

## Attacking is easy, defending is hard

ir. Walter Belgers, CISSP, CISA

## Walter Belgers

- Principal Security Consultant and Partner at Madison Gurkha B.V.
- Has been working in the IT security field for over 16 years

- Madison Gurkha supports organisations with high quality services to efficiently identify, decrease and prevent IT security risks
- With a focus on *technical* security aspects



## HACKERS CAN TURN YOUR HOME COMPUTER INTO A BOMB

By RANDY JEFFREY / Security Writer

WASHINGTON — Right now, computer hackers have the ability to turn your home computer into a bomb and blow you to Kingdom Come — and they can do it anonymously from thousands of miles away.

Experts say the recent "botnet" that garaged the Internet, DoS and other websites are tame compared to what will happen in the near future.

Computer expert Arnold Yakovlev, president of the Washington-based computer group National CyberCrime Prevention Foundation (NCCPF), says that as far as computer crime is concerned, we're only seen the tip of the iceberg.

"The criminals who hacked our three major online banks are not the only ones," Yakovlev said. "There are brilliant but unscrupulous hackers and there are those who have developed sophisticated tools that the average person can't even dream of using people who are not even close."

... & blow your family to smithereens!

WASHINGTON is right and look like it, but no innocent home computer like this one can be turned into a deadly weapon.

"As checking on this is, it shouldn't surprise anyone. It's just the next step in an ever-evolving progression of hackers' creativity and limited by technology."

Yakovlev points out that these dangerous, out-of-control hackers already have hacked into the U.S. Army's network.

• Broken into Chinese military network.

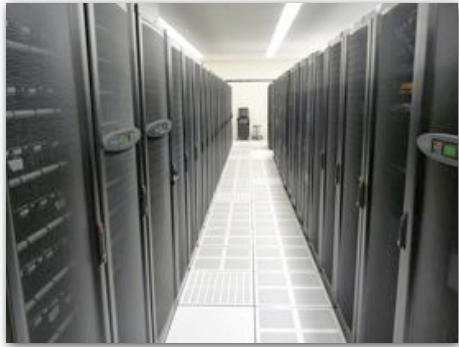
• Come within two digits of crashing an F-117 stealth bomber's flight path. That would have sent doubly sensitive information, several times of America's war plans, several times of America's war plans, several times of America's war plans.

Sickos can wreak death and destruction from thousands of miles away!

Arnold Yakovlev



## Physical layer



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## Solutions

- Have a policy for physical security
- Don't buy locks from the local hardware store

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## Software

- Firmware
- Operating system
- COTS Add-on packages (backup software, database, web server)
- Homebrew applications (web application)

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## Firmware



- Override boot sequence using hardware
- Evil Maid attack
- (P)DoS attacks a/k/a "phlashing"

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## Firmware



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## Solutions

- Trust your vendor :-)
- Do not leave your laptop unattended, even if you use (full) disk encryption

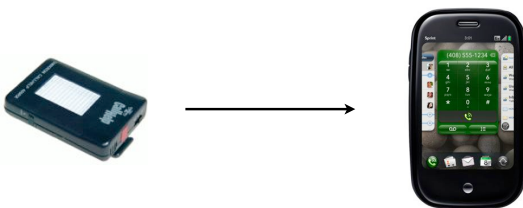
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## Software



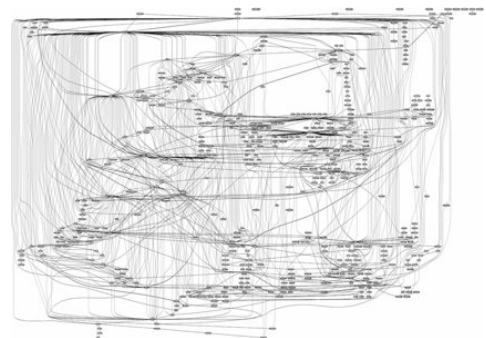
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## Speed to Market



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## Complexity

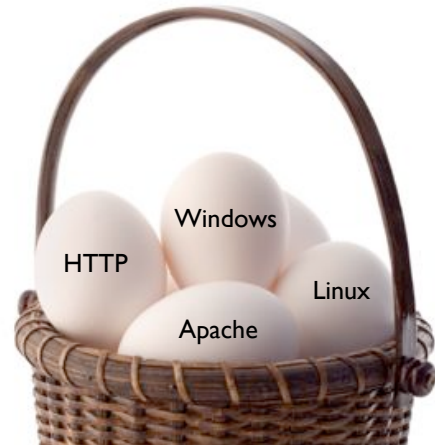


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## Monoculture



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## Software



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## Patching

- ✓ For OS and some packages: automated
- For many add-on packages: not automated



## Patching

- For homebrew software: ???
- Security audits

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## Patching

- Lot of work: test, accept, production cycle
- Dependency on specific version
- High costs when updates cause downtime



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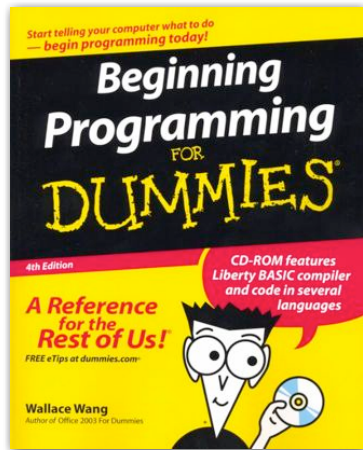


## A6 Security Misconfiguration

## Hardening

## Homebrew software





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| OWASP Top 10 – 2010 (New) |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| A1                        | – Injection                                    |
| A2                        | – Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)                   |
| A3                        | – Broken Authentication and Session Management |
| A4                        | – Insecure Direct Object References            |
| A5                        | – Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)            |
| A6                        | – Security Misconfiguration (NEW)              |
| A7                        | – Insecure Cryptographic Storage               |
| A8                        | – Failure to Restrict URL Access               |
| A9                        | – Insufficient Transport Layer Protection      |
| A10                       | – Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards (NEW)     |

www.owasp.org

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## Solutions (technical)

- Deny all, except (safe installation/*hardening*)
- Separation of duties/modular approach
- Restrict permissions
- Simplicity/ergonomics

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## Solutions (other)

- Functional requirements **and** security requirements
  - Also for 3<sup>rd</sup> party software
- Use cases **and** abuse cases
- Educate programmers in secure programming
- Security testing

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## Other things to do

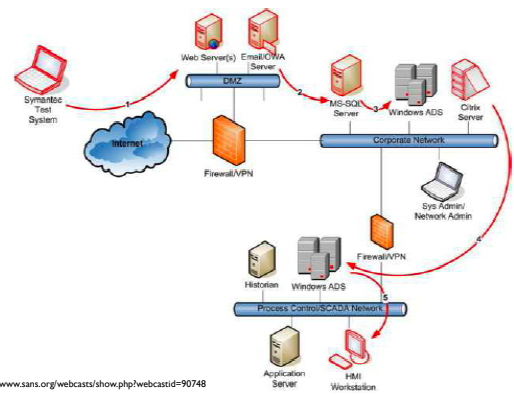
- *If All Else Fails... (and it will)*
- Multiple layers of defense (prevention)
- Logging and monitoring (detection)
- Have a plan ready (reaction)

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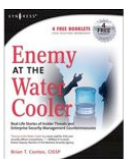
## Insider attacks

- A malicious person becoming an insider
  - Physically
    - Burglary
  - Logically
    - Hacking



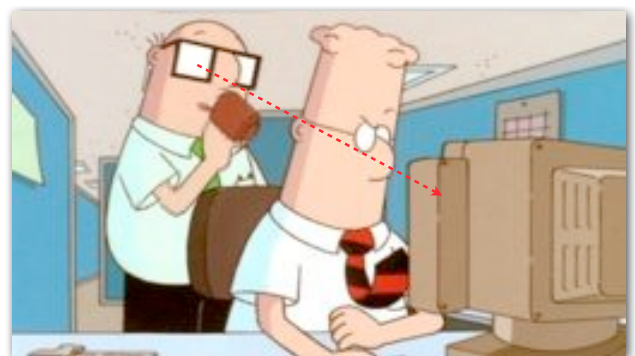
<http://www.sans.org/webcasts/show.php?webcastid=90748>

## Insider attacks



- Malicious insiders

- Insiders being (unknowingly) abused by outsiders





# Insider attacks

- Active
  - Social Engineering
  - Phishing
- Passive
  - Drive-by hacking



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## Belastingdienst doet 'dom' met USB-stick

24 jun 09 - Door Karel Ormstein en Guido van Ophoven



Medewerkers van ING, de Belastingdienst, het AMC, de PvdA, SP, de Marokkaanse ambassade en tal van andere organisaties hebben zonder nadenken een gevonden USB-stick in de bedrijfscomputer gestopt.

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## Educating users

- A process, not just an awareness session

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## Attack vectors

- Browser plugins
- Screensaver, picture in an email
- Codec to play a clip
- P2P-software
- Anti-malware

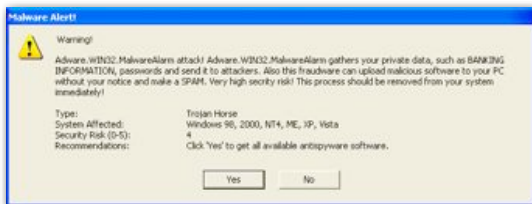
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# Solutions

- Find all known risks and act on them
- Fix bugs on all systems for all software
- Keep doing this
- Do secure installations (configurations)
- Embed security in the devpt process
- Educate and screen users and keep on doing this
- Monitor and be ready

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