

The Business of Security

How to Allocate Security Resources

Pete Lindstrom

petelind@spiresecurity.com



© 2002 Spire Security. All rights reserved.



Current State of Security

- ★ Point products everywhere...
- ★ Security is an art form...
- ★ No clear guidance on how to secure an enterprise...
- ★ No guarantee of success (even good security isn't impervious to attack)





Current State of Security

- ★ Scarcity – never enough resources
- ★ Too many risks – which are most important?
- ★ Unclear objectives





Determine Attack Paths

- ★ Public Connection (Internet)
- ★ Private Connections
 - Business Partners
 - Customers
 - Maintenance





The First Round – Gut Check

- ★ What are you trying to protect?
 - Asset/system prioritization.
- ★ ...from what?
 - Identification of the threats.
- ★ ...why?
 - Mission statement.





Asset Prioritization

- ★ Apps/systems with valuable information.
- ★ Apps/systems that are used most frequently by most people.
- ★ Apps/systems that generate revenue.





Enterprise Threats

- ✦ Viruses
- ✦ Random attacks from Internet
- ✦ Malicious behavior
- ✦ Targeted attacks
- ✦ Denial-of-service attacks
- ✦ ...and so on.





A Risk Equation

Risk = Threat x Vulnerability x Asset Value

$$R = T \times V \times A$$

(Peter Tippett, TruSecure)

- ★ Basic equation, difficulty in details.
- ★ Easy to understand letters, very difficult to determine the numbers.
- ★ Asset value does NOT equal loss.





A Loss Equation

Annual Loss Expectancy = Probability x Value

$$\mathbf{ALE = P \times A}$$

(Insurance Industry)

- ★ Basic equation, difficulty in details.
- ★ Easy to understand letters, very difficult to determine the numbers.
- ★ Asset value does NOT equal loss.





Types of Losses

- ★ Information-centric Loss
 - Modified data (Integrity)
 - Copied data (Confidentiality)
 - Deleted data (Availability)

- ★ System/App-centric Loss
 - Resource Availability (Productivity)
 - Resource Misuse (Liability)





The Elements of Loss

- ★ Information Asset Value
(Intellectual Property, Financial Assets)
- ★ Direct Revenue (e-Commerce)
- ★ Legal/Regulatory Costs (fines)
- ★ IT Productivity Lost
- ★ User Productivity Lost





Information Asset Value

- ★ Stored Value (financial assets)
- ★ Stored Knowledge (intellectual property)
- ★ Market Cap (or equivalent) – Book Value = Goodwill (intangible assets)
- ★ Some % of this Goodwill is attributable to information assets.
 - Professional services – higher percentage
 - Contract manufacturing or retail - lower





Productivity

- ★ Where users and IT spend their time.
- ★ Time is money philosophy.
- ★ Often the only aspect of loss we quantify.
- ★ Basic source of ROI.
- ★ Hourly rate x lost/used hours.





Loss: Element by Type

	Read	Modify	Delete	Avail	Misuse
Asset Value	H	M	M	L	L
Revenue	M	H	H	H	L
Fines	M/H	H	L	L	?
IT Prod.	L	H	M	L	L
EU Prod.	L	L	M	H	L



Security Resources

A security model:

- ★ The Four Disciplines of Security Management
- ★ Identifies key activities and procedures
- ★ Identifies key solutions



Four Disciplines Major Functions



Four Disciplines Objectives

Let the good guys in!

Enable!

Reward!

Keep the bad guys out!

Insure!

Risk!

Identity
Access Management
Password Management

Security Arch. Design
Access Management

Trust
MANAGEMENT

Threat

Vulnerability
Patch Management
Software Security

Vulnerability
MANAGEMENT





Identity Management

- ✦ Identify and authenticate as many users as possible.
- ✦ Reduce the amount of unidentified sessions.
- ✦ Roots in enterprise security; we all do it.
- ✦ Authentication is a related beast.





Trust Management

- ★ How we deploy resources in support of high-tech initiatives.
- ★ Design and architect security solutions.
- ★ Revolves around encryption and access control.
- ★ Policy.





Threat Management

- ★ Important due to large amount of unknown network traffic.
- ★ Signature vs. Policy/rules (next slide)
- ★ Intrusion Prevention
 - Config firewall
 - Inline





Threat Management

What we look at (madness):

- ✦ Layer 2 – MAC Address
- ✦ Layer 3 – IP Addresses
- ✦ Layer 4 – TCP/UDP Headers
- ✦ Payload
 - High-level protocol info
 - Data
 - Commands
 - Variables
- ✦ Reassembled Packets
- ✦ Traffic Flows
- ✦ Ports
- ✦ System State
- ✦ System Activity
- ✦ Audit Logs
- ✦ Alerts & Events

How we look (method):

- ✦ String search
- ✦ Protocol compliance
 - RFC
 - Reference Implementation
- ✦ Rule compliance
- ✦ Lexical analysis
- ✦ Command search
- ✦ Statistical Analysis
- ✦ Trend Analysis
- ✦ System activity analysis
- ✦ ...more (?)



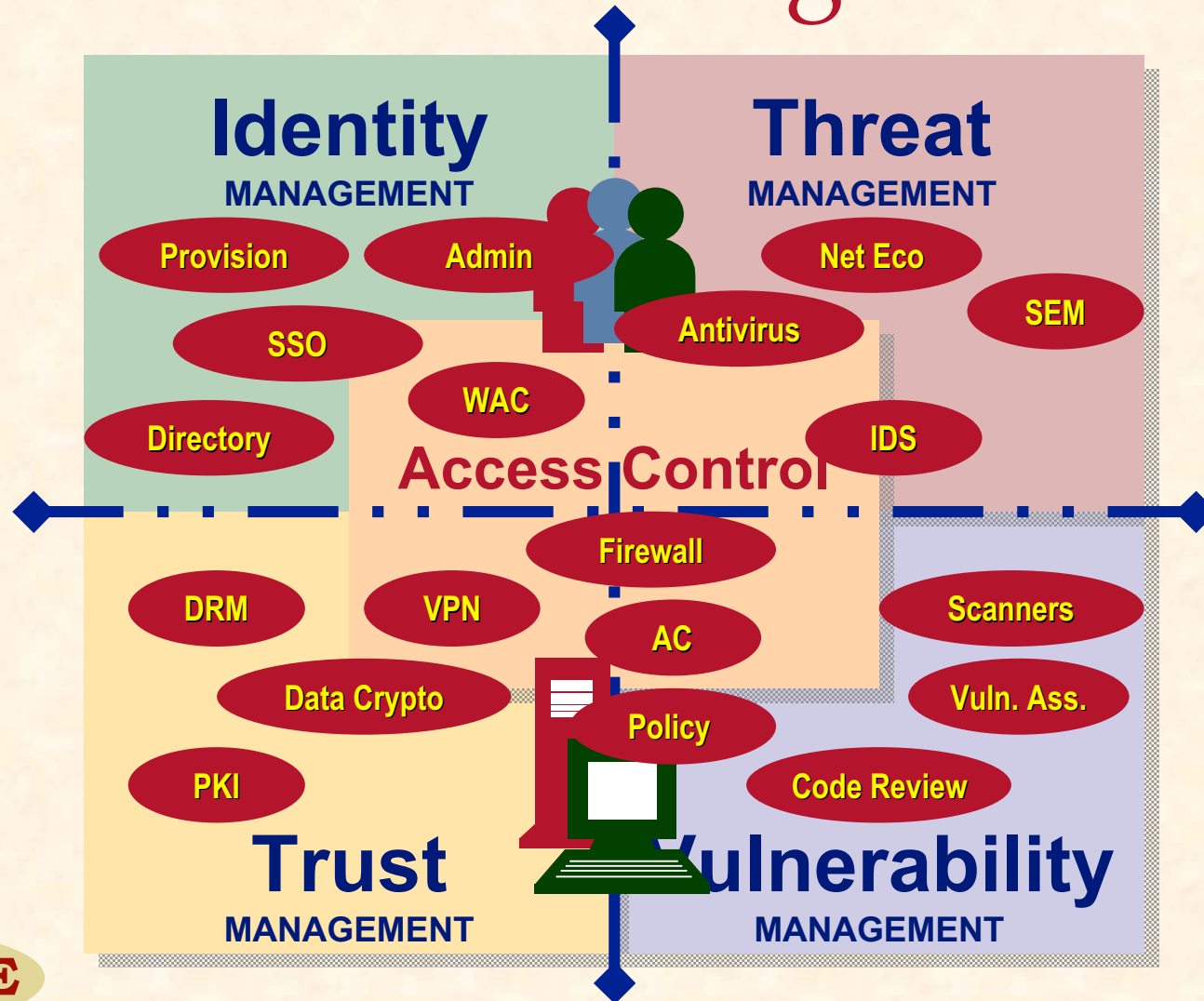


Vulnerability Management

- ★ Psychologist's dream: look within ourselves.
- ★ The fundamental aspect of risk.
- ★ Scan, penetrate, review, config...



Four Disciplines Product Categories





Resource Allocation

- ★ Highest impact = combination of highest anticipated loss and biggest risk.
- ★ Reduce anticipated loss.
- ★ Increase productivity.



Thank You

Agree? Disagree?

Pete Lindstrom

petelind@spiresecurity.com

www.spiresecurity.com



© 2002 Spire Security. All rights reserved.