

A person is seated at a conference desk, leaning forward. On the desk is a red digital clock displaying '20:00' in white. A water bottle and a microphone are also on the desk. The background is dimly lit with warm tones.

Exploits in Wetware

Attack and Defense with Social Engineering

BruCon 2018 – Robert Sell

Exploit: Social Engineering Evil Netware

*** V2: NEW CONTENT ***
Even More Evil Attacker Info!

Attacks: Social Engineering with Social Engineering

BruCon 2016 — Robert Sell

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Value Proposition

- Social Engineering Intro
- Defcon SE CTF Overview
- Open Source Intelligence (OSINT)
- Vishing (Techniques & Pretexts)
- How to Defend
- Tools & Resources



**YOU BETTER HURRY UP AND START BEING AWESOME
BECAUSE I'M NOT WAITING FOR YOU**

Legalities/Disclaimer



Statements of fact and opinions expressed
are **mine alone** and,
unless expressly stated to the contrary,
are not the opinion or position of any entity
whatsoever with which
I have been, am now or will be affiliated.

Social Engineering/Definition

*“...refers to psychological **manipulation** of people into performing actions or divulging confidential information.”*

Social Engineering/Golden Oldies

A photograph of a row of large metal dumpsters in an alleyway. The first dumpster in the foreground is open, revealing its interior. The alleyway is paved with cobblestones, and there are brick walls on either side. In the background, other dumpsters and buildings are visible.

- Impersonation
- Tailgating
- Shoulder surfing
- Dumpster diving

Social Engineering/Current Attacks



- Phishing: Email Attack
- Vishing: Phone Attack
- Smishing: SMS Attack

Social Engineering/What's Next

- Social Media Impersonation – Fake accounts to harvest creds
- Social Engineering as a Service – Vish/Phish services
- Virtual Kidnaping – For trusted source and ransom
- Whaling (your executive) – Saffron Rose (current activity)
- Pseudo Ransomware Hybrid Attack – Distraction/Attack
- Professional Network Solicitation – Flattering/solicitation
- SME/Conference Invite – Espionage baiting (first large scale APT)
- Fake Headhunters – Thousands Talent Program (China)
- Sock/Meat Puppets - Fake News/False Flag

Social Engineering/What's Next

Astroturfing: the practice of masking the sponsors of a message or organization (political, advertising, religious or public relations) to make it appear as though it originates from and is supported by a grassroots participant(s).

Every nation state has a SE division now:

- China: 50 Cent Army (the pioneers!)
- Russia: Web Brigades

Large corporations have been doing this for years. Huge market.

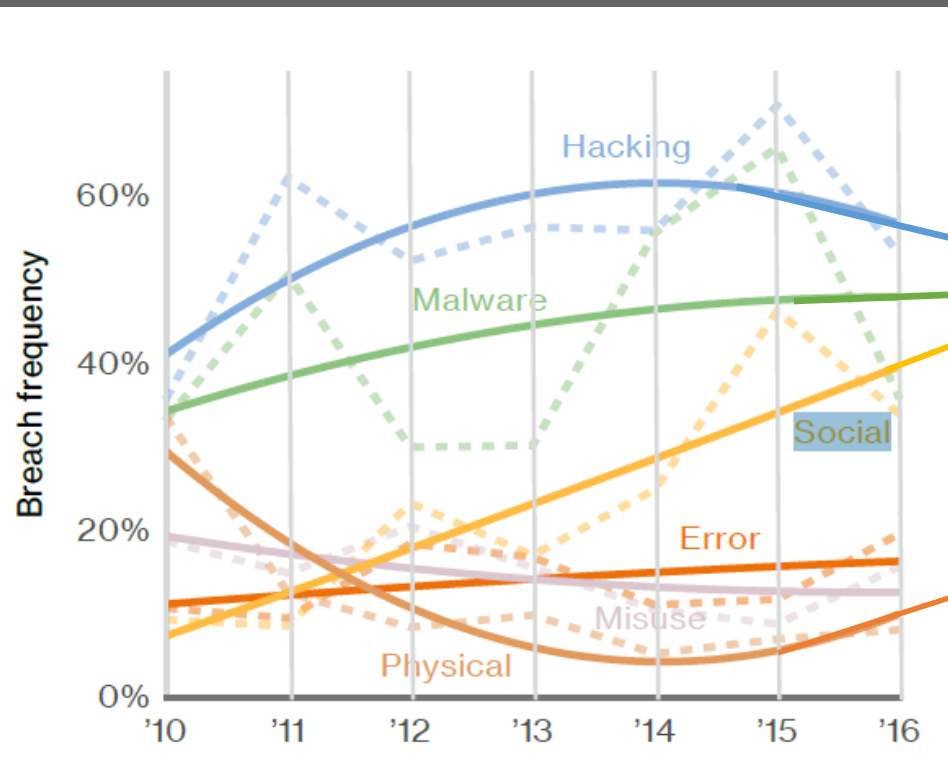
Social Engineering/Origin Story

Sales (& Marketing)

Salesmen already made social engineering into a science.
Experts at changing human perception and ultimately behavior.

Social Engineering/Trend

- 2017 Verizon Report: 90% of breaches involve social engineering.
- “Social” trend is *very* steep. Even vendors quote 20%.



Super Hot Stock

Good ETF

Bonds

Stock Recommendation by Friend

Social Engineering/Models

- The infamous OSI model: historically has been all about technology
- “User Layer” is a very cost effective target.
- Just ask for the password (and they will give it to you).

OSI Layer	Deployment Layer	SOA / OSA
10: Government	User Layer	SOA
9: Organization		
8: Individual		
7: Application	Services Layer	
6: Presentation		
5: Session	Middleware Layer	OSA
4: Transport		
3: Network	Operating System Layer	
2: Data-Link		
1: Physical	Hardware Layer	

Social Engineering/Shock&Awe

“The weakest link in the security chain is the human element”
- Kevin Mitnick

- Everyone drink the Social Engineering cool aid?
- Do we need a quick demo?

I am sorry!

Can we move on?



Social Engineering/News

Still need evidence to support investment in a phishing program?
just Google it.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Ubiquiti Networks victim of \$39 million social engineering attack

Big companies still fall for social engineering "hacks" by phone – and it's not getting

BY ROB WAUGH POSTED 31 OCT 2013 - 10:33AM

CYBERCRIME

Hacker uses social engineering to release employee files from D'J,



BY DUNCAN RILEY
UPDATED 22:26 EST, 08 FEBRUARY 2016

WOMEN@FORBES JAN 4, 2017 @ 08:00 AM 17,061

Be Prepared: The Top 'Social Engineering' Scams Of 2017



Laura Shin, FORBES STAFF
FULL BIO

Opinions expressed by Forbes Contributors are their own.

Social engineering: Employees could be your weakest link

Business leaders should be aware of the risks that social engineering can pose to their operations, reputation and customers

Criminals Use Social Engineering To W,
Malicious Chrome Extensions

Stu Sjouwerman

60% of enterprises were victims of social engineering attacks in 2016

Hacking—But Social Engineering is Bigger

Countermeasures Work

by Gameliah Palagonia, January 21, 2016

The TalkTalk aftermath: Social engineering and empty bank accounts

The company says not enough data was stolen for customer bank accounts to be affected -- so why are people finding their accounts cleaned out?

MAT HONAN GEAR 01.29.14 01:33 PM

SOCIAL ENGINEERING ALWAYS WINS: AN EPIC HACK, REVISITED

Phishing and smishing: fraud engineering fraud

By Marie Keyworth
Business reporter, BBC World Service

GoB To Divulge

Posted Jan 29, 2014 by Matthew

Hacking you. use social engine

Posted: January 20, 2016 by Wendy Zamora

Last updated: April 27, 2016

's Social Engineering Led It Account Hack

mercriminals

Defcon SE CTF/Stages

Stage 1: OSINT - 3 Weeks – At home (6,000 minutes)

- Comprised of 16 competitors
- Everyone has own target but part of a common industry
- 29 flags to capture. Points for quality of report
- NO ENGAGEMENT

Stage 2: Vishing – Live at Defcon – (20 minutes)

- Takes place over 2 days at the SE Village at Defcon
- Same flags but can get points for each person
- Winner captures the most “flags” hence CTF

RECON

ATTACK

OSINT/Flags

Capturing “the Flags”

- Logistics: Cafeteria
- Tech: VPN
- Onsite: Janitorial service
- Company Tech: OS
- Employee Info: Tenure

Logistics	Rpt Pts	Call Pts
Is IT Support handled in house or outsourced?	3	6
Who do they use for delivering packages?	3	6
Do you have a cafeteria?	4	8
Who does the food service?	4	8
Other Tech		
What is the name of the company VPN?	4	8
Do you block websites?	2	4
If website block = yes, which ones? (Facebook, Ebay, etc)	3	6
Is wireless in use on site? (yes/no)	2	4
If yes, ESSID Name?	4	8
What make and model of computer do they use?	3	6
What anti-virus system is used?	5	10
Can Be Used for Onsite Pretext		
What is the name of the cleaning/janitorial service?	4	8
Who does your bug/pest extermination?	4	8
What is the name of the company responsible for the vending machines onsite?	4	8
Who handles their trash/dumpster disposal?	4	8
Name of their 3rd party or in house security guard company?	5	10
What types of badges do you use for company access? (RFID, HID, None)	8	16
Company Wide Tech		
What operating system is in use?	5	10
What service pack/Version?	8	16
What program do they use to open PDF documents and what version?	5	10
What browser and version do they use?	6	12
What mail client is used?	5	10
Do you use disk encryption, if so what type?	5	10
Fake URL(getting the target to go to a URL) www.seorg.org	NA	26
Employee Specific Info		
How long have they worked for the company?	3	6
What days of the month do they get paid?	3	6
Employees schedule information (start/end times, breaks, lunches)	3	6
What is the name of the phone/PBX system?	4	8
When was the last time they had awareness training?	5	10
Report Scoring		
Half points for any flag found from information gathering	**	**
10 points each for each realistic attack vector detailed in the report to a maximum of 50 points. Supporting evidence must be provided for each attack vector as to why it is realistic.	10-50	
Format, structure, grammar, layout, general quality of the report a maximum of 50 points.	0-50	

OSINT/**Evil** Attacker Flags

Based on Lockheed Cyber Kill Chain:

- Environment: Technologies, Response Capabilities, Assets
- Weaponization: Available exploits (patch level)
- Delivery Methods: Email, web or on prem (USB)
- Exploitation: AV, endpoint and perimeter protection
- Installation: Alerting, logging, monitoring, SIEM
- Command/Control: Ports, hours, machine naming scheme
- Actions on Objectives: Data exfil or data encryption – location of assets, hours of operations, backups, staffing, vendors, incident response, retainment, RTO/RPO, DRP, policies & procedures

OSINT/Acquire Target



- Physical (building, locations)
- Technical (websites, IP address, dns, etc)
- Corporate (registration, legal, property)
- Staff (personal information)

OSINT/LinkedIn

- Corporate: Start with LinkedIn
- Search by company to get all staff
Target rich environment
- The more connections you have
the more you people you can see
- Get around the “free” limitations with
LinkedIn XRay.
<http://recruitmentgeek.com/tools/linkedin/>



OSINT/Focus

- 80/20 rule: 20% of the people will give you 80% of the content.
- Look for the social butterflies and spend time on them.
 - Social media, friends, personal websites, etc.

OSINT/Detection

- Don't wear orange when hunting humans
- Setup your environment to take everything but give nothing.
- Platforms/concepts/technologies for invisibility:
 1. Setup local hyper visor (VMWare, VirtualBox, etc)
 2. Setup image with tools and plugins (Buscador platform)
 3. Setup VPN
 4. Other options: Tor, Tails, Qubes, BlackArch, Kali, IprediaOS, etc.

OSINT/**Evil Attacker** Preparations

- How are you recording and preserving your intel?
 - Hunchly (Product Plug: It's Canadian)
- How will you categorize your intel?
- What data points will be important?
- How will your report be consumed?
- How are you staying undetected?

OSINT/Pretext Development

- Test out pretexts on real people. Receptionists are the best
 - Receptionists are SE defense experts
 - Always professional (even when hanging up on you)
 - Likely have kids (can say no)
 - Deal with cold calls from sales all day

Vishing/Marks

Developed process to prioritize marks:

1. Low connection score on LinkedIn (<100)
2. Expressing a need for self promotion (lots of selfies)
3. Often sharing more than necessary (VPN config)

High charisma / low wisdom scores (interns and contractors)

Vishing/SE Techniques

- **The Confirmation:** “So how do you like your Dell laptops?”
- **The Reverse Confirmation:** Confirm incorrect, let them correct.
- **Name Dropping:** “We are working with your VP, Mr/Mrs Smith...”
- **Blowing Smoke:** “You were recommended to work with us...”

Vishing/SE Techniques

A motocross rider wearing a colorful, patterned jersey and a helmet is performing a wheelie on a blue and white dirt bike. The bike is tilted upwards, and the rider is leaning forward. The background is a dark blue sky with a hint of a horizon line.

- **Impending Doom:** “Larry will be onsite tomorrow for inspection...”
- **Allowed to Vent:** “My boss yelled at me to get this done...”
- **Smarty Pants:** “How did you ever figure this out?”
- **Zero-Sum (aka Greed):** “The first three people win...”
- **Sympathy:** “I am new at this and need your help...”

Vishing/Pretexts – 1 of 3

Entry Methods: Designed to get me past reception.

- How is my intern? - Pretext: Improve intern program
- Industry knowledge - Pretext: HVAC maintenance event

Vishing/Pretexts – 2 of 3

A silhouette of an archer in a field, aiming a bow at a target. The archer is positioned on the right side of the frame, with their arm extended and the bow held taut. An arrow is visible in flight, having just been released from the bow. The background is a dark, cloudy sky at dusk or dawn, with a silhouette of a field and distant hills at the bottom.

Targeted Methods: Designed to gather specific information

- The enemy of my enemy - Pretext: Potential tenant
- Special delivery - Pretext: FedEx Border Taxes
- Can I tell you a secret? - Pretext: Recruitment (layoffs)

Vishing/Pretexts – 3 of 3

Full Dump Methods: Designed to get a lot of info.

- You're a lucky winner - Pretext: Radio station contest
- The upgrade opportunity - Pretext: New Dell account rep
- You are special – Pretext: Employee engagement survey
- Ok you caught me - Pretext: Hired security company



A Reflective Moment



- Would you know when your company has been Social Engineered?
- How bad would it be if your CFO transferred a few million dollars?
- Does your insurance cover breaches due to social engineering?
- Do you have the internal resources to needed manage these risk?
- Whose getting fired?

Recommendations

Understand your Exposure:

1. OSINT yourself
2. OSINT your company
3. Find the butterflies
4. Understand what's at risk



Recommendations

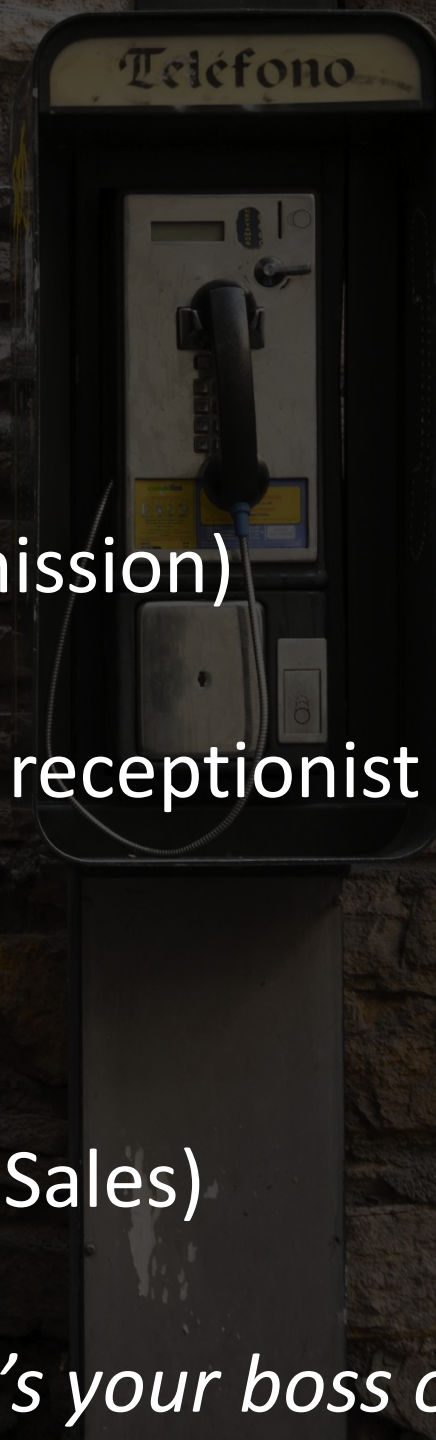
Build up Defenses against Phishing:

1. Phishing program: measure clicks *and reporting*
2. “EXT” tag on incoming email to stop spoofing
3. Stop allowing *active* links in email
4. Provide safer communications channels (Slack, Twitter, blog, etc)

Recommendations

Build up Defenses against Vishing:

1. Vish your executive (with their permission)
2. Create choke points – Invest in your receptionist
3. PBX: Remove the dial by name
4. Give DIDs only to external facing (ie Sales)
5. Stop answering the phone (*unless it's your boss of course*)



Recommendations

Get on the Offensive:

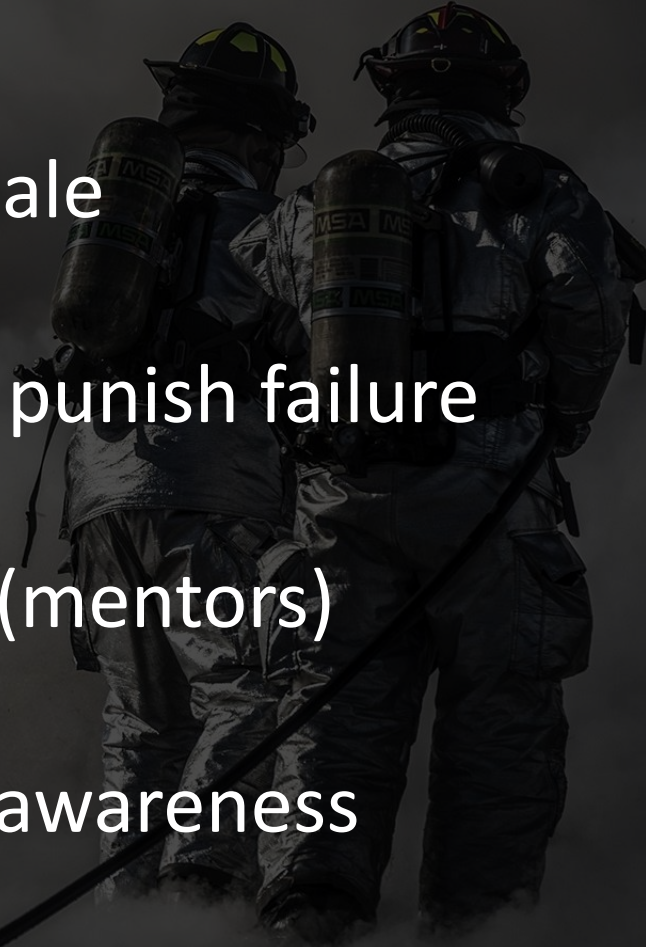
- No one reads your policy or cares about the annual training
- Instead create continual challenges with goals
- Communicate and advertise “program/goal of the month”
- Celebrate wins with the business – prizes!



Recommendations

Cultural Change:

- Recognize we can't win if we can't scale
- Celebrate success far more than you punish failure
- Allow scalability through the heroes (mentors)
- Create a culture of proud protective awareness



Evil Attacker Defense Cheat Sheet

Evil attackers hate it when we do these things:

- Remove specific technologies from job descriptions
- Assume your technical forum posts are read by bad people
- Train users (start with phishing)
- Patch. No really stop everything you are doing and patch
- VLANs are nice but not truly effective – SDN?
- Signature based AV to Behavior based. Configure it to respond
- Block everything but 80 and 443 outbound (C&C, mining, etc)
- 2FA everything (your OWA is an open door)
- Put everything inside the firewall (at least DMZ it)
- I'm already in - Come find me - Spend time hunting (beacons)

V2: ALL NEW CONTENT

Tools/Physical

- Start with physical address (the basics):
 - www.youtube.com (tour of the office?)
 - www.loopnet.com (find commercial properties)
 - www.google.ca/maps (street view, ingress/egress points)
- Ownership of property and assets, associated records (city, tax, legal).
- IoT on their cameras and other Internet facing devices (shodan)
 - Sensors, fences/gates, HVAC, ID cards

Tools/Technical

- [who.is](#) (IP blocks, email addresses, DNS, owners, names)
- [dnshistory.org](#)
- [whoisology.com](#)
- [viewdns.info/iphistory](#)
- [moz.com/researchtools/ose](#)
- [alexa.com/siteinfo](#)
- [bgp.he.net](#) (hurricane electric: good routing info)
- [www.robtex.net](#) (graphical info)
- [scans.io](#) (Internet Scan Data Repository)
- [wigle.net](#) (wifi SSID)

Tools/Corporate

- www.indeed.com
- www.glassdoor.com
- pastebin.com
- www.geosearchtool.com

Focus on: Their website, their receptionist(s), security guards (company), parking, CCTV, card access

Tools/Staff

- www.linkedin.com
 - recruitmentgeek.com/tools/linkedin
- www.facebook.com
- www.twitter.com
- www.instagram.com (geolocate pictures)
- www.slideshare.com (reference letters)
- sync.me
- justice.gov.bc.ca/cso/index.do (criminal records)
- Their personal websites

Resources

- US OSINT Resource: <https://inteltechniques.com>
 - Training, tools, articles, podcast, book
- Canada - OSINT Resource: <https://www.toddington.com>
 - Training, tools, articles
- Social Engineer: <https://www.social-engineer.org>
 - Training, podcast, books, SE Village organizer
- Robert B Cialdini: 6 Principles of Influence (Books and YouTube)

Thank you!

Q&A

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