- Activate audit logging
- Collect logs from all sources
- Utilize three synchronized time sources
- Centralized and correlate logs
- Configure and management SIEM





## #8: Shiny Objects



- Purchasing that next generation technology
  - Lack of expertise
  - Lack of people resources
  - No process in place





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- Understand your threats
- Understand your current profile
- Define where you want to be (cybersecurity strategy)
- Develop corrective action plans (in house or outsource)
- Measure and monitor progress





## Cybersecurity Trends



- Multifactor authentication for internal network
- Next generation malware protection (behavior based)
- Centralized logging and alerting
- Integrating threat intelligence into security systems
- Emulating phishing attacks (performed by in-house personnel) with increase frequency
- Secure configuration (patch management is only half of it!)
- Security Assessments
- Integrating cyber into ERM



## Cybersecurity Trends



- Additional FTE's both at the second line of defense and the first line of defense
- Use of additional security control frameworks
- Outsourcing missing expertise
  - Centralized logging and alerting / Security Operations Center
  - Integrating threat intelligence into security systems
  - Chief Information Security Officer / Information Security
    Officer (CISO/ISO) role
  - Incident response management (check your cyber insurance policy)



# Conclusion: Do the Basics Well



- Know what is connected to you network
- Know what is running on your network
- Identify vulnerabilities, remediate, and minimize the window of opportunity for attackers
- Control admin privileges
- Secure configuration
- Maintain, monitor and analyze activity



### Thank You!



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