Security problems in IoT



About me

Thomas Stols

- Security specialist at Computest
- Member of Retail / Industry / IoT team
- Developer, system administrator, hacker •
- Kerckhoffs security master



Security research

Advisories

2018-08-14 - XenServer Path traversal leading to authentication bypass

2018-07-19 - Volkswagen MIB infotainment system Unauthenticated remote code execution as root

2017-07-12 - NAPALM -Command execution on NAPALM controller from host

2017-04-25 - MySQL Connector/J Unexpected automatic deserialisation of Java objects

2017-01-09 - Ansible Command execution on Ansible controller from host

2016-11-10 - Observium Unauthenticated remote code execution

2016-08-18 – cSRP/srpforjava Obtaining of hashed passwords

2016-06-30 - StartEncrypt Obtaining valid SSL certificates for unauthorized domains

THE MORE COMPLEX IT GETS, THE MORE EXCITED WE ARE.

Compu**test** always on.

"The networks of the future will be necessarily more complex, and therefore less secure. The technology industry is driven by the demand for features, for options, for speed. There are no standards for quality or security, and there is no liability for insecure software. Hence, there is no economic incentive to build in high quality. In fact, it's just the opposite. There is an economic incentive to create the lowest quality the market will bear. Unless customers demand higher quality and better security, this will never change."

-Bruce Schneier







"I see two alternatives. The first is to recognize that the digital world will be one of ever-expanding features and options, of ever-faster product releases, of ever-increasing complexity and of ever-decreasing security. This is the world we have today, and we can decide to embrace it knowingly.

The other choice is to slow down, simplify and try to add security. Customers won't demand this--the issues are too complex for them to understand--so a consumer advocacy group is required. This solution might not be economically viable for the Internet, but it is the only way to get security." –Bruce Schneier

220 times more connected devices than in 1999

90 million vs 20 billion

So, are we in worse shape than 20 years ago?









"YOUR SCIENTISTS WERE SO PREOCCUPIED WITH WHETHER They could they didn't stop to think if they should."











So, what are some of the main problems?







Manufacturer Name: Ubee Ubee Part No.: EVW3226EU Input: +12V=== 2A O-O-O

Made in China

CM MAC:647C34123452

MTA MAC:647C34123453

| | Default Wi-Fi : 2.4GHz WPA2-PSK | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 2.4 GHz | SSID: UPC2659797 | |
| 5 GHz | SSID: UPC2870546 | |
| | | |







Host: xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx

action=add_user&name=Thomas&pin=1234

POST /api/device_management?serial=11-22-33-44-55

Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

No (convenient) update mechanism



Life span



Complexity

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07

17

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Low-speed CAN bus Convenience services





CAN bus gateway High-speed CAN bus Vehicle-critical communication







Consumer is responsible for security

- M.





"There's been an almost tenfold increase in the volume of these (ELF) samples submitted to Virus Total over the past two years."

-Software and System Security group EURECOM

Information asymmetry

Long IV

-1.0

1



Knowledge gap



IF HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF. L'M GETTING A





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So, is this an unsolvable problem?

Are we doomed?

- There are good initiatives to make IoT more resilient
 - AWS IoT Core, Azure IoT Kit, Google IoT Cloud Core etc
- Several manufacturers now have dedicated security teams
- Governments/EU are looking at regulations
 - Downside, this is only a solution for the long-term











Thank you for listening

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