Analyzing vulnerability assessment data the easy way...



Who am I?

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- » Author of Seccubus
- » Blogger for CupFigther.net

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A story about two guys...



C. Lueless

Mission: Perform a weekly vulnerability scan of all our public IP addresses



C. Lueless...

Decides to use a regular vulnerability scanner...





SCHUBERG PHILIS



... needs to get up very early

...manually starts his scan and waits...



... finishes the scan and goes back to sleep...



... and analyzes the report in the morning



B. Rightlad

Uses Seccubus...



... he spends the morning configuring Seccubus...



... goes home ...



...Relaxes ...



Image: Orion's Umbra, a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial (2.0) image from jahdakinebrah's photostream

... the scanning happens at night ...



... and when he wakes up ...



... he can analyze the findings and remediate



A Seccubus scan...



What is Seccubus...

- » Seccubus is a wrapper around vulnerability scanners
- » GUI is geared towards analyzing and "ticking-off" findings that have been seen
- » Compares consecutive scans
- » Supports multiple scanners:
 - Nessus
 - OpenVAS
 - Nikto
 - More to follow

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Let us commence to week two



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Would the effort be worth it?



Week 1

Spot the differences...



Week 2

B. Rightlad

Uses Seccubus...



... the scan is scheduled, he can simply go home ...



SCHUBERG PHILIS

... relax ...



Image: Half Moon, a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No-Derivative-Works (2.0) image from za3tooor's photostream

... the scanning happens at night ...



Za3tOoOrll

... and when he wakes up ...



... he can analyze the findings and remediate



The delta engine at work



Let us commence to week three



C. Lueless...

Decides to use a regular vulnerability scanner...

SCHUBERG PHILIS



... needs to get up very early

...manually starts his scan and waits...



... finishes the scan and goes back to sleep...


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B. Rightlad

Uses Seccubus...



... the scan is scheduled, he can simply go home ...



... relax ...



Image: Himalayan Moonrise, a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial No-Derivative-Works (2.0) image from swamysk's photostream

... the scanning happens at night ...



... and when he wakes up ...



... he can analyze the findings and remediate



Just to show you...



Problem description

- » Nessus is a very powerful vulnerability scanner
- » 'Free' (As in beer) TCP/IP security scanner
- » Best valued security scanner (sectools.org survey of 2000, 2003 and 2006)
- » Nessus generates a lot of output. Maybe too much?
- » Scanning takes a lot of time and is not automated
- » A lot of time is spent on analysis
- » Nessus GUI is not great for analyzing scans

» Work risk ratio

What does Seccubus do differently?

Scanning is started from the command line

» This means it can be started from cron

The findings are stored in a "database"

» Currently the database is a directory structure

Presentation via a WebGUI

- » Easy triage via filtering
- » Status allows you to "tick-off" findings

What happened under the hood?

The Nessus client was started via the command line.

Results where saved as:

- » HTML
- » XML (No longer supported as of Nessus 4.x)
- » NBE

Nessus backend (.NBE) format

Simpel format <type> | <netwerk> | <ip> | <port> | <plugin ID> | <prio> | <plugin output>

Findings have all fields populated, e.g.:

» results|192.168.157|192.168.157.30|ntp (123/udp)|10884|Security Note|\nSynopsis :\n\nAn NTP server is listening...

For open ports, only the first four fields are populated, e.g.:

» results 192.168.157 192.168.157.20 ssh (22/tcp)

Findings are converted to a directory structure

Findings

» Host

- Port
 - Pluginid (Portscanner voor open port)
 - · Remark Text entered via web GUI
 - Status The status given in the web GUI
 - · YYYYMMDDhhmmss

This tree structure can be easily used to compare consecutive scans

It's all about status...

Assigned by Seccubus		
NEW	Found for the first time	
CHANGED	Output has changed	
GONE	Not found anymore	
Assigned by the User		
OPEN	Risk	
NO ISSUE	Norisk	
FIXED	Should not trigger again	
HARD MASKED	Ignore this	

HARD MASKED	Will be ignored
GONE / FIXED	Keeps its status untill found again
OPEN / NO ISSUE	Keeps its status untill output changes
CHANGED	Was NO ISSUE or OPEN, but output changed
NEW	Was GONE or FIXED, but reappeared

IF IT IS OK, IT IS OK ...WHY MAKE A FUZZ? How about a third scan (Chapter 5)

Seccubus at Schuberg Philis

Schuberg Philis is a high end provider of managed services for Mission Critical application infrastructure

Security is key,....

We focus exclusively on the applications that businesses rely on 24 hours a day, guaranteeing 100% uptime; a focus that we feel is instrumental in providing high-quality services

Our customer profile

- » Large sized to medium enterprises
- » Operating in regulated markets
- » Strong focus on governance and change/risk management
- » Balance between control, flexibility and innovation
- » Augmenting corporate IT shared service centers or specific business unit as a specialist
- » Application partnership with critical application vendors
- » Rabobank IDB, Eneco Energy Trading, Deloitte,...

Schuberg Philis; some scan statistics

Scans all external IP addresses of all customers it manages monthly First scan: 28 August 2007 Infrastructures converge to 0 findings # IP addresses on 4 February 2009: 4038 # Nessus findings January 2009: 8777

Mission Impossible without Seccubus

Other references

Soleus

» Community provider of virtual private servers

Molecular Science Computing Facility in Richland, Washington

» 4800+ nodes

Global provider of air defense, air traffic control, airline and airport operations management, and data integration and distribution

» Approx 450 hosts

Others:

- » Dutch ISP
- » Treasury Software as a Service provider
- » Dutch and US IT service providers
- » Bacardi
- » Bink.nu Windows technology blog
- » 2 Dutch IT security firms
- » Dutch multimedia company

Recap...

Monthly scanning with Nessus would mean:

- » Getting up a night to start the scans
- » Looking at non-informative findings (e.g. traceroute) every month
- » A lot of boring repetative work, high change of errors
- » A lot of work even if there are no changes to the infrastructure

So...

Monthly Seccubus runs means:

- » Scans are scheduled via crontab
- » Only the findings that need attention get it
- » Less errors due to less repetitave work.
- » The amount of effort is proportional to the amount of changes
- » Risk is proportional to the amount of changes

Why did we develop and release an open source tool?

We needed it!

We decided to give something back because we use a lot of open source tools:

- » Nagios
- » CFEngine
- » Rancid
- » MRTG
- » RRD tool
- » Cacti
- » "LAMP"
- » CVS
- »

Roadmap...

What is up for next versions of Seccubus?

Have a database backend

- » Better performance
- » Easier to link multiple findings to a single issue
- » Easier to link a single finding to multiple issues

Support more scanners

- » NMAP
- » Metasploit/Metasploit express?
- » Others?

Open architecture:

- » More scanners can be added
- » Pluggable authentication?
- » Trouble ticket integration?

More "manager" information:

- » Graphs
- » Dashboards

New release



Installation package

Version 1.5 can be installed via an RPM package



Compliance

Seccubus v1.5 can handle Nessus compliance jobs



Nikto scanning

- » Nikto version 2.1.2 supports .nbe output
- Nikto can be launched natively from the box running Seccubus
- » Each line in the Nikto output becomes a finding in Seccubus



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Questions?



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