Chapter 2 Lab – Security and Ethics

The purpose of this lab is to find online resources for many of the issues raised in chapter 13. Good luck!

This lab can be printed out directly or downloaded and printed. Click here for a printable PDF version of this lab. You can write your responses directly on the printed sheet. To print this sheet directly: make sure you have a printer available on your machine or network. In the browser, drag down the File menu and click on print. To download, drag down your browser's File menu and select Save as… Then save the file with whatever name you wish to your machine. You can then print the file.

Tasks

1. The "Hacker's Manifesto" is only one location where you will see "hacking" (or "cracking") extolled as a valuable social endeavor. Find discussion groups where you will find these discussions.

2. Many tales of back doors left open like the Unix *rlogin* (remote login) exist out there. Find five links to these stories and put them here including a very short description about what the linked page is talking about.

3. Many tales of buffer overflow errors exist out there. Find five links to these stories and put them here including a very short description about what the linked page is talking about.

4. Find 5 links for virus hoaxes. Find 5 links for getting the latest virus/worm/Trojan horse definitions. Find a link for downloading a known encapsulated virus. Include a very short description about what the linked page is talking about.

5. Numerous discussions about social engineers like Kevin Mitnick have occurred. First, find the history of Kevin Mitnick and give a brief synopsis. Find at least 5 discussion threads supporting Mitnick and 5 denouncing him. What are the main arguments?

6. Let's say your wallet or purse was stolen. It has all your credit cards, IDs, and pictures of your dog in it. Would you know what credit organizations to call? List them and their contact information.

7. Every organization has either an informal or formal acceptable use policy (AUP). Can you find the AUP for your school? Your place of work? How did you come to find out about it? How effective does it seem to you?

8. Many organizations have either an informal or formal disaster recover plan (DRP). Can you find the DRP for your school? Your place of work? How did you come to find out about it? How effective does it seem to you?

9. Check sum algorithms can be found on the web. Find one that could easily (or has been) rendered in freely available source code.

10. Organizations are continually confusing identity with authentication. Find examples in your everyday life. What about your bank, school, department, employer, credit card company, ISP, cell phone company, etc.?

11. Get a partner. Using simple substitution, write a short sentence down in ciphertext using only capital letters and the space (" ") character. Can the person break the code? Could a simple program break the code even faster? Using your skills from chapter 11, write a program that would create the possible sentences.

12. Find 5 "look and feel" copyright issues in software. How successful were those trying to secure copyrights in these cases.

13. Find 5 cases of patent infringement issues in software. What was the resolution of these cases? Who do they seem to favor, if anyone?

14. Can you find a case where the PATRIOT act was used regarding computer fraud?

15. Can you find cases where hackers or software thieves were prosecuted?

16. What health issues can you find related to computer usage?

17. Can you find places online which rank spyware monitoring, cookie crushers, and anti-spam programs?