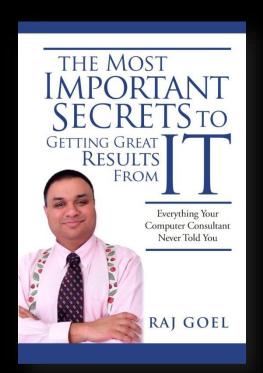
Trends In Financial Crimes

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Raj Goel, CISSP

Raj Goel, CISSP, is an Oracle and Solaris expert and he has over 25 years of experience in software development, systems, networks, communications and security for the financial, banking, insurance, health care and pharmaceutical industries.

Raj is a regular speaker on HIPAA/HITECH, PCI-DSS Credit Card Security, Disaster Recovery, Information Security and other technology and business issues, addressing diverse audiences including technologists, policymakers, front-line workers and corporate executives.

A internationally known expert, Raj has appeared in over 30 magazine and newspaper articles worldwide, including <u>Information Security Magazine</u>, <u>PenTest</u>, <u>CSOOnline</u>, <u>Entrepreneur Magazine</u>, <u>Business2.0</u> and <u>InformationWeek</u>, and on television including <u>CNNfn</u>, <u>Geraldo At Large</u>, <u>PBS</u> and WPIX11.

Raj has presented at:

- ISC² conferences
- ASIS International conferences
- BrightTalk conferences
- Medical Conferences
- Legal Conferences
- GBATA 2012 & 2013 (keynote speaker)
- The Hague, Netherlands NCSC.NL 2013 (plenary

- speaker)
- GBATA 2013 Helsinki Keynote Speaker
- ICT Curacao Keynote Speaker



Media Appearances





Global Business and Technology Association™





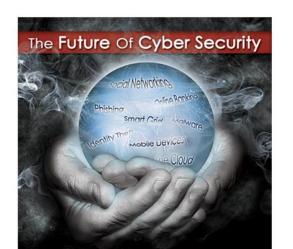
The New York Times

Entrepreneur

(ISC)2"

SECURITY TRANSCENDS TECHNOLOGY™























Social Security Numbers – A Brief History

- 1936 SSNs established
- 1938 Wallet manufacturer includes secretary's SSN card inside a wallet. 40,000 people thought it was their SSN. 12 people used it in 1977.
- Pre-1986 kids under 14yrs not required
- Post-1990 Kids get SSN # with Birth Certificate
- Repeatedly, laws state that "we" oppose the creation of a national ID card. SSNs become defacto national ID numbers.
- Result: Experian, TransUnion, Equifax
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Security_number
- http://www.socialsecurity.gov/history/ssn/ssnchron.html

Social Security Numbers Fraud – Target: Kids

- The numbers are run through public databases to determine whether anyone is using them to obtain credit. If not, they are offered for sale for a few hundred to several thousand dollars.
- Because the numbers often come from young children who have no money of their own, they carry no spending history and offer a chance to open a new, unblemished line of credit. People who buy the numbers can then quickly build their credit rating in a process called "piggybacking," which involves linking to someone else's credit file.
- If they default on their payments, and the credit is withdrawn, the same people can simply buy another number and start the process again, causing a steep spiral of debt that could conceivably go on for years before creditors discover the fraud.
- http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/08/02/ap-impact-new-id-thefttargets-kids-social-security-numbers-threaten-credit-737395719/

IT Security Reality

"For many small businesses, the CIO is somebody's child down the road who's really good at Nintendo."

- Howard Schmidt, US CyberSecurity CZAR

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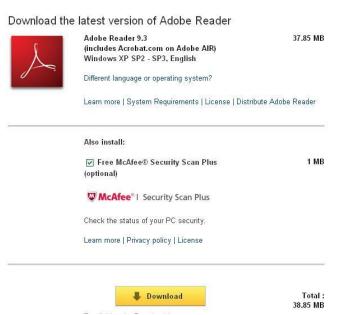
Anti-Virus Scareware



Which one is from a real company? Which one is fake?



Adobe – Insecurity is our middle name



Adobe Flash is the root of Browser Insecurity

"Chrome or IE8 on Windows 7 with no Flash installed. There probably isn't enough difference between the browsers to get worked up about. The main thing is not to install Flash!"

http://gizmodo.com/5483024/security-expert-flash-is-the-root-of-browser-insecurity-oh-and-ie8-isnt-so-bad

Dell ships infected server motherboards

- July 2010 Dell blames "human error" for shipping thousands of infected Server motherboards – Poweredge 310, 410, 510, T410.
- http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/07/23/dell _malware_update/

HP ships infected USB keys to Enterprise Customers

- April 2008 HP ships infected keys to Enterprise Customers using Proliant servers.
- http://www.engadget.com/2008/04/07/hpsends-server-customers-virus-infected-usbkeys/



Walmart, Amazon sells infected Picture Frames

- Jan 2009 Hundreds of thousands (millions?) of picture frames sold by Walmart, SamsClub, Amazon ship from the factory with embedded malware.
- NOTE: Picture frame sales
- 2007 5 million
- 2008 7.4 million
- 2009 9.8 million
- http://articles.sfgate.com/2009-01-02/business/17196259_1_frames-digital-photo-walk

Head In The Sand – American Express

 Dec 2008 – American Express' site has XSS flaws – twice in less than 6 months.



http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/12/20/american_express_website_bug_redux/

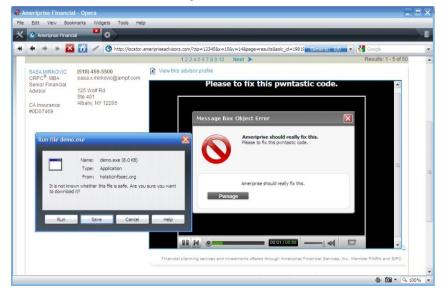


Head In The Sand - Ameriprise

Mar-Aug 2009 – Russ McRee reports XSS bugs to Ameriprise Financial. No Response or fixes.

There should be something on your site that says 'If you see a security issue on our site, please report it.'

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/08/20/ameriprise_website_vulnerabilities/







Head In The Sand - MLB

Jan 2009 – MLB and other top 1000 sites serve ads from malware providers.

ScanSafe researcher Mary Landesman said the outbreak first landed on her radar screen on January 4. She searched in vain for a way to alert MLB administrators to the problem.

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/01/08/major_league_baseball_threat/







We buy Snakeoil Security

BankA, BankB both suffer privacy-related losses.

BankA buys SnakeOil Security. Attackers see BankA has becomes *slightly* harder to attack.

BankA sees 35% reduction in losses. Attackers increase attacks on BankB.

SnakeOil Sales brochure says "BankA uses our product, sees 35% reduction in losses" BankB buys Snakeoil security. BankB sees drop in losses.

Attackers create new attacks against BankA. Hmm...time to upgrade SnakeOil software!

BankA sees lowered attacks. BankB gets told...BankA upgraded, saw fewer attacks. You HAVE TO UPGRADE to SnakeOil 2.0.

Did Security actually increase? Does SnakeOil Actually work?

- http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/effect-snake-oil-security-090710

FourSquare, Facebook Places, etc.

- UK Ministry of Defense (MoD) warns that Facebook Places (which is enabled by default!) provides a targetting pack for terrorists.
- "The main concern relating to the use of the application, is that it may inadvertently compromise the locality of a military user," the document says."
- http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/10/01/mo d_facebook_places/

Burglary Ring uses Facebook to choose victims

- Burglary Ring in Nashua, NH committed 50 break-ins, stole \$100,000+. Targetted victims who posted their location on Facebook.
- http://gawker.com/5635046/real+life-burglary-ringuses-facebook-to-choose-victims
- Adam Savage, Mythbusters, posted photo of his new truck, parked in front of his house. Fans (and crooks!) discover his address via GeoTags embedded in the photo.
- http://text.broadbandreports.com/forum/r24657556-MythBusters-stalked-down-with-geotag-photos



PCI-DSS Security vs. Marketing

- Banks are "rebating" penalties, absorbing penalties or spreading penalties to all merchants
- No real teeth most large offenders are still in business.
- VISA's "Verified By VISA" program violates PCI rules
- Rule enforcement is opaque and seemingly arbitrary.





VOIP Attacks

Businesses have switched to VOIP to lower phone bills. Securing VOIP is not their forte.

Perth, Australia business loses \$120,000 within 46 hours. http://www.zdnet.com.au/thousands-lost-in-rising-voip-attacks-339306478.htm





They broke the law, your loss!

2008: Malware and/or break-ins compromise 100 million+ records at Heartland Payment Systems.

Jan 2009: Inauguration day – Heartland discloses breach

May 2009: Heartland has spent \$ 12.6 million (and counting) in dealing with the breach.

Feb 2009: Angie's list notices 200% increase in auto-billing transactions being declined. Autp-billing declines increased from 2% to 4%.

May cost them \$ 1 million in lost revenues so far.

"The trouble is that convincing customers who had once set up auto-billing to reestablish that relationship after such a disruption is tricky, as many people simply don't respond well to companies phoning or e-mailing them asking for credit card information"

- http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/05/heartland_breach_dings_members.html?wprss=securityfix



We Make it Easy (to commit crimes)

Criminals have existed as long as society has. And they always will.

However, we as IT/Security/Business/Government professionals make it easy for them to commit crimes:

- "It's not MY problem syndrome"
- Bank Of America ID Theft, UK Banking rules, No liability for software vendors
- Burden for compromise is on the victims (ID theft, house theft, spyware)
- The selfish gene
- Sony DRM rootkit, RIAA lawsuits, expired DRM
- Stupid IT tricks
- Shipping with default passwords
- Textbooks, documentation showing insecure or poor coding practices
- Poor Privacy/Security planning
- ID theft is a growing problem today, because no one thought about limiting scope of SSN usage in 1934
- What do Facebook, MySpace, Gmail teach our kids about privacy?
- Are you looking at security and privacy in a holistic, global manner?

Users treat their computers like cars.

They assume there's a lemon law for software, or a seatbelt protecting them from themselves.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

People like new technology, new tools.

However, they don't always understand the risks involved.

State Of Security in a nutshell



LAS VEGAS SLOTS

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES



State of Nevada has access to all software. Illegal to use software that is not on file. Software is a trade secret.



State gaming inspectors show up unannounced at casinos to compare computer chips with those on file. If there is a discrepancy, the machine is shut down and investigated. No checks are required. Election officials have no chip to compare with the one found in the machine.



Background Scrutiny

Manufacturers subjected to background checks. Employees are investigated for criminal records. Citizens have no way of knowing, for example, whether programmers have been convicted of fraud.



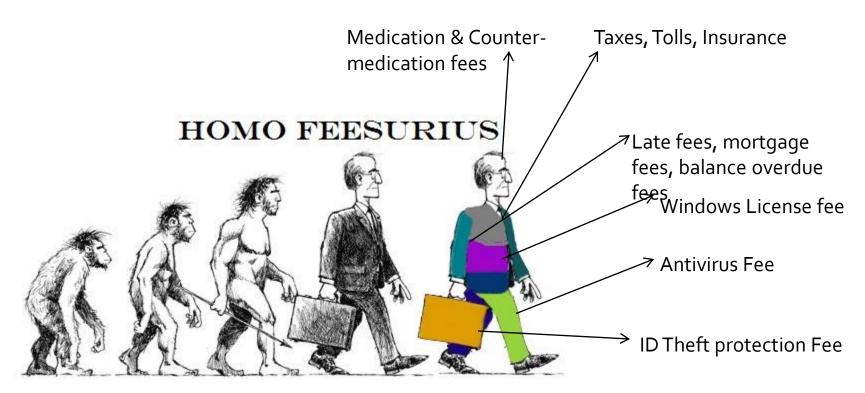
Equipment Certification By a public agency at arm's length from manufacturers. Public questions invited. By for-profit companies chosen and paid by the manufacturers. No public information on how the testing is done.



Casino must contact the Gaming Control Board, which has investigators on call round the clock. They can open up machines to inspect internal mechanisms and records of recent gambling outcomes. In most cases, a voter's only recourse is to call a number at the board of elections that may or may not work to lodge a complaint that may or may not be investigated.







Are we treating our customers and ourselves as more than Revenue Enhancement machines?

Patco Construction

- A Maine-based construction firm got infected with the Zeus Trojan virus and \$588,851.26 was transferred from their accounts. Their bank recovered \$243,000 but Patco was on the hook for \$345,000. Patco was dragged through three years of lawsuits by their bank before the case settled.
- "We had hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees," says Patterson. "So even after we got the \$345,000 back, we lost hundreds of thousands.

New Years Eve Burgulary Shutters Billing Firm

- Impairment Resources LLC filed for bankruptcy after the break-in at its San Diego headquarters led to the electronic escape of detailed medical information for roughly 14,000 people, according to papers filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Wilmington, Del. That information included patient addresses, social security numbers and medical diagnoses.
- numbers and medical diagnoses.

 Police never caught the criminals, and company executives were required by law to report the breach to state attorneys general and the Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General. Some of those agencies, including the Department of Labor, are still investigating the matter, the company said in court papers.
- "The cost of dealing with the breach was prohibitive" for the company, Impairment Resources said when explaining its decision to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection. That type of bankruptcy is used most often by companies to shut down and sell off what's left to pay off their debts.
 The company said its assets are worth about \$226,000, an amount that, even
- The company said its assets are worth about \$226,000, an amount that, even after money trickles in from liquidating sales, likely won't be enough to pay lender Insurance Recovery Group and its \$583,000 loan, Impairment Resources said in court papers.

\$1.5M Cyberheist Ruins Escrow Firm

- The heist began in December 2012 with a roughly \$432,215 fraudulent wire sent from the accounts of Huntington Beach, Calif. based Efficient Services Escrow Group to a bank in Moscow. In January, the attackers struck again, sending two more fraudulent wires totaling \$1.1 million to accounts in the Heilongjiang Province of China, a northern region in China on the border with Russia.
- When Efficient reported the incident to state regulators, the California Department of Corporations gave the firm three days to come up with money to replace the stolen funds.
- This forced the California escrow firm to close and lay off its entire staff.

China-Based Hackers Target Law Firms to Get Secret Deal Data

- China-based hackers looking to derail the \$40 billion acquisition of the world's largest potash producer Potash Corp (Ca) by an Australian mining giant BHP Biliton Ltd (Aus) zeroed in on offices on Toronto's Bay Street, home of the Canadian law firms handling the deal.
- Over a few months beginning in September 2010, the hackers rifled one secure computer network after the next, eventually hitting seven different law firms as well as Canada's Finance Ministry and the Treasury Board
- Bloomberg.com

Partner of Hacked Law Firm, Puckett & Faraj, Is Now Fielding FBI Phone Calls

- [former website administrator] had his servers wiped clean of all client email, not simply the Puckett firm's material.
- The firm's Google email passwords weren't secure enough to keep out hackers who may have been using equipment that can rapidly try out multiple possible combinations, according to Puckett. So the firm has changed all of its email passwords and made them more complex. Fortunately, although the email was copied by Anonymous hackers, it wasn't deleted.
- ABA Journal

Client Secrets at Risk as Hackers Target Law Firms

- Cyberattacks against law firms are on the rise, and that means attorneys who want to protect their clients' secrets are having to reboot their skills for the digital age.
- Lawyers sling millions of gigabytes of confidential information daily through cyberspace, conducting much of their business via email or smartphones and other mobile devices that provide ready access to documents. But the new tools also offer tempting targets for hackers, who experts say regard law firms as "soft targets" in their hunt for insider scoops on mergers, patents and other deals.
- Wall Street Journal

Law firm's trust account hacked, 'large six figure' taken

- A law firm lost "a large six figure" over the holidays after a virus gave hackers backdoor access to its bookkeeper's computer. The virus copied bank account passwords as she typed them.
- The virus "tricked the [bookkeeper] into giving the trust account's password to the fraudsters, allowing them essentially full access to the trust account, including the ability to go in, monitor it, and wire money to foreign countries shortly after deposits were made,"
- Lawtimes.com

Economics of SPAM

- The Securities and Exchange Commission said that its actions to freeze proceeds from a suspected high-tech pump-and-dump stock scheme and its suspension of stock trading on 35 companies touted in spam...
- Dimitri Alperovitch, principal research scientist at Secure Computing, described such spamming and pump-and-dump schemes as part of the same unified spam economy.
- Profits from that economy start at botnets or zombie PCs, which are rented out to spammers.
 Spam goes out touting the value of a chosen company. Excited victims buy into the scheme and buy up stocks in the touted companies. The spammer within a few days sells the stock, pocketing a tidy profit, leaving victims with stocks that are virtually worthless.
- "A lot of these guys we believe are renting botnets from spammers distributing Viagra and other types of spam," Alperovitch said in an interview with eWEEK. "A lot [of the botnet controllers] may be getting paid in ... the stock of the company they're trying to promote. They can use the increased price of the stocks to sell it off and make their profit that way."
- With the ill-gotten profit, he said, the spammers/pump-and-dumpers then buy stock in another company whose value they will tout, and the cycle begins anew.
- Secure Computing estimates that 30 percent of all spam is stock spam, and spam itself makes up
 "well over 90 percent of all e-mail," Aperovitch said. [...]that is up from over 70 percent a year ago.
- eWeek, March 11, 2007

Priceline, Travelocity, and Cingular fined for using adware

- Priceline, Travelocity, and Cingular, three high-profile companies that advertised through nuisance adware programs have agreed to pay fines and reform their practices, according to the New York Attorney General.
- "Advertisers will now be held responsible when their ads end up on consumers' computers without full notice and consent," Andrew Cuomo said. "Advertisers can no longer insulate themselves from liability by turning a blind eye to how their advertisements are delivered, or by placing ads through intermediaries, such as media buyers. New Yorkers have suffered enough with unwanted adware programs and this agreement goes a long way toward clamping down on this odious practice."
- PressEsc.com January 29, 2007

Spyware - Israel's TrojanGate

- "Executives of top telecom firms accused of spying on each other. A jealous ex-husband suspected of monitoring his former in-laws. Private investigators implicated in computer-hacking-for-hire; one now involved in a possible attempted suicide. So much bad publicity, government officials worry it might impact the entire nation's economy.
- Published reports indicate mountains of documents have been stolen from dozens of top Israeli firms. Some 100 servers loaded with stolen data have been seized."
- MSNBC, June 9, 2005 http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/8145520/



Spyware - Japan's Winny P2P

- "in particular, a military agency was forced to admit that classified information from the Maritime Self Defence Force was uploaded by a computer with winny software installed on it.
- Following this, ANA (All Nippon Airlines) were also the victims of an embarrassing data leak, with passwords for security-access areas in 29 airports across Japan being leaked over the program. This follows a similar incident from JAL Airlines on 17th December 2005, after a virus originating from Winny affected the computer of a co-pilot.
- Arguably the biggest winny-related leak however, is that of the Okayama Prefectural Police Force, whose computer leaked data on around 1,500 investigations. This information included sensitive data; such as the names of sex crime victims, and is the largest amount of information held by Japanese police to have ever leaked online."
- WikiPedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winny

Spyware - Bank Of America / Joe Lopez lawsuit

- A Miami businessman is suing Bank of America to recover \$90,000 that he claims was stolen and diverted to a bank in Latvia after his computer was infected by a "Trojan horse" computer virus.
- Although consumers are routinely hit with "phishing" E-mails carrying bank logos intended to dupe them into revealing IDs and passwords, this is the first known case of a business customer of a U.S. bank claiming to have suffered a loss as a result of a hacking incident.
- In a complaint filed earlier this month, Joe Lopez, owner of a computer and copier supply business, accused Bank of America of negligence and breach of contract in not alerting him to the existence of a virus called "coreflood" prior to April 6, 2004, the date the alleged theft took place." http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=60

300288

Spyware - Sony's DRM Rootkit

- US government officials took Sony BMG to task over its controversial use of rootkit-style copy protection at a security conference this week. If the technology proves harmful to consumers, tougher laws and regulations might be proposed, a senior Department of Homeland Security exec warned.
- "Legislation or regulation may not be appropriate in all cases, but it may be warranted in some circumstances," said Jonathan Frenkel, director of law enforcement policy with the DHS's Border and Transportation Security Directorate.
- [...] DHS officials had a meeting with Sony BMG shortly after the story broke during which the entertainment reps were read the riot act. "The message was certainly delivered in forceful terms that this was certainly not a useful thing," Frenkel said.
- Government officials are concerned that the rootkit tactic, if repeated, could leave consumers' systems open to hacker attack.
- Feb 17, 2006 http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/02/17/rootkit/

Spyware - Sony's DRM Rootkit

- Oct 31, 2005 Mark Russinovich, a security researcher, discovers that Sony's CDs install a rootkit
- Nov 3 Sony releases rootkit remover. Ed Felten dismisses the rootkit remove as junk
- Sony's rootkit used to defeat World of Warcraft's security
- Nov 15 Sony's rootkit uninstaller "create huge security hole"
- Nov 15 Dan Kaminsky estimates Sony's rootkit has infected 568,200 sites, including government and military networks.
- Nov 16 US-CERT, Dept of Homeland Security, advises: "Do not install software from sources that you do not expect to contain software, such as an audio CD."
- Nov 17 Amazon offers refunds on infected Sony CDs. Nov 21, Army/Airforce exchange as well.
- New York, Texas and Florida Attorney Generals sue Sony.
- boingboing.net
- Nov 10 2 Trojans target Sony's rootkit http://news.zdnet.co.uk/internet/security/0,39020375,39236720,00.htm
- Attorney fees & expenses exceed \$ 4,000,000. Total costs to Sony unknown. sonysuit.com

Spyware - Sony's DRM Rootkit Anastacia CD costs retailer 1,500 Euros

- Sep 14, 2009 German Judge orders retailer to pay Plaintiff 1,500 Euros.
- 200 Euros 20 hours wasted dealing with virus alerts
- 100 Euros 10 hours for restoring data
- 800 Euros fees paid by Plaintiff to Computer Expert to repair his network
- 185 Euros legal costs incurred by plaintiff
- "The judge's assessment was that the CD sold to the plaintiff was faulty, since he should be able to expect that the CD could play on his system without interfering with it.
- The court ordered the retailer of the CD to pay damages of 1,200 euros."
- http://torrentfreak.com/retailer-must-compensate-sony-anti-piracyrootkit-victim-o9o914/
- http://www.heise.de/newsticker/Verkaeufer-muss-Schadensersatz-fuer-Sony-Rootkit-CD-zahlen--/meldung/145233

ID Theft – Bank Of America & Margaret Harrison

- Margaret Harrison, a young wife and mother living in San Diego, first noticed the problem four years ago when she applied for unemployment.
- [...] She investigated and found out a laborer named Pablo has been using her Social Security number. And while Margaret pays for credit monitoring, she says the Equifax credit reporting bureau never noticed the problem until she told the agency. Now Equifax has put a fraud alert on her account. And then there's this: Last month, the Bank of America sent her a new debit card bearing her name and Pablo's picture!
- Margaret says the Bank of America claims it can't take any action against Pablo because he pays his bills on time — that her case is in what they call "a reactive state."
- MSNBC Feb 6, 2006 "Hey, that's not me! A new wrinkle in ID theft"

Walmart Mexico Bribery Case

- Vast Mexico Bribery Case Hushed Up by Wal-Mart After Top-Level Struggle
- Confronted with evidence of widespread corruption in Mexico, top Wal-Mart executives focused more on damage control than on rooting out wrongdoing, an examination by The New York Times found.
- NY Times April 21, 2012
- http://www.nytimes.com/2012/04/22/business/at-wal-mart-in-mexico-abribe-inquiry-silenced.html
- The payments at issue are comparatively paltry, perhaps totaling less than \$50 million, although that number could increase as the internal investigation moves forward. The ultimate cost to Wal-Mart for the legal and accounting fees for the investigation, along with any monetary penalties the Justice Department and the S.E.C. may seek, will probably far exceed the bribes.
- NY Times, April 23, 2012

Walmart Mexico Bribery Case – Michaels Impact

- Michaels Stores C.E.O. Connected to Wal-Mart Bribery Case
- Mr. Menzer joined Michaels in March 2009 after serving as vice chairman and chief administrative officer of Wal-Mart. The Times story reported that in the fall of 2005, Mr. Menzer intervened in an internal investigation into a senior vice president who reported to him.
- According to internal records, Mr. Menzer told an investigator that he did not want Wal-Mart's corporate investigations unit to handle the inquiry because of concerns about the impact such an investigation would have, the story said. Mr. Menzer suggested that one of the senior vice president's subordinates was better suited to handle the inquiry, according to the article.
- "Soon after, records show, the subordinate cleared his boss," the story said.
- NY Times April 23, 2012
- http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2012/04/23/michaels-stores-c-e-oimplicated-in-wal-mart-bribery-case/

Walmart Stop drops 4.7%

http://money.cnn.com/2012/04/23/markets/walmart_stock/index.htm Wal-Mart Stores





Telemarketing Fraud

- Telemarketing fraud, predominately emanating from Canada, is a flourishing crime problem with estimated losses to U.S. elderly citizens exceeding \$500 million per year.
- http://www.fbi.gov/publications/financial/fcs_reporto52005/fcs_reporto52005.htm
- Telemarketing fraud often consisting of credit card, loan and investment scams continues to target both Canadian and US citizens. US losses due to this type of fraud are estimated at nearly \$1 billion per year while Canadian losses are estimated at more than CDN \$16 million. However, RCMP analysts estimate that only five percent of victims ever report to authorities, meaning that actual losses may approach CDN \$295 million per year.
- http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/organizedcrime/octa_e.htm

Global Payments — 1.5MM cards stolen



- Visa Drops Support for Breached Processor, Acknowledges Weekend Outage
- Global Payments, the credit and debit card processor that disclosed a breach of its systems late Friday, said in a statement Sunday that the incident involved at least 1.5 million accounts. The news comes hours ahead of a planned conference call with investors, and after Visa said it had pulled its seal of approval for the company.
- http://krebsonsecurity.com/page/2/



Homeowners lose houses in property scams

- Reviczky purchased the property at 220 Sheppard Ave. W. in 1980 for \$67,500 to generate a rental income that would help pay for the education of relatives back in Hungary.
- Reviczky could not believe his ears on June 26 when his neighbour, a real estate agent, told him she had noticed on the computer that he had sold his rental property in May.
- **-** ..
- Police believe Reviczky's most recent "tenants" forged his name on a power of attorney that purported to give a grandson named "Aaron Paul Reviczky" authority to sell the home on his behalf.
- · ...
- "I don't have a grandson named Aaron," Reviczky says. "I don't have any grandsons."
- · ...
- On May 15, "Aaron Paul Reviczky" sold the property on his behalf for \$450,000 to a purchaser named Pegman Meleknia, who took out a mortgage of \$337,500.
- ...
- Reviczky's lawyer, Tonu Toome, says it was "very painful" to have to break the news to Reviczky that he may lose his house forever even though he was an innocent victim of fraud because Ontario law recognizes the transaction as valid where the purchaser is unaware of the scam.
- Toronto Star, August 26, 2006

ID Theft + Mortgage Fraud = House Stealing

- The con artists start by picking out a house to steal—say, YOURS.
- ... Next, they assume your identity—getting a hold of your name and personal information (easy enough to do off the Internet) and using that to create fake IDs, social security cards, etc.
- ... Then, they go to an office supply store and purchase forms that transfer property.
- ... After forging your signature and using the fake IDs, they file these deeds with the proper authorities, and lo and behold, your house is now THEIRS.
- ... Or, Con artists look for a vacant house—say, a vacation home or rental property—and do a little research to find out who owns it. Then, they steal the owner's identity, go through the same process of transferring the deed, put the empty house on the market, and pocket the profits.
- ... Or, the fraudsters steal a house a family is still living in...find a buyer (someone, say, who is satisfied with a few online photos)...and sell the house without the family even knowing. In fact, the rightful owners continue right on paying the mortgage for a house they no longer own.
- ... Or, Offer to refi properties. Use stolen Ids or straw buyers to "purchase" these properties.
 Pocket borrowed money, do NOT pay mortgages. Home owners lose title, Banks lose loans, you win...or go to jail!
- http://www.mortgagefraudblog.com/index.php/weblog/permalink/la_fbi_comments_on_the_latest_scam/

Forged deeds in Florida

- State and county officials say they're not sure whether they'll ever be able to stop con artists from using forged deeds to steal property. Most of the land was owned by people from across the nation and around the world who died years ago and whose property taxes were going unpaid.
- Some deed scammers have forged signatures using dead owners and fake witnesses and have hijacked the stamps and seals of notaries who say they had no idea what was going on. [..] At least two notaries in Belgium said their signatures and seals were forged on deeds filed in Lee County by USA Real Estate Solutions Inc. of Punta Gorda.
- Scam artists apparently are finding victims from as far away as China, Taiwan, Spain and the Congo — by using the Internet to research vacant lots with overdue property taxes.
- Florida sues Singapore man, accuses him of land fraud
- Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist is suing a man he says used a Marco Island address, fraud and threats to profit from hundreds of vacant lots owned by others. According to the suit, Teal used the Internet to locate his victims, who usually lived in other states and often were elderly
- News-press.com, March 19, 2007

Mortgage Fraud around the US

- Las Vegas couple indicted for 227 Straw purchases. 118 of 227 in foreclosure. Properties worth \$ 100M, banks lose \$ 15M.
- HIPAA Violation + ID Theft + Mortgage Fraud trifecta
 Erica Kaprice Pollard, vocational nurse at Kaiser Permanente, steals ID of 72year old woman. 3 other women involved in cashing out \$ 165,000 of victim's equity
- Insider Collusion, Mortgage Fraud Wachovia loan officer, Mortgage broker and title attorney find attractive properties. Recruit straw buyers, fool Wachovia using false HUD-1 settlement forms. Get Wachovia funds, falsify buyer assets, apply for first mortgages. Rinse, repeat and buy \$ 37M worth of condos.
- **Beverly Hills Fraudsters**
- "Two high-profile Beverly Hills real estate agents and two licensed appraisers were indicted Thursday on charges of joining in a sophisticated scheme that lenders said cost them more than \$40 million in fraudulent loans for homes in some of Southern California's most expensive neighborhoods."

 Lehman is suing them for \$ 40M in losses.

 - all from http://www.mortgagefraudblog.com

Supply Chain Risk – Menu Foods

- Menu Foods revealed that a "significant customer" [Procter & Gamble]
 that represented 11 per cent of last year's sales decided to end its
 contract to purchase cuts-and-gravy products with the company.
- The Mississauga-based company ended its tumultuous day with a loss of \$1.04, closing at \$3.05.
- The stock is now trading at half the price it was when news of tainted pet food hit front pages across North America in March after the company said melamine-laced wheat gluten from China made its way into its product line.
- http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20070613.RMENU13/TPStory/Business
- June 13, 2007

Supply Chain Risk – Menu Foods

- Larry Klimes, Paul Lavoie and Richard Mueller filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court on Thursday. The suit seeks to be certified as a class action on behalf of all pet owners whose animals have allegedly been made sick by food made by the company.
- The lawsuit alleges Menu Foods engaged in unlawful and deceptive business practices, violated its warranties and breached its contracts with consumers by selling its "cuts and gravy" style wet pet foods.
- http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/financialpost/story.html?id= f917841f-9d78-468c-b310-ac52ff6de562&k=93293
- April 7, 2007



Fake Receipts, Chinese Style

- More than 1 million bogus receipts worth 1.05 trillion yuan (147.3 billion U.S. dollars) were confiscated in the case. The national treasury would lose more than 75 billion yuan in tax revenue if the receipts were put into circulation, officials said."
- http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/6359250.html
- Good News:
- Ringleader gets 16 years in jail.
- Bad News:
- One of their customers claimed his company was NASDAQ listed and raised \$50M from unsuspecting investors.
- How many of YOUR vendors are claiming financial health using fake receipts?
- How many of YOUR employees padded their expense accounts using fake receipts?

Fake "Chisco" gear

- Chinese vendors are selling counterfeit cisco gear at aggressive prices
- Per FBI Presentation
- eGlobe Solutions \$ 788,000 in counterfeit gear
- Todd Richard \$ 1,000,000 in counterfeit gear
- Fake equipment found in:
- US Naval Academy, US Naval Air Warfare Center, US Naval Undersea Warfare Center
- Marine Corps, Air Force, US Air Base (Spangdahelm, Germany)
- Bonneville Power Administration
- General Services Administration (GSA), FAA, FBI, other agencies and universities
- Raytheon
- Lockheed Martin (who violated rules by NOT using a GSA IT Vendor)
- MortgateIT bought from a Authorized Cisco reseller. 30 WICs faulty.
- "Cisco's Brand Protection does NOT coordinate with Cisco's Government Sales"

ATM machines with default passwords

 ...News reports circulated about a cyber thief who strolled into a gas station in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and, with no special equipment, reprogrammed the mini ATM in the corner to think it had \$5.00 bills in its dispensing tray, instead of \$20.00 bills.

. . .

 Dave Goldsmith, a computer security researcher at Matasano Security began poking around. Based on CNN's video, he identified the ATM as a Tranax Mini Bank 1500 series. [he also found manuals for Triton and another vendor – approx 250,000 ATMs]

. . .

- He then set out to see if he could get a copy of the manual for the apparently-vulnerable machine to find out how the hack worked. Fifteen minutes later, he reported success....[he found]
- * Instructions on how to enter the diagnostic mode.
- * Default passwords
- * Default Combinations For the Safe
- Wired.com, September 20, 2006



Thieves steal \$ 700K via POS/PIN-pad hacking

- Cyber-thieves who hacked into the [debit card] information of at least 800 retail customers in California and Oregon have stolen as much as \$700,000 from personal accounts during the last two months, according to police reports.
- People who used [debit] cards to purchase items at Dollar Tree, a national retail toy store chain, in Modesto and Carmichael, Calif., and Ashland, Ore., have turned in reports of unauthorized withdrawals in the computer-based scam.
- ____
- Local police said that more than 600 accounts were drained of approximately \$500,000, according to the report.
- eWeek.com Aug 4, 2006



TJX (TJ Maxx, Winners, HomeSense) Breach

- TJ Maxx Parent Company Data Theft Is the Worst Ever
- Courtesy of Information Week
- MARCH 29, 2007 TJX Co., the parent company of T.J. Maxx and other retailers, on Wednesday dropped a bombshell in its ongoing investigation of a customer data breach by announcing in an Securities and Exchange Commission filing that more than 45 million credit and debit card numbers have been stolen from its IT systems. Information contained in the filing reveals a company that had taken some measures over the past few years to protect customer data through obfuscation and encryption. But TJX didn't apply these policies uniformly across its IT systems and as a result still has no idea of the extent of the damage caused by the data breach.
- http://www.darkreading.com/document.asp?doc_id=120810

TJX (TJ Maxx, Winners, HomeSense) Breach

- Information stolen from the systems of massive retailer TJX was being used fraudulently in November 2006 in an \$8 million gift card scheme, one month before TJX officials said they learned of the breach, according to Florida law enforcement officials.
- Florida officials said the group used the increasingly common tactic of using the bogus credit cards to purchase gift cards and then cashing them at Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores. The group usually purchased \$400 gift cards because when the gift cards were valued at \$500 or more, they were required to go to customer service and show identification, Pape said.
- eWeek.com March 21, 2007
- Arkansas Carpenters Pension Fund, which owns 4,500 shares of TJX stock, said the company rebuffed its request to see documents detailing the safeguards on the company's computer systems and how the company responded to the theft of customer data.
- The suit was filed Monday afternoon in Delaware's Court of Chancery, under a law that allows shareholders to sue to get access to corporate documents for certain purposes.
- Court papers state the Arkansas pension fund wants the records to see whether TJX's board has been doing its job properly in overseeing the company's handling of customer data.
- Forbes.com, March 20, 2007

Privacy Breach – BJ's Wholesale Club

- "According to the FTC, BJ's failed to encrypt customer data when transmitted or stored on BJ's computers, kept that data in files accessible using default passwords, and ran insecure, insufficiently monitored wireless networks.
- ...affected financial institutions filed suit against BJ's to recover damages. According to a May securities and Exchange Commission filing, BJ's recorded charges of \$7 million in 2004 and an additional \$3 million in 2005 to cover legal costs.
- Under terms of the settlement, BJ's will implement a comprehensive information-security program subject to thirdparty audits every other year for the next two decades.
- _ i
- InformationWeek 6/16/2005



Privacy Breach - DSW

- "Shoe retailer DSW Inc. agreed to beef up its computer security to settle U.S. charges that it didn't adequately protect customers' credit cards and checking accounts,...
- The FTC said the company engaged in an unfair business practice because it created unnecessary risks by storing customer information in an unencrypted manner without adequate protection....
- As part of the settlement, DSW set up a comprehensive data-security program and will undergo audits every two years for the next 20 years.
- ComputerWorld.com 12/1/2005
- According to DSW's SEC filings, as of July 2005, the company's exposure for losses related to the breach ranges from \$6.5 million to \$9.5 million.
- This is the FTC's seventh case challenging faulty data security practices by retailers and others. - www.ftc.gov 12/1/2005

Privacy Breach - Choicepoint

- "The \$10 million fine imposed today by the Federal Trade Commission on data aggregator ChoicePoint Inc. for a data security breach is yet another indication of the increasingly tough stance the agency is taking on companies that fail to adequately protect sensitive data, legal experts said.
- And it's not just companies that suffer data breaches that should be concerned. Those companies that are unable to demonstrate duehttp://www.privacyrights.org/ar/ChronDataBreaches.htm diligence when it comes to information security practices could also wind up in the FTC's crosshairs, they added.
- ChoicePoint will pay a fine of \$10 million...
- In addition to the penalty, the largest ever levied by the FTC, ChoicePoint has been asked to set up a \$5 million trust fund for individuals...
- ChoicePoint will also have to submit to comprehensive security audits every two years through 2026. "
- ComputerWorld.com 01/26/2006

Click Fraud

- [Stuart Cauff, CEO JetNetwork] discovered that up to "40 percent, maybe more" of the clicks on his keyword ads apparently came not from potential customers around the nation but from a single Internet address, one that belonged to a rival based in New York City. "If we get clicked fraudulently, it uses up our ad budget,".
- Boris Elpiner noticed something odd about the Web traffic coming to his company from its PPC ads. As vice president of marketing for RingCentral, an online telecommunications firm in San Mateo, California, Elpiner is in charge of its affiliate-ad program, which hired Yahoo! to distribute RingCentral's ads onto Web sites with compatible content. Poring over his records, he discovered that a keyword term ("fax software download") that had previously generated almost no clicks was suddenly pulling them in. The total cost to RingCentral for the clicks \$2,500 over about four weeks "was significant, but not immediately noticeable."
- http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/14.01/fraud.html

Click Fraud

- Click fraud is perpetrated in both automated and human ways. The most common method is the use of online robots, or "bots," programmed to click on advertisers' links that are displayed on Web sites or listed in search queries. A growing alternative employs low-cost workers who are hired in China, India and other countries to click on text links and other ads. A third form of fraud takes place when employees of companies click on rivals' ads to deplete their marketing budgets and skew search results.
- http://news.com.com/Exposing+click+fraud/2100-1024_3-5273078.html
- ...one common scheme, he said a legitimate site is duplicated under another name, complete with text ads from a search network. A bot would then be trained to click on the ad links that appear on the bogus site, said de Souza, who estimated that click fraud affects 10 percent to 20 percent of today's search network ads.
- http://news.com.com/Exposing+click+fraud/2100-1024_3-5273078.html

Barings, Societe Generale

- 1995 Barings Bank: \$ 1.4B losses
- 2008 Societe Generale: \$ 7.1B
- "Nick Leeson, [...] said Thursday that a massive fraud by a Société Générale employee showed that banks still do not have riskmanagement controls in place.
- "The first thing that shocked me was not necessarily that it had happened again. I think rogue trading is probably a daily occurrence among the financial markets," Leeson told the British Broadcasting Corp.
- [...] "What they're looking for is profit, profit now, and that tends to be where the money is directed," said Leeson"
- International Hérald Tribuné,
 http://www.iht.com/articles/2008/01/24/business/leeson.php
- "An internal investigation into billions of euros of losses at Societe Generale has found that controls at the French bank "lacked depth".
- The results of the investigation also show that rogue trades were first made back in 2005.
- http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/7255685.stm

Walgreens To Pay \$35M To Settle Drug-Fraud Suit

- CHICAGO (STNG) Deerfield-based Walgreens will pay \$35 million to settle Medicaid prescription drugfraud claims initiated by a whistleblower, federal and state officials announced Wednesday.
- The United States, 42 states and Puerto Rico will receive \$35 million from Walgreen Co., which allegedly substituted different versions of prescribed drugs (such as tablets for capsules) solely to increase the cost and profit rather than for any legitimate medical reason, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's office.

Hannaford Ruling

- March 2008:
- Attackers installed custom malware (spyware) to capture data in motion across Hannaford's network
- Hundreds of servers and POS terminals compromised
- 4.2 million records breached Credit AND Debit cards
- Customers filed class-action lawsuits
- May 13, 2009 ruling:
- "U.S. District Court Judge Brock Hornby threw out the civil claims against the grocer for its alleged failure to protect card holder data and to notify customers of the breach in a timely fashion. In dismissing the claims, Hornby ruled that without any actual and substantial loss of money or property, consumers could not seek damages.
- The only complaint he allowed to stand was from a woman who said she had not been reimbursed by her bank for fraudulent charges on her bank account following the Hannaford breach.
- In a 39-page opinion, Hornby wrote that consumers with no fraudulent charges posted to their accounts could not seek damages under Maine law; neither could those who might have had fraudulent charges on their accounts that were later reversed."
- http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName =security&articleId=9133075&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

Payment-chain supply-side risks

- 2008: Malware and/or break-ins compromise 100 million+ records at Heartland Payment Systems.
- Jan 2009: Inauguration day Heartland discloses breach
- May 2009: Heartland has spent \$ 12.6 million (and counting) in dealing with the breach.
- Feb 2009: Angie's list notices 200% increase in auto-billing transactions being declined. Autp-billing declines increased from 2% to 4%.
- May cost them \$ 1 million in lost revenues so far.
- "The trouble is that convincing customers who had once set up autobilling to reestablish that relationship after such a disruption is tricky, as many people simply don't respond well to companies phoning or emailing them asking for credit card information"
- http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/05/heartland_breach_dings_members.html?wprss=securityfix

De-Identification is (almost) impossible

- The Massachusetts Group Insurance Commission had a bright idea back in the mid-1990s—it decided to release "anonymized" data on state employees that showed every single hospital visit. The goal was to help researchers, and the state spent time removing all obvious identifiers such as name, address, and Social Security number. But a graduate student in computer science saw a chance to make a point about the limits of anonymization.
- Latanya Sweeney requested a copy of the data and went to work on her "reidentification" quest. It didn't prove difficult. Law professor Paul Ohm describes Sweeney's work:
 - At the time GIC released the data, William Weld, then Governor of Massachusetts, assured the public that GIC had protected patient privacy by deleting identifiers. In response, then-graduate student Sweeney started hunting for the Governor's hospital records in the GIC data. She knew that Governor Weld resided in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a city of 54,000 residents and seven ZIP codes. For twenty dollars, she purchased the complete voter rolls from the city of Cambridge, a database containing, among other things, the name, address, ZIP code, birth date, and sex of every voter. By combining this data with the GIC records, Sweeney found Governor Weld with ease. Only six people in Cambridge shared his birth date, only three of them men, and of them, only he lived in his ZIP code. In a theatrical flourish, Dr. Sweeney sent the Governor's health records (which included diagnoses and prescriptions) to his office.
- http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/09/your-secrets-live-online-in-databases-ofruin.ars

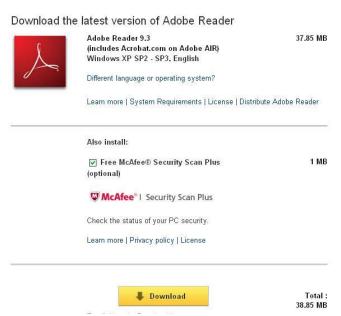
Social Security Numbers – A Brief History

- 1936 SSNs established
- 1938 Wallet manufacturer includes secretary's SSN card inside a wallet. 40,000 people thought it was their SSN. 12 people used it in 1977.
- Pre-1986 kids under 14yrs not required
- Post-1990 Kids get SSN # with Birth Certificate
- Repeatedly, laws state that "we" oppose the creation of a national ID card. SSNs become defacto national ID numbers.
- Result: Experian, TransUnion, Equifax
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_Security_number
- http://www.socialsecurity.gov/history/ssn/ssnchron.htm

Social Security Numbers Fraud – Target: Kids

- The numbers are run through public databases to determine whether anyone is using them to obtain credit. If not, they are offered for sale for a few hundred to several thousand dollars.
- Because the numbers often come from young children who have no money of their own, they carry no spending history and offer a chance to open a new, unblemished line of credit. People who buy the numbers can then quickly build their credit rating in a process called "piggybacking," which involves linking to someone else's credit file.
- If they default on their payments, and the credit is withdrawn, the same people can simply buy another number and start the process again, causing a steep spiral of debt that could conceivably go on for years before creditors discover the fraud.
- http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/08/02/ap-impact-new-id-theft-targets-kids-social-security-numbers-threaten-credit-737395719/

Adobe Flash Player



Adobe Flash is the root of Browser Insecurity

"Chrome or IE8 on Windows 7 with no Flash installed. There probably isn't enough difference between the browsers to get worked up about. The main thing is not to install Flash!"

http://gizmodo.com/5483024/security-expert-flash-is-the-root-of-browser-insecurity-oh-and-ie8-isnt-so-bad

Dell Ships infected Motherboards

- July 2010 Dell blames "human error" for shipping thousands of infected Server motherboards – Poweredge 310, 410, 510, T410.
- http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/07/23/dell_malware_update/



HP ships infected keys

- April 2008 HP ships infected keys to Enterprise Customers using Proliant servers.
- http://www.engadget.com/2008/04/07/hpsends-server-customers-virus-infected-usbkeys/



Walmart, Amazon, etc. used as infection vectors

- Jan 2009 Hundreds of thousands (millions?)
 of picture frames sold by Walmart, SamsClub,
 Amazon ship from the factory with
 embedded malware.
- NOTE: Picture frame sales
- 2007 5 million
- 2008 7.4 million
- 2009 9.8 million
- http://articles.sfgate.com/2009-01-02/business/17196259_1_frames-digital-photo-wal/

We Make it Easy (to commit crimes)

- Criminals have existed as long as society has. And they always will.
- However, we as IT/Security/Business/Government professionals make it easy for them to commit crimes:
- "It's not MY problem syndrome"
- Bank Of America ID Theft, UK Banking rules, No liability for software vendors
- Burden for compromise is on the victims (ID theft, house theft, spyware)
- The selfish gene
- Sony DRM rootkit, RIAA lawsuits, expired DRM
- Stupid IT tricks (sorry Dave)
- Shipping with default passwords
- Textbooks, documentation showing insecure or poor coding practices
- Poor Privacy/Security planning
- ID theft is a growing problem today, because no one thought about limiting scope of SSN usage in 1934
- What do Facebook, MySpace, Gmail teach our kids about privacy?
- Are you looking at security and privacy in a holistic, global manner?

Success Stories



John Snow – London Cholera 1849-1854

1830 – Cholera kills 60,000 deaths

1849 - He identified GEOGRAPHIC CLUSTERS of outbreaks

- Identified that the WATER SOURCE was the vector long before CHOLERA GERM was identified
- Those with BETTER water sources were 20 times LESS LIKELY to die
- He did door-to-door validation/census to check water sources and his data
- RESULT: London took APPROPRIATE public health safety measures to control contaminated public water sources

Dr. Samelweis – 1840s

During 1840's many women died of childbed fever. Often the child became ill & died as well

Dr. Samelweis noticed that of the 2 clinics he was managing, one had a HIGHER rate of mortality than the other

- Mothers were ill during birth or up to 36 hours afterwards
- Observed that problem started during the examination of the mother during dilation

The deaths were caused by MEDICAL STUDENTS who had just come from the morgue after performing autopsies and then proceeded to conduct pelvic examinations on laboring mothers.

This contradicted over 2000 YEARS of medical dogma and practices since Hippocrates.

He instituted hand-washing of medical staff between each procedure

Getting It Right

Medical marijuana advocates estimate that the aggregate annual sales tax revenue that's paid by the approximately 400 dispensaries in California is \$100 million.

- http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=89349791

Cost of War on Drugs in 2010 (so far): \$ 23 Billion (and counting)

- http://www.drugsense.org/wodclock.htm

What was your overall IT spending last year? How much on questionable security products?



Getting It Right

"Anesthesiologists pay less for malpractice insurance today, in constant dollars, than they did 20 years ago.

That's mainly because some anesthesiologists chose a path many doctors in other specialties did not. Rather than pushing for laws that would protect them against patient lawsuits, these anesthesiologists focused on improving patient safety.

Their theory: Less harm to patients would mean fewer lawsuits. "

- Deaths dropped from 1 / 5,000 to 1 / 200,000 300,000
- Malpractice claims dropped 46% (from \$ 332,280 in 1970 to \$ 179,010 in 1990's!

Premiums dropped 37% from \$ 36,620 to \$ 20,572.

- http://online.wsj.com/article/0,,SB111931728319164845,00.html?mod=home%5Fpage%5Fone%5Fus



Air Force demanded, and purchased, SECURE Desktops

2006 – After years of attacks, and dealing with a hodge-podge of desktop and server configurations, The US Air Force develops the **Secure Desktop Configuration** standard. All vendors are required to sell computers to the USAF (and later DOD, other government agencies) with standardized, locked down configurations of:

- Windows
- MS Office
- Adobe Reader
- Norton AV
- •Etc

US Dept Of Energy requires Oracle to deliver it's databases in a secure configuration developed by the **Center for Internet Security (www.cisecurity.org)**



ISO 8583 – ATM Standards

- 1987 Version
- 1993 Version
- 2003 Version
- Each organization maps their data to the standard when communicating with other firms.
- Where's the Industry standard for SECURE INTERNAL DESKTOP CONFIGURATION? SECURE CLIENT CONFIGURATION?

Conficker Working Group

Dec 2008 - Conficker Released.

Feb 12, 2009 – Microsoft offers \$ 250,000 reward for identifying authors

Mar 31, 2009 – Nmap, Nessus, other tools release conficker detection tools

Current Status: Conficker practically eradicated (just like SmallPox)

However, Zeus and other bots are using what they learned from Conficker.



Microsoft – Security Champion!

Microsoft to assume control of Waledac domains

http://www.scmagazineus.com/microsoft-to-assume-control-over-waledac-domains/article/178492/

Microsoft sues hotmail domain squatters (ho0tmail, hot5mail, etc)

http://blog.seattlepi.com/microsoft/archives/198358.asp

Microsoft sues fake Antivirus peddlers

http://www.darkreading.com/security/antivirus/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=220100423

Microsoft sues spammers who abused it's spam filters

http://www.esecurityplanet.com/news/article.php/3888571/Microsoft-Sues-Spammers-Who-Abused-Its-Spam-Filters.htm

Microsoft Security Essentials – Free AV software that works **exceptionally well** http://www.microsoft.com/security_essentials/



Microsoft takes down RUSTOCK Botnet

Homegrown: Rustock Botnet Fed by U.S. Firms

89 tweets TOP ±5K Aaron Wendel opened the doors of his business to some unexpected visitors on the morning of Mar. 16, 2011. The chief technology officer of Kansas City based hosting provider Wholesale Internet found that two U.S. marshals, a pair of computer forensics experts and a Microsoft lawyer had come calling, armed with

papers allowing them to enter the facility and to commandeer computer hard drives and portions of the hosting firm's network. Anyone attempting to interfere would be subject to arrest and prosecution.

Weeks earlier, Microsoft had convinced a federal judge (PDF) to let the software giant seize control of server hard drives and reroute Internet addresses as part of a carefully timed takedown of the Rustock botnet, which had long reigned as the world's most active spam-spewing crime machine.

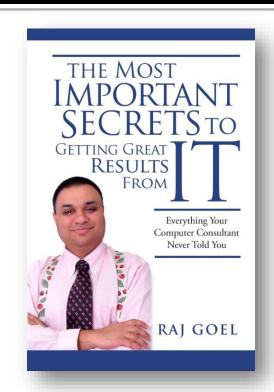
http://krebsonsecurity.com/2011/03/homegrown-rustock-botnet-fed-by-u-s-firms/

Recommended Reading

- http://www.rajgoel.com/infosecurity-issue-6-%e2%8o%94-data-leak-googling-away-your-security-and-privacy
- http://www.rajgoel.com/infosecurity-issue-7-%e2%8o%93-trends-in-financial-crimes-2
- http://www.rajgoel.com/backing-up-documents-in-the-cloud
- http://www.rajgoel.com/how-much-does-facebook-know-about-youabout-800-pages
- http://www.rajgoel.com/how-do-spammers-credit-card-thievesspyware-creators-make-money
- http://www.eff.org/cases/warshak-v-usa
- http://blog.jayparkinsonmd.com/post/92060107/the-promise-of-google-health-and-data-liquidity-in
- http://google.about.com/od/experimentalgoogletools/qt/GoogleFluTrends.htm
- http://www.schneier.com/news-o62.html
- http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/effect-snake-oil-security-090710

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http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0984424814

