
New York e-Commerce Testing

Commercial Practices in IA Testing Panel

**22 March 2001
Albuquerque, NM**

W I N D E R M E R E

The logo for Windermere, featuring a stylized purple swoosh that curves from the bottom left towards the top right, positioned above the company name.

Organization



- I. Problem Statement**
- II. Testing Methods**
- III. The Paper Trail**
- IV. Ending Notes**

I. Problem Statement



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e-Commerce Environment

- Hurried
- Dynamic
- Aggressive
- Competitive



Typical Startup .com System



What do commercial “systems” look like?

- **Hosting Service provides infrastructure and environment**
- **Servers at hosting service run the system applications**
- **Applications are either developed or purchased for integration into system**
- **Testing is often outsourced**



This is different from the typical DoD system

Commercial Attitudes



- **Security Requirements are an accepted part of system requirements**
- **Rising Computer Crime is a cause of concern**
 - » Targeting e-Commerce
 - » External & Internal
- **Global Nature of the problem is an issue**
 - » U.S.A.
 - » Korea
 - » Russia
 - » Spain
 - » More...
- **Attackers have a Variety of Purposes**
 - » System Reconnaissance
 - » Denial of Service
 - » Blackmail
 - » Compromise of customer information, credit card accounts, ...

“Why do you rob banks?”

“It is where the money is.”

- **NYC Internet Service Provider service halted by Denial-of-Service attack**
- **Newer threats are Distributed Denial-of-Service attacks**

Blackmail



- **Schoolboy Hacker – Caused 20,000 Pounds (Sterling) damage. Tracked easily** (source : icnlist)
- **CD Universe blackmailed**

Credit Card Theft and Database Theft Concerns



From: info@bibliofind.com
Date: Mon, 05 Mar 2001 12:03:28 -0500
Subject: Important Information from Bibliofind
To: info2@bibliofind.com

Dear Bibliofind Customer:

Bibliofind has just learned of a security violation on its site that compromised the security of credit card information used on Bibliofind's servers from last October through February 2001. We have no information at this time to suggest that your credit card has been misused, but we wanted to notify you as a precautionary measure. We have been in contact with the federal law enforcement authorities on this matter, and we have also notified the appropriate credit card companies, so that they can take the necessary steps to protect the interests of any cardholders who may be affected. If you have specific questions about your credit card account, please contact the issuer of your credit card. To ensure this doesn't happen again, we have removed all customer credit card information, physical addresses, and phone numbers from Bibliofind's servers. We expect to bring the Bibliofind system back into operation shortly. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. You can contact us with questions at info@bibliofind.com.

Sincerely,
Bibliofind

Trojan Horse



From: XXXXX XXXX <XXXXXX@XXXXX.com>
To: "Sam Nitzberg" <sni t zberg@wi tsusa.com>
Subject: Introductions and Inquiry
Date: Fri, 9 Mar 2001 16:27:10 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2448.0)
Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="-----
_=_NextPart_001_01C0A8DF.B3683BE0"

Sam:

I got your contact information from a colleague of mine. I understand that you are experts in Internet security. I have recently been made aware of a possibility of a Trojan Horse in my production environment. Ideally, I would like to verify its existence, eradicate it, and hopefully capture information of how it got there, when, and by whom. I have reason to believe it is an InCommand Access Trojan Horse operating off port 1029.

Is this something you can help us with?

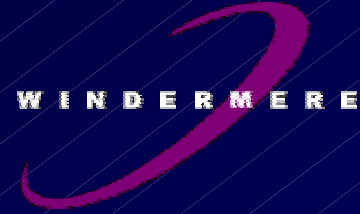
Regards,

XXXXX XXXX

Vice President of Technology

Albuquerque Surrender

(Feb. 2001)



Jerome Heckenkamp

- **From LANL**
- **Accused of causing more than \$1 M in damage**
- **Accused of breaking in (or trying to break in) to eBay, Exodus Communications, Juniper Networks, Inc., Etrade, Lycos, Cygnus Support Solutions.**

Awareness Sources



**The New York City E-Commerce Community
uses diverse information sources to maintain
awareness :**

- **New York Times**
- **Wall Street Journal**
- **MSNBC**
- **Bloomberg**
- **More ...**

Community Meetings



ISSA (Information Systems Security Association) NYC Chapter

- Regular meetings in Manhattan
- Presentations
- Vendors of security solutions
- Regular discussions amongst security professionals

<http://www.nymissa.org>

<http://www.issa.org>

Emergency Contacts

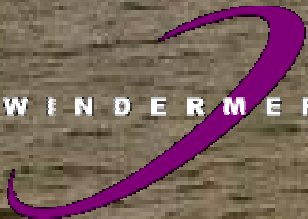


- **Emergency CERT contact numbers**
- **Security and Systems Administrators**
- **FBI contact information**
- **CIO contact information**

II. Testing Perspectives

Many views

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Types of Security Testing



Type of Testing	Description
Risk Assessment	An investigative and analytic process to develop an overall picture of an organization's information protection posture
Security Audit	A formal review of an organization's information systems to verify the implementation and operation of access controls
Vulnerability Scanning	Technical survey of information systems against a set of known vulnerabilities
Stress Testing	Test system transaction capacities including resistance to denial of service attacks
Penetration Testing	Compromise security services and gain unauthorized access to systems or data

“Information assurance” is not a generally used commercial term

Seals of Approval



■ Care about :

- » Statements that industry practices are being met
- » Care about government issues

■ Do not care about :

- » Specific certifications from security organizations

Related Organizations



- **The Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Center FS/ISAC for banking, security, insurance industries**
 - » ISAC- A secure database, analytic tools to submit (anonymous or attributed) reports regarding threats, vulnerabilities, incidents, and solutions
 - » No US Government or law enforcement access

http://fsisac.com/fsisac_overview.htm

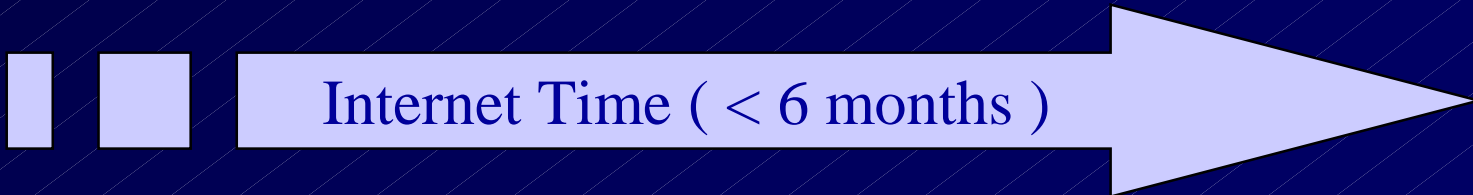
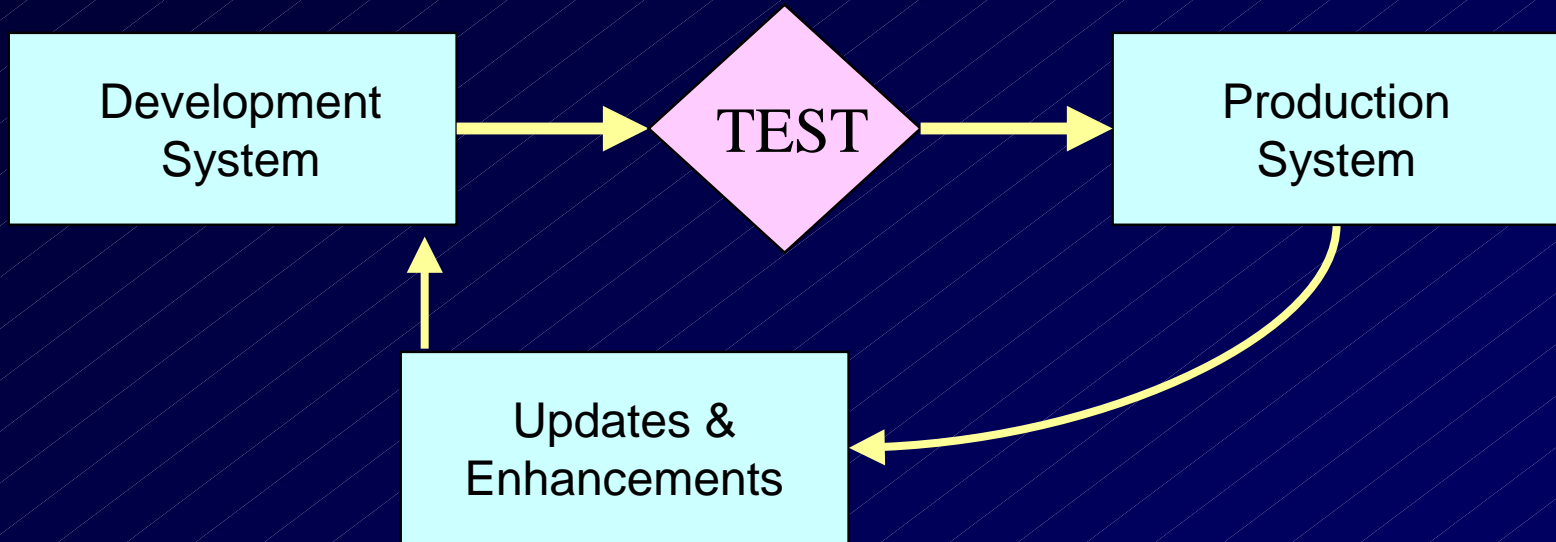
Forensics



- **Procedures are in place to properly secure and stow computers and their media in case of detected criminal activity or infiltration**
- **These procedures must meet legal muster for the handling of evidence**
- **Recommendation was made to banking and e-commerce representatives to drill for responses to critical incidents**

(Ex – FBI Computer Crime Squad office member, NYC)

Perspectives and Life-Cycles



Production System Protection



■ Routine Activities

- » Run full-time Denial of service (DOS) checks
- » Perform Monthly security scans
- » Perform “Regular” checks of advisories

■ Schedule regular system updates to fix problems or to add enhancements

- » Must test and assess systems to ensure that all patches are relevant, current, and do not “break” systems
- » Not adequately testing patched systems carries risks
- » Patches may break or impair systems or their security
- » Over-testing causes delays, prolonging exposure to the security hazards that the patch would repair

Publicly Traded Companies



- All publicly traded groups have independent auditors
- External Audit – The “Big Five”
 - » Provide full audit services including information security
 - » Results go into a consolidated audit report
 - » Main requirements are access controls and accountability
- The company’s internal audit group provides all relevant information:
 - » Reports from compliance group
 - » Information on networks
 - » Contact information
- Security Group
 - » Examines current advisories
 - » Tells groups which tools to put in place
 - » Their guidelines are enterprise-wide
 - » Tracks exceptions to guidelines

III The Paper Trail

What is done with the reports ?

Testing Follow-up



Once the Test Report is delivered...

- **Fixes are made by in-house staff**
- **Fixes are made judiciously**
- **Production systems are changed out of cycle only for urgent issues**
- **Testing is rerun to verify corrections**

Results Have High Visibility



- **Corporate security risks go to security office, CIO,VP and in turn, Chair**
- **May vary...**
- **Data will be captured, but what will go up the chain will only be what the executives want**
- **Some will delegate more security responsibility to a lower level. More critical portals would likely have higher visibility**

IV Ending Notes



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Conclusions



- **Keep testing as part of the development process even when time is constrained**
- **Separate the responsibilities for development, test, and verification**
- **Establish accountability for security**
- **Maintain current awareness of security issues**
- **Maintain combination of testing tools**
- **Test and retest frequently**
- **Discriminate in analysis of test results**
- **Implement fixes**

Risks



- **Weighing risks versus costs (“profits”) is a key commerce theme**
- **In e-commerce, losses are “only money” or “only data”**
- **Military risks may demand greater risk mitigation**

Games of Chance



- **Banks and e-commerce sites stake their potential losses and their credibility against the success of a damaging security incident**
- **Those organizations that do not successfully tolerate their threat environment lose: they fail their mission, and they absorb secondary losses through customer attrition**

Thank you.....
Questions.....

A photograph of the New York City skyline, featuring several prominent skyscrapers, including the Twin Towers, viewed from across a body of water under a cloudy sky.

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The logo for Windermere, featuring a stylized purple swoosh above the word "WINDERMERE" in white capital letters.

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