How Secure Is Your Environment? Hacker Perspectives...







whoami

Contact Details

Yves Pellaton

Senior Security Consultant | Team Lead

SEC Consult (Schweiz) AG

Freilagerstrasse 28 | 8047 Zurich | Switzerland

P +41 44 271 77 70

<u>y.pellaton@sec-consult.com</u> | <u>www.sec-consult.com</u>

SEC DEFENCE 24/7 EMERGENCY HOTLINE: +41 44 545 10 85 ADVISOR FOR YOUR INFORMATION SECURITY.

website | blog | twitter | xing | linkedin

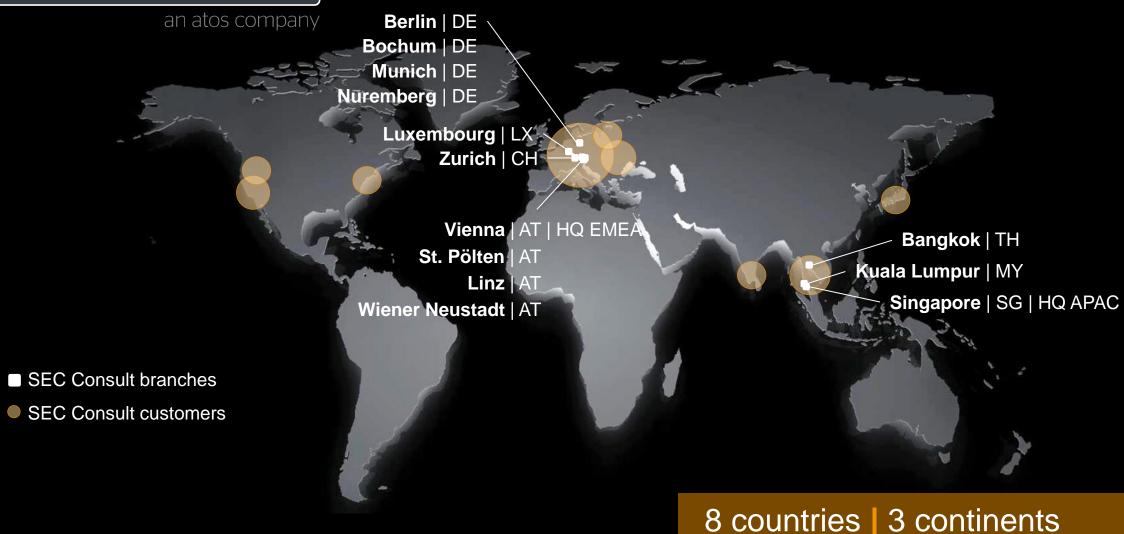












SEC Consult Service Portfolio



TECHNICAL SECURITY ASSESSEMNTS



SEC Defence

(Web) Application Security
Mobile Security
IT Infrastructure Security
Security for SAP Services
IoT and Embedded System Security
Security Code Review





PROZESS MANAGEMENT FOR INFORMATION SECURITY

Information Security Management Data Protection Management





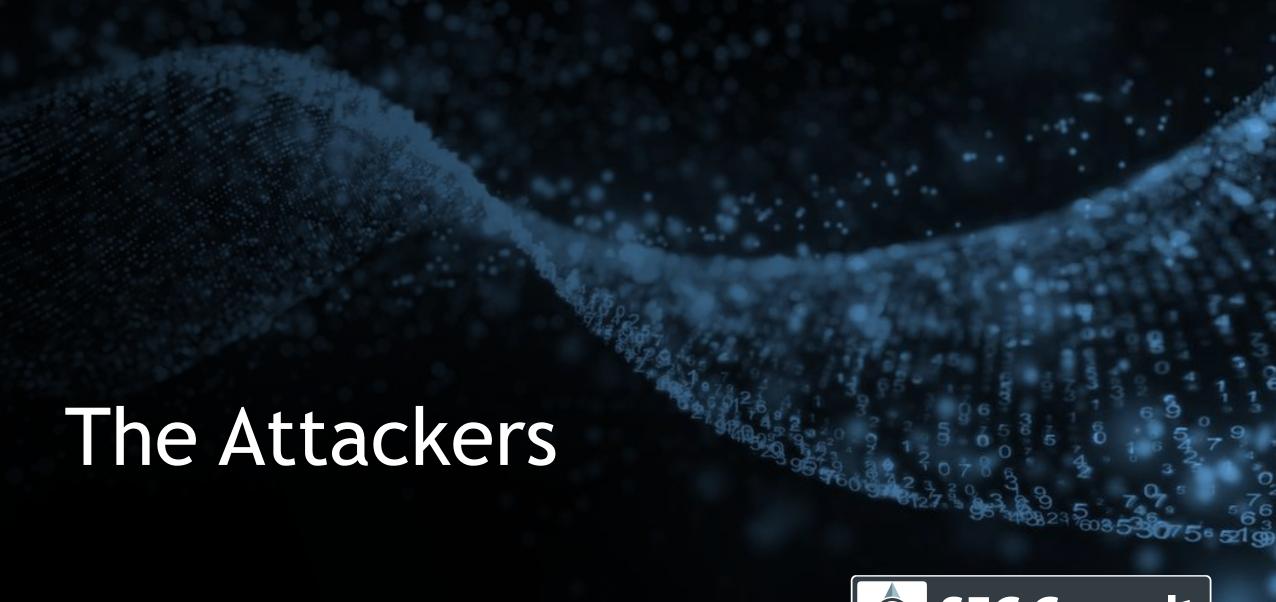






SEC Consult Vulnerability Lab







The Hackers

Profiles of attackers
Script Kiddies



Cyber-Crime-as-a-Service Organized Criminal Gangs



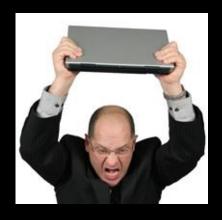
Hacktivists



Competitors



Internal Threats



Nation States





The Hackers

Attacker vs. Defender

The Attacker...

- can choose the weakest point(s)
- can probe for unknown vulnerabilities
- can strike at will
- can play dirty
- many free software/tools available

The Defender...

- must defend all points
- can defend only against known attacks
- must be constantly vigilant
- must play by the rules
- mainly expensive software available







Steps to hack a large organization The Process

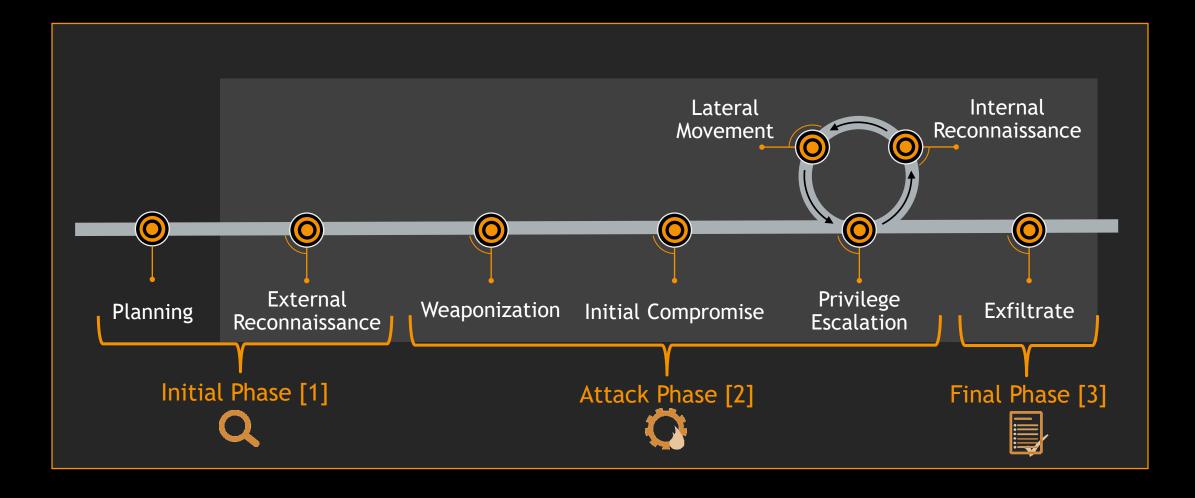
What are the typical steps involved in hacking a large organization?





The Process

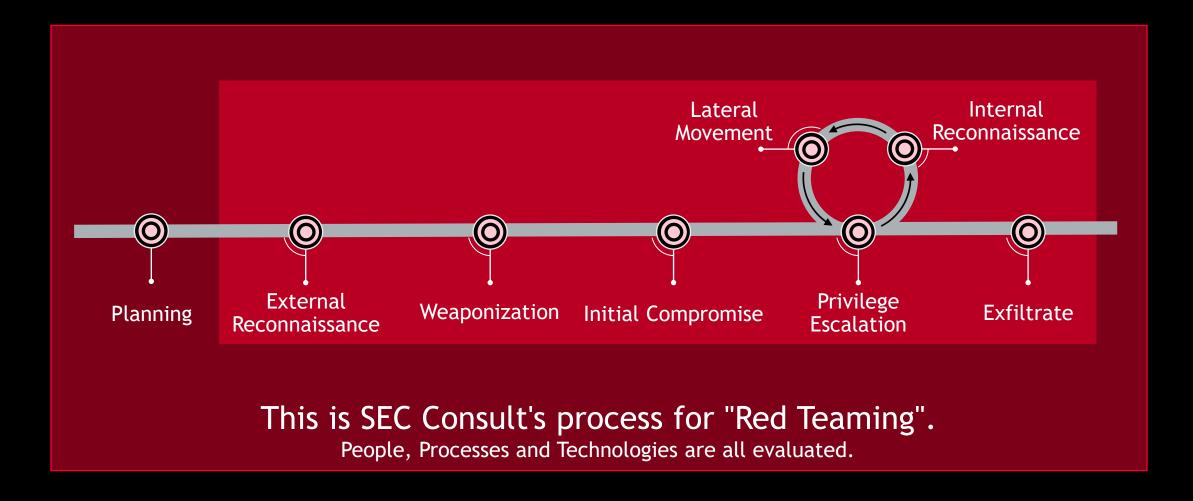
Anatomy of a targeted attack





The Process

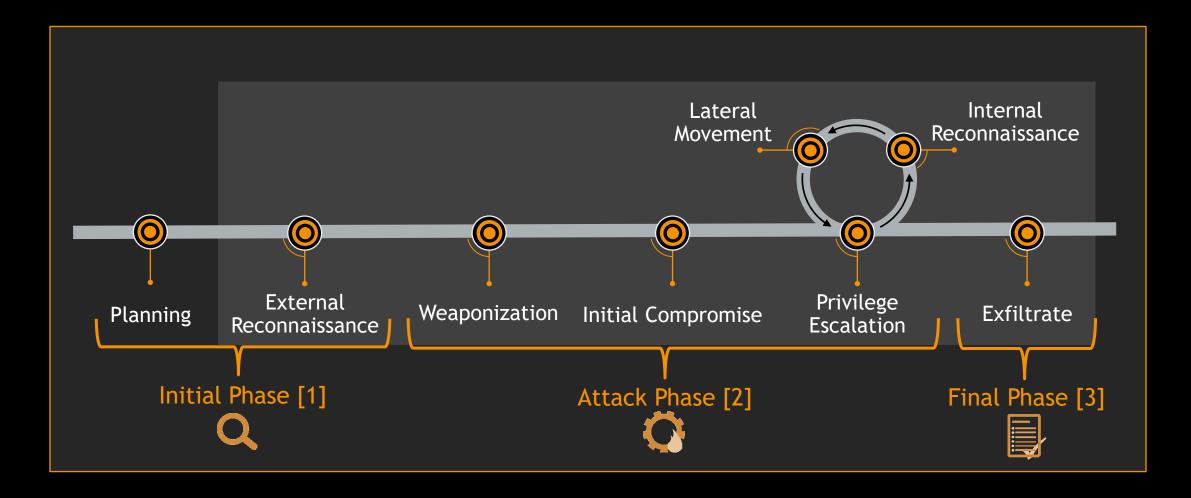
Anatomy of a targeted attack





The Process

Anatomy of a targeted attack





Hacker Perspectives Phishing Campaign



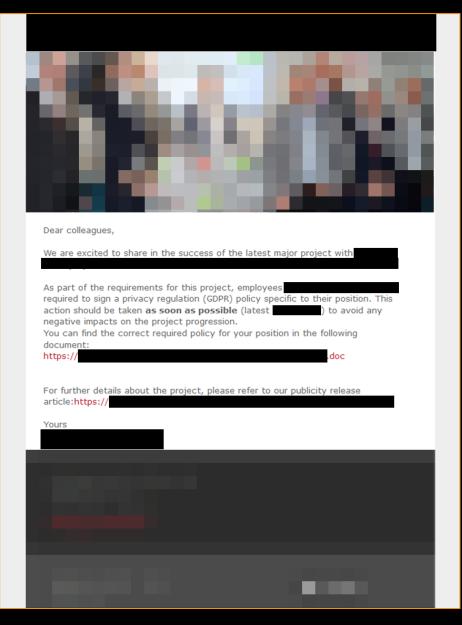
Phishing Campaigns

Phishing Emails remains a widely used attack vector.

Spear-Phishing Emails become more and more difficult to spot on the first look.

Combining actual public announcements (new managers, new contract wins, new processes, new awards) along with time pressure on the email, recipients remain an efficient recipe for success.

The trap can be a malicious document or file to download or a login page where the user has to provide their name, password and potentially also MFA information.





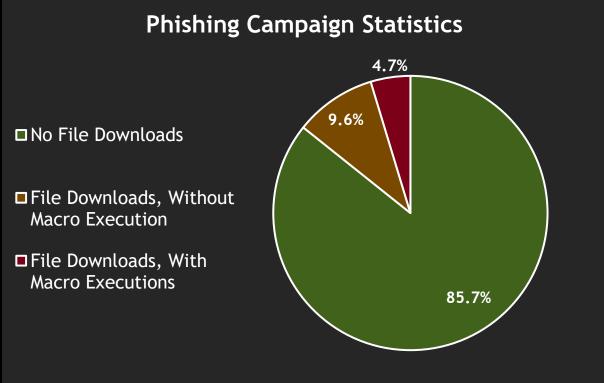
Phishing Campaign

A Phishing Campaign is an efficient method to measure the awareness within a team or a company.

However, even when the results are better than average, just one compromised employee/machine is enough for APTs and skilled attackers to start compromising the whole infrastructure.

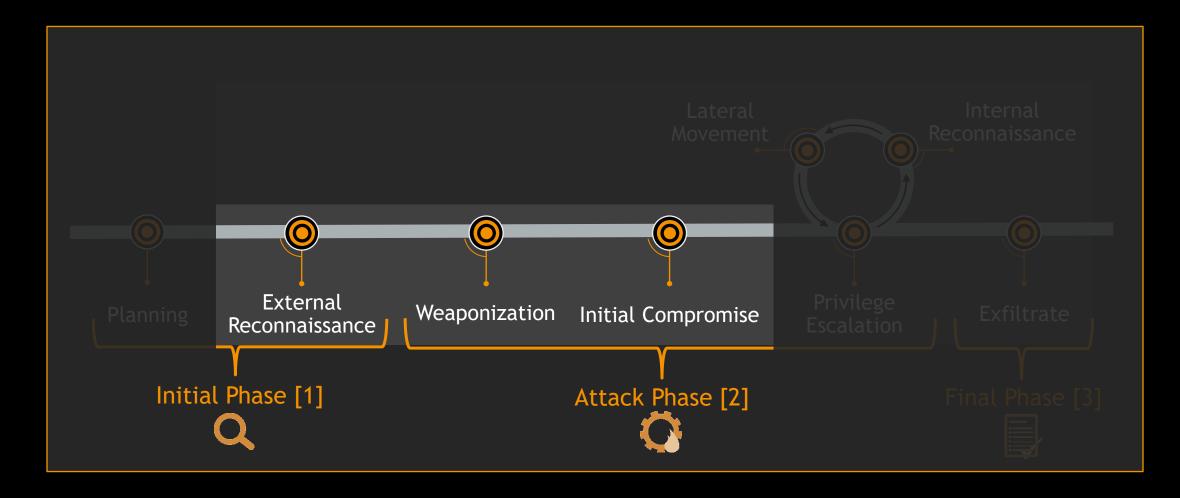
Everyone can fall for a properly prepared spare-phishing email. Unfortunately, conventional MFA cannot protect the users in

case a transparent reverse proxy is used, for example like with "Modlishka", "Muraena / Necrobrowser" and "Evilginx2".



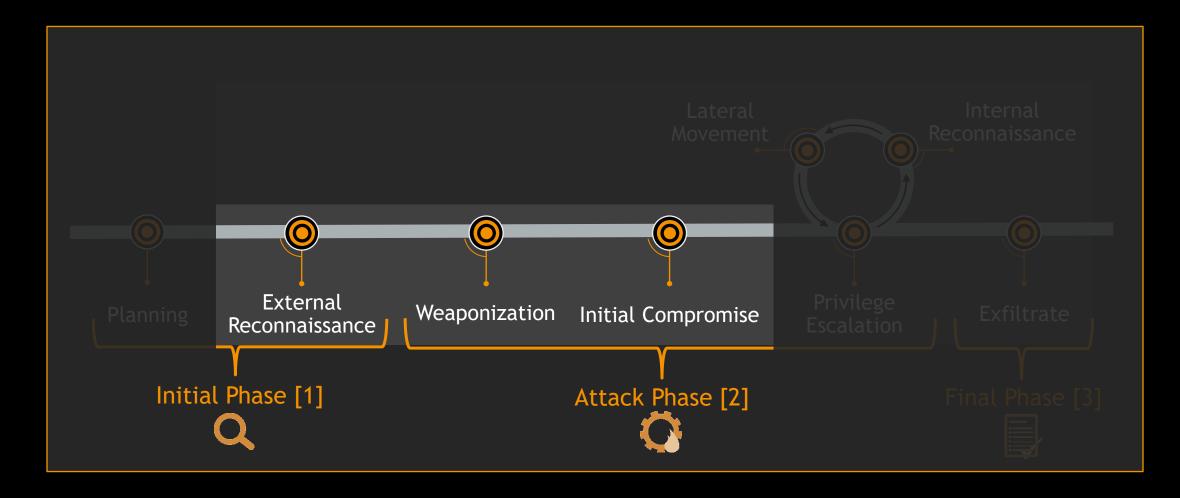


Phishing Campaign





Physical Intrusion





Hacker Perspectives Applications



Applications

Companies are using different standard and dedicated software to offer various internal and external services.

Those applications are abused by attackers to gain an initial foothold in the company network or to collect confidential information.

For example, web applications count for approximately 25% of the attack paths involving data breaches¹.

As another example, SAP is used within more than 91% of all Forbes 2000 companies for activities like HR, Finance, Controlling, Sales, Product Planning and Quality Management, therefore collecting critical information.













¹ https://www.verizon.com/business/resources/reports/dbir/interactive/



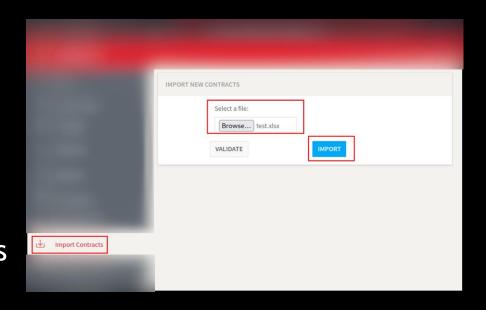
Applications

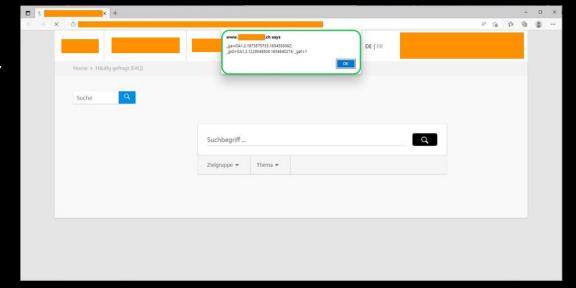
Web Applications

Attackers will try to compromise internet-facing computers or services. The weakness can be a bug or a design vulnerability. These applications are often websites, and depending on the flaw being exploited, this can lead to data leakage or even full server compromise,

providing the attackers with a foothold within the company network.

Front-end, back-end, APIs and so on all have their advantages and disadvantages regarding their security aspects.







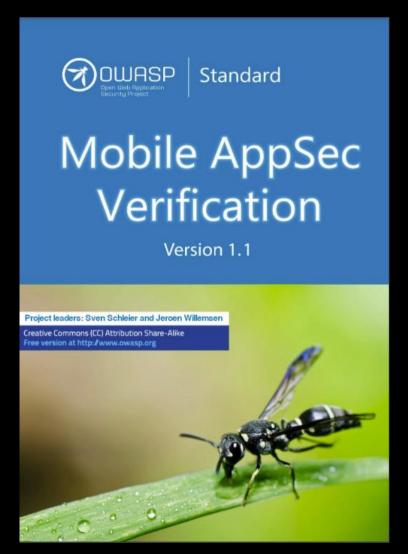
Applications

Mobile Security

Nowadays, over 50 percent of business PCs are mobile, and the increase in Internet of Things (IoT) devices poses new challenges to network security. Consequently, IT must adapt its approach to security.

A network security plan must account for all of the different locations and uses that employees demand of the company network, but some simple steps can be taken to improve mobile devices security.

Securing mobile devices requires a unified and multilayered approach. While there are core components to mobile device security, every approach will be slightly different.



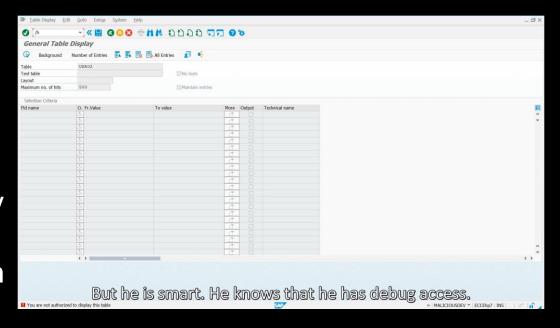


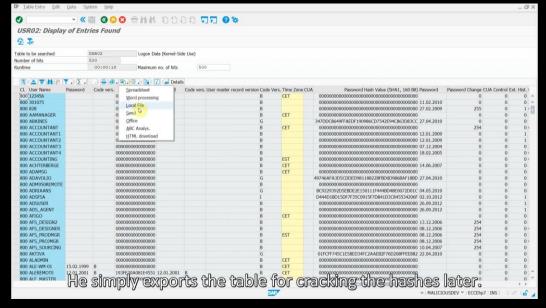
Applications

SAP Services

SAP is a highly complex system and there are countless possible vulnerabilities. If a vulnerability is identified, it is most likely a critical one. This is linked to the fact that these systems often contain transaction data, salary data and much more. The confidentiality, integrity and availability of these systems are very substantial for companies.

When testing happens in a production environment, it is important to understand the effect of every step performed, avoiding data corruption and data loss, except if it is the goal.





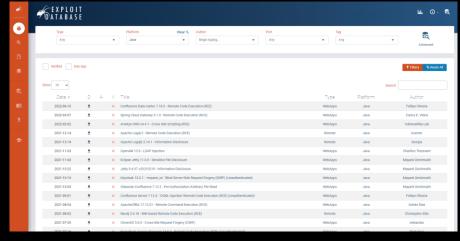


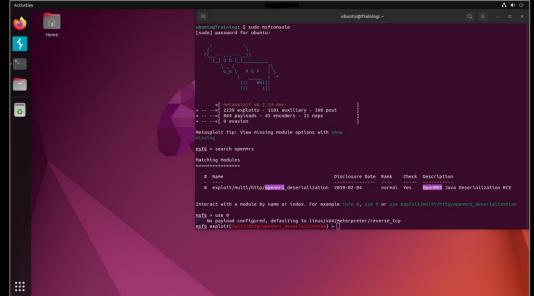
Applications

Application Security assessments allow to identify security issues related to data collected or distributed by the application. In the worst case, the application host, and therefore the internal infrastructure of a company, can be compromised.

The hackers will preliminarily look for known and unpatched vulnerabilities based on the available information. They will also aim to bypass any authentication and/or authorization mechanism.

Application security is an important aspect of every company and certainly the most used attack vector beside social engineering¹.

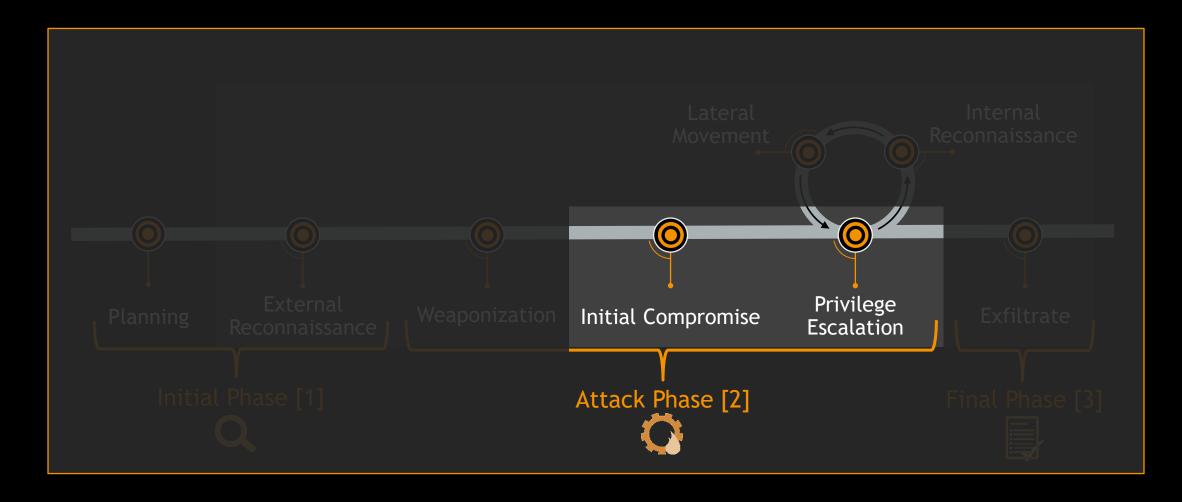




¹ https://www.verizon.com/business/resources/reports/dbir/interactive/

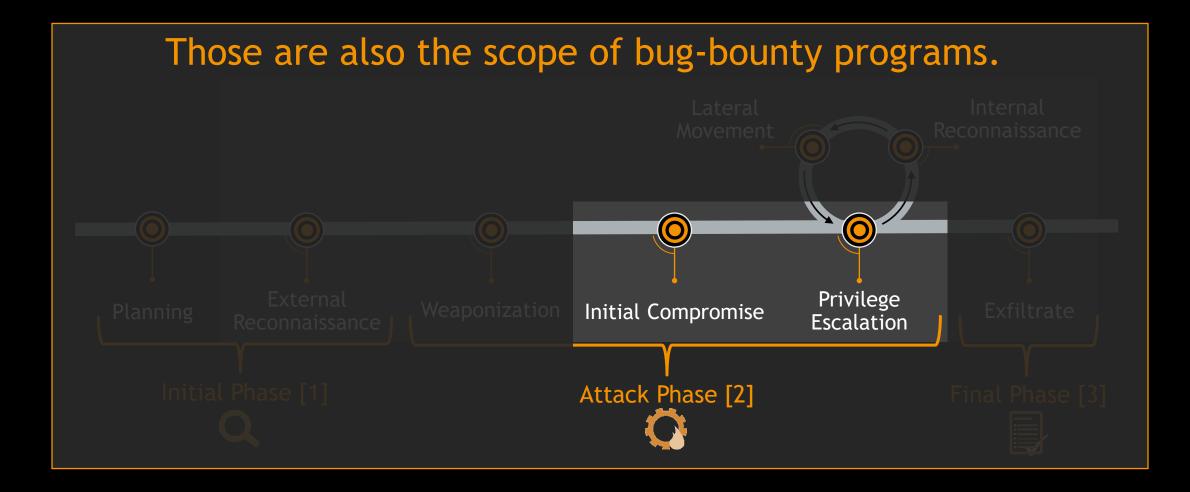


Applications





Applications





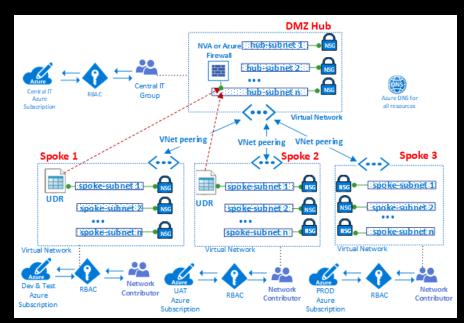
Hacker Perspectives Internal Infrastructure



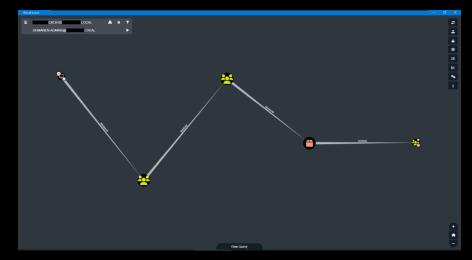
Internal Infrastructure

DMZ, Backup, Management or HR networks are part of internal infrastructure. Most companies use Active Directory in order to manage their servers, computers, users and access controls. From flat to micro-segmented networks, each solution has advantages and disadvantages regarding management, visibility and security.

Kerberoast, ADCS issues, readable Domain Controller backups, local administrator password reuse and trust relationships are all common paths used by attackers to gain administrative privileges within corporate environments, allowing them to steal secrets, compromise backups and deploy ransomware.



Source: https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/azure/cloud-adoption-framework/_images/vdc/networking-infrastructure-high-level.png



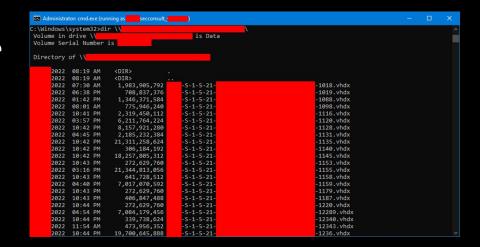


Internal Infrastructure

Internal Infrastructure assessments allow to evaluate the security posture of a company against internal threats, misconfigurations and ransomware deployment.

The hackers use automated scanners along with manual spot-checks and analysis to identify vulnerable systems and services. The goal is to gain access to confidential information, perform privilege escalation/lateral movement and potentially deploy ransomware and/or destroy data.

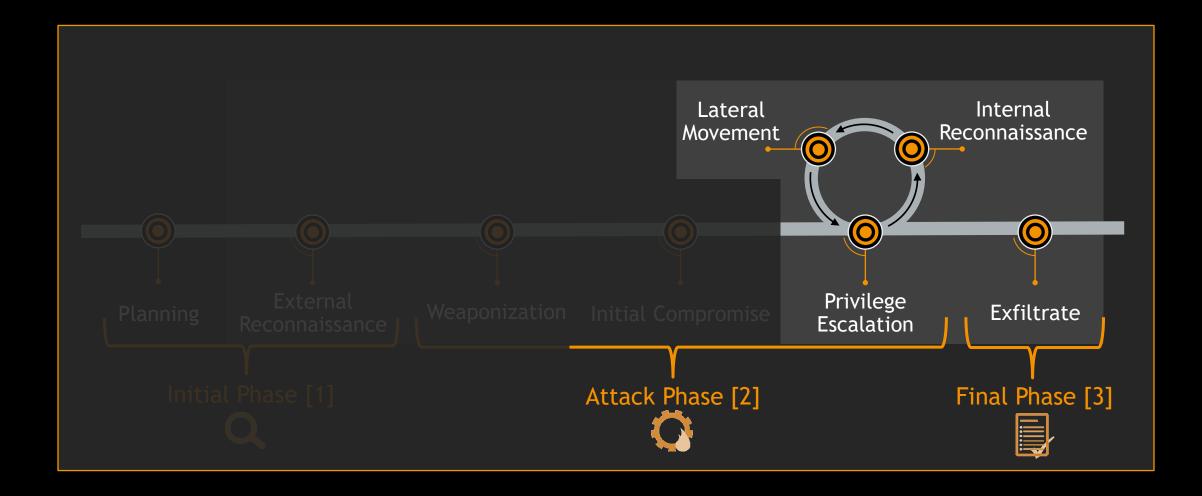
The attacker will try everything to monetize their access to the infrastructure of the company.







Internal Infrastructure





Hacker Perspectives

Digital Forensics & Incident

Response [DFIR]





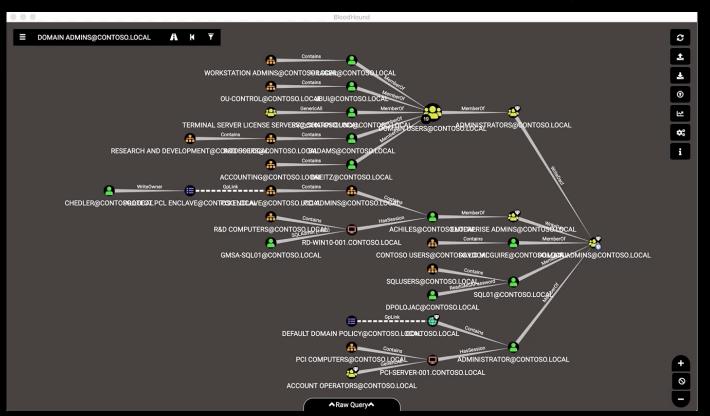
Companies are not left helpless in only being able to respond to attacks performed by threat actors, but can proactively engage with security (blue) teams to hunt out the potential threats facing their environment, even with the use of offensive tooling!

Using knowledge of "hacker tools" to the advantage of the Blue Team ©

AD Attack Path Mapping & Configuration Remediation:

BloodHound (On Prem)
AzureHound (Hybrid/Cloud)

https://bloodhound.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html



https://bloodhound.readthedocs.io/en/latest/_images/right-click-edge-help.gif



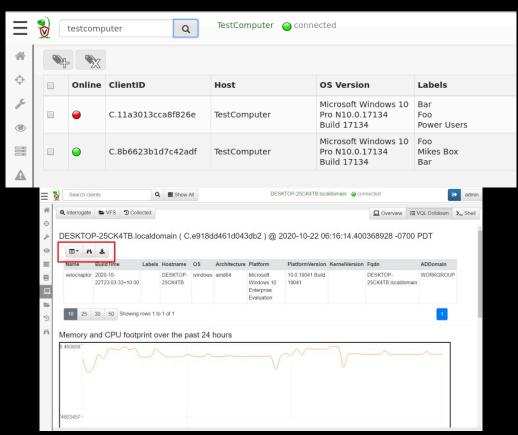


Command and Control (C2) technologies are no longer just an advantage for the adversaries or Red Teams anymore, the Blue Team can fight back with them too!

Using agile, scalable and quick to deploy (IR) C2 frameworks to enable:

- Immediate Asset Visibility Gains
- Real-Time Access To Asset Forensic/Log Artifacts
- Active Real-Time Threat Hunting
- Active Real-Time Alerting
- Real-Time Asset Quarantine





https://docs.velociraptor.app/docs/gui/clients/





Hacker Perspectives Many Possibilities

Hacking is not a crime. Hacking is a lifestyle and mindset.

Hackers provide valuable information on the security posture of companies in many different aspects and independently to compliance checks, products or brands.

Being for phishing campaigns, applications, infrastructures, EDR/XDR bypasses, hackers will find new ways/methods to reach their goal.

Every individual hacker cannot know everything in depth, but the colleagues/friends/community will allow them to get to the information in an efficient way.

Hackers like to share the information to allow everyone to move forward and grow.



Think Different, Act Different

The hacker community provides many examples of different ways to think and share information.

What about sensibilizing to usage of password managers and MFA?

Video from Rachel Tobac

Source:

https://twitter.com/RachelTobac/status/1352409636792492035 Licensing:

This file is licensed under the <u>Creative Commons</u>
Attribution 4.0 International license.



Hacker Perspectives Hire a Hacker





Do you have any questions?

Don't hesitate to contact us: office-switzerland@sec-consult.com

CYBER INCIDENT? CALL +41 44 545 10 85

www.sec-consult.com



SEC Consult in Switzerland

SEC Consult (Schweiz) AG

SWITZERLAND

SEC Consult (Schweiz) AG Freilagerstrasse 28 8047 Zurich

Tel +41 44 271 777 0

Email: office-switzerland@sec-consult.com

