IS 2150 / TEL 2810 Introduction to Security



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Intrusion Detection, Auditing System Firewalls & VPN



Intrusion Detection



Intrusion Detection/Response

Denning:

- Systems under attack fail to meet one or more of the following characteristics
 - 1. Actions of users/processes conform to statistically predictable patterns
 - 2. Actions of users/processes do not include sequences of commands to subvert security policy
 - 3. Actions of processes conform to specifications describing allowable actions



Intrusion Detection

- Idea:
 - Attack can be discovered by one of the above being violated
- Practical goals of intrusion detection systems:
 - Detect a wide variety of intrusions (known + unknown)
 - Detect in a timely fashion
 - Present analysis in a useful manner
 - Need to monitor many components; proper interfaces needed
 - Be (sufficiently) accurate
 - Minimize false positives and false negatives



- Compare system characteristics with expected values
 - Threshold metric: statistics deviate / threshold
 - E.g., Number of failed logins
 - Statistical moments: mean/standard deviation
 - Number of user events in a system
 - Time periods of user activity
 - Resource usages profiles
 - Markov model: based on state, expected likelihood of transition to new states
 - If a low probability event occurs then it is considered suspicious



- Does sequence of instructions violate security policy?
 - Problem: How do we know all violating sequences?
- Solution: capture known violating sequences
 - Generate a rule set for an intrusion signature
- Alternate solution: State-transition approach
 - Known "bad" state transition from attack
 - Capture when transition has occurred (user → root)



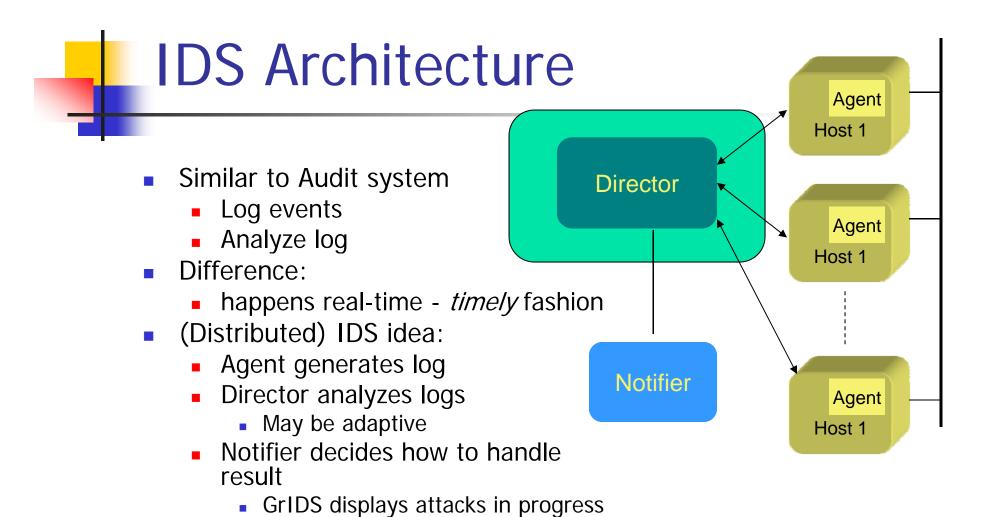
Specification Modeling

- Does sequence of instructions violate system specification?
 - What is the system specification?
- Need to formally specify operations of potentially critical code
 - trusted code
- Verify post-conditions met



IDS Systems

- Anomaly Detection
 - Intrusion Detection Expert System (IDES) successor is NIDES
 - Network Security Monitor NSM
- Misuse Detection
 - Intrusion Detection In Our Time- IDIOT (colored Petri-nets)
 - USTAT
 - ASAX (Rule-based)
- Hybrid
 - NADIR (Los Alamos)
 - Haystack (Air force, adaptive)
 - Hyperview (uses neural network)
 - Distributed IDS (Haystack + NSM)





Where is the Agent?

- Host based IDS
 - watches events on the host
 - Often uses existing audit logs
- Network-based IDS
 - Packet sniffing
 - Firewall logs



IDS Problem

- IDS useless unless accurate
 - Significant fraction of intrusions detected
 - Significant number of alarms correspond to intrusions
- Goal is
 - Reduce false positives
 - Reports an attack, but no attack underway
 - Reduce false negatives
 - An attack occurs but IDS fails to report



Intrusion Response

- Incident Prevention
 - Stop attack before it succeeds
 - Measures to detect attacker
 - Example: Jailing (also Honepots)
- Intrusion handling
 - Preparation for detecting attacks
 - Identification of an attack
 - Contain attack
 - Eradicate attack
 - Recover to secure state
 - Follow-up to the attack Punish attacker



Containment

- Passive monitoring
 - Track intruder actions
 - Eases recovery and punishment
- Constraining access
 - Downgrade attacker privileges
 - Protect sensitive information
 - Why not just pull the plug



Eradication

- Terminate network connection
- Terminate processes
- Block future attacks
 - Close ports
 - Disallow specific IP addresses
 - Wrappers around attacked applications



Follow-Up

- Legal action
 - Trace through network
- Cut off resources
 - Notify ISP of action
- Counterattack
 - Is this a good idea?



Auditing



What is Auditing?

- Auditing systems
 - Logging
 - Audit analysis
- Key issues
 - What to log?
 - What do you audit?
- Goals/uses
 - User accountability
 - Damage assessment
 - Determine causes of security violations
 - Describe security state for monitoring critical problems
 - Evaluate effectiveness of protection mechanisms



Audit System Structure

- Logger
 - Records information, usually controlled by parameters
- Analyzer
 - Logs may come from multiple systems, or a single system
 - May lead to changes in logging
 - May lead to a report of an event
- Notifier
 - Informs analyst, other entities of results of analysis
 - May reconfigure logging and/or analysis on basis of results
 - May take some action



Example: Windows NT

- Different logs for different types of events
 - System event logs record system crashes, component failures, and other system events
 - Application event logs record events that applications request be recorded
 - Security event log records security-critical events such as logging in and out, system file accesses, and other events
- Logs are binary; use event viewer to see them
- If log full, can have system shut down, logging disabled, or logs overwritten



Windows NT Sample Entry

Date: 2/12/2000 Source: Security

Time: 13:03 Category: Detailed Tracking

Type: Success EventID: 592

User: WINDSOR\Administrator

Computer: WINDSOR

Description:

A new process has been created:

New Process ID: 2216594592

Image File Name:

\Program Files\Internet Explorer\IEXPLORE.EXE

Creator Process ID: 2217918496
User Name: Administrator
FDomain: WINDSOR
Logon ID: (0x0,0x14B4c4)

[would be in graphical format]



Designing an Audit System

- Goals determine what is logged
 - Idea: auditors want to detect violations of policy, which provides a set of constraints that the set of possible actions must satisfy
 - So, audit functions that may violate the constraints
- Constraint p_i : $action \Rightarrow condition$



Implementation Issues

- Show non-secure or find violations?
 - Former requires logging initial state and changes
- Defining violations
 - Does "write" include "append" and "create directory"?
- Multiple names for one object
 - Logging goes by object and not name
 - Representations can affect this
- Syntactic issues
 - Correct grammar unambiguous semantics

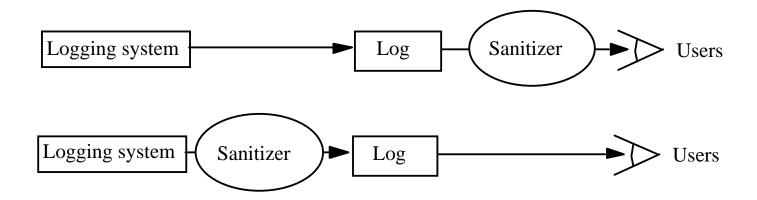


Log Sanitization

- U set of users, P policy defining set of information
 C(U) that U cannot see; log sanitized when all information in C(U) deleted from log
- Two types of P
 - C(U) can't leave site
 - People inside site are trusted and information not sensitive to them
 - C(U) can't leave system
 - People inside site not trusted or (more commonly) information sensitive to them
 - Don't log this sensitive information



Logging Organization



- Top prevents information from leaving site
 - Users' privacy not protected from system administrators, other administrative personnel
- Bottom prevents information from leaving system
 - Data simply not recorded, or data scrambled before recording (Cryptography)



Reconstruction

- Anonymizing sanitizer cannot be undone
- Pseudonymizing sanitizer can be undone
- Importance
 - Suppose security analysis requires access to information that was sanitized?



- Key: sanitization must preserve properties needed for security analysis
- If new properties added (because analysis changes), may have to resanitize information
 - This requires pseudonymous sanitization or the original log



- Company wants to keep its IP addresses secret, but wants a consultant to analyze logs for an address scanning attack
 - Connections to port 25 on IP addresses 10.163.5.10, 10.163.5.11, 10.163.5.12, 10.163.5.13, 10.163.5.14,
 - Sanitize with random IP addresses
 - Cannot see sweep through consecutive IP addresses
 - Sanitize with sequential IP addresses
 - Can see sweep through consecutive IP addresses



Firewalls & VPN

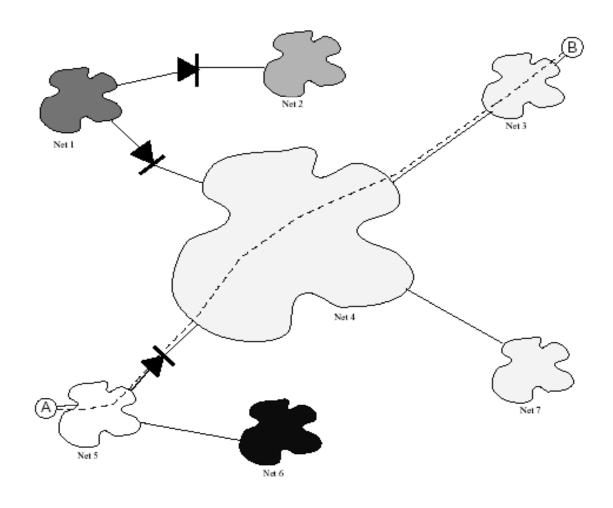


What is a VPN?

- A network that supports a closed community of authorized users
 - Use the public Internet as part of the virtual private network
- There is traffic isolation
 - Contents, Services, Resources secure
- Provide security!
 - Confidentiality and integrity of data
 - User authentication
 - Network access control
- IPSec can be used



Tunneling in VPN





Perimeter Defense

- Organizational system consists of a network of many host machines –
 - the system is as secure as the weakest link
- Use perimeter defense
 - Define a border and use gatekeeper (firewall)
- If host machines are scattered and need to use public network, use encryption
 - Virtual Private Networks (VPNs)



Perimeter Defense

- Is it adequate?
 - Locating and securing all perimeter points is quite difficult
 - Less effective for large border
 - Inspecting/ensuring that remote connections are adequately protected is difficult
 - Insider attack is often the most damaging



- Total isolation of networked systems is undesirable
 - Use firewalls to achieve selective border control
- Firewall
 - Is a configuration of machines and software
 - Limits network access
 - "for free" inside many devices
 - Alternate:

a firewall is a host that mediates access to a network, allowing and disallowing certain type of access based on a configured security policy



What Firewalls can't do

- They are not a panacea
 - Only adds to defense in depth
 - Can provide false sense of security
- Cannot prevent insider attack
- Firewalls act at a particular layer



The Development of Firewalls First Generation

- Packet filtering firewalls
 - are simple networking devices that filter packets by examining every incoming and outgoing packet header
 - can selectively filter packets based on values in the packet header
 - IP address, type of packet, port request, and/or other elements



- Application-level firewalls
 - often consists of dedicated computers kept separate from the first filtering router (edge router)
 - Commonly used in conjunction with a second or internal filtering router
 - Proxy server, rather than the Web server, is exposed to outside world from within a network segment called the demilitarized zone (DMZ),
- Implemented for specific protocols



- Stateful inspection firewalls
 - keep track of each network connection established between internal and external systems
 - state and context of each packet exchanged (who / when)
 - can restrict incoming packets by matching with requests from internal hosts
 - Non-matching packets it uses ACL rights to determine whether to allow the packet to pass



- A fourth-generation firewall, or dynamic packet filtering firewall,
 - allows only a particular packet with a specific source, destination, and port address to pass through the firewall
 - understands how the protocol functions, and by opening and closing pathways in the firewall
 - an intermediate form,
 - between traditional static packet filters and application proxies



Firewall Architectures

- For each type
 - can be implemented in a number of architectural configurations
- Four architectural implementations of firewalls are especially common:
 - Packet filtering routers
 - Screened-host firewalls
 - Dual-homed host firewalls
 - Screened-subnet firewalls



Packet Filtering Routers

- Most organizations with an Internet connection
 - use a router between their internal networks and the external service provider

Limitation

- lacks auditing and strong authentication
- complexity of the ACLs used to filter the packets can grow to the point of degrading network performance

Packet Filtering Router/Firewall

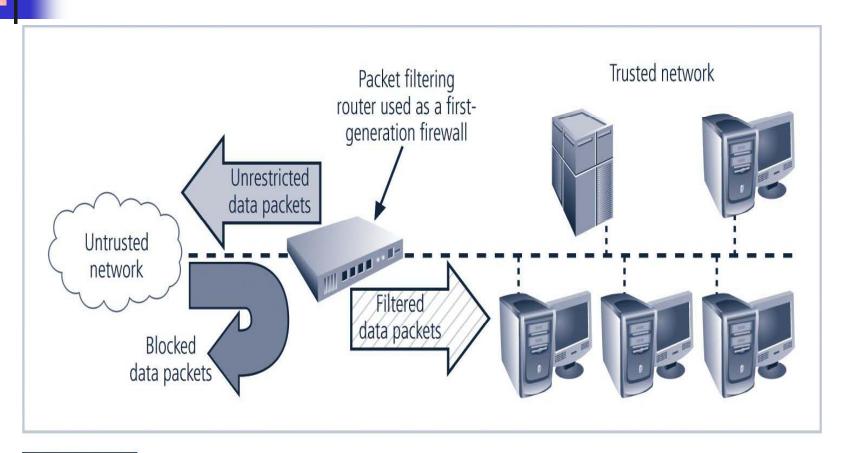


FIGURE 9-5 Packet Filtering Firewall



Screened-Host Firewall Systems

- Screened-host firewall systems
 - combine packet filtering router with a separate, dedicated firewall such as an application proxy server
 - Application proxy examines an application layer protocol, such as HTTP, and performs the proxy services
 - This separate host, referred to as a bastion host, represents a single, rich target for external attacks, and should be very thoroughly secured

Screened-Host Firewall

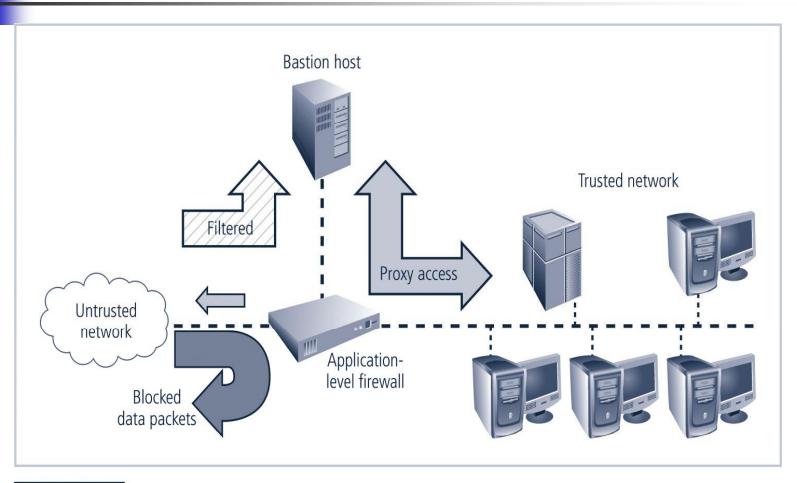


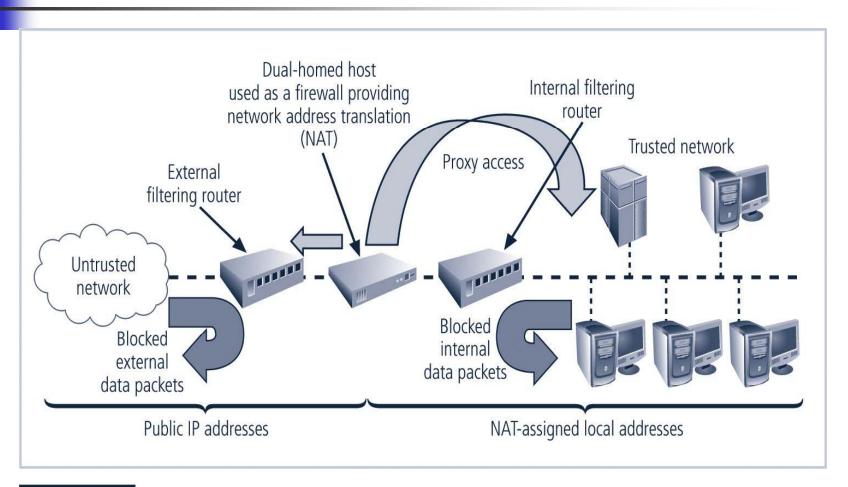
FIGURE 9-6 Screened-Host Firewall



Dual-Homed Host Firewalls

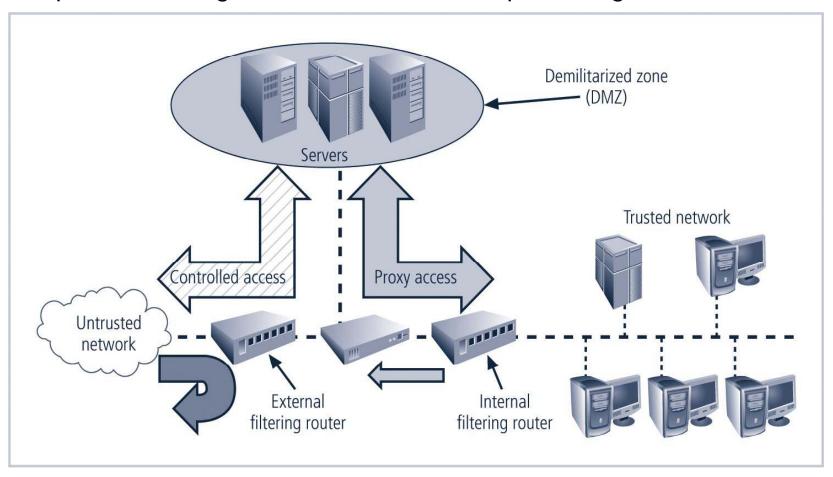
- In this configuration, the bastion host contains two network interfaces:
 - One connected to external network
 - One connected to internal network, requiring all traffic to travel through the firewall to move between the internal and external networks
- Network-address translation (NAT) is often implemented with this architecture
 - Converts external IP addresses to special ranges of internal IP addresses

Figure 9-7 Dual-Homed Host Firewall



Screened-Subnet Firewalls (with DMZ)

consists of one or more internal bastion hosts located behind a packet filtering router, with each host protecting the trusted network





Summary

- Intrusion detection system
 - Various types
- Auditing
 - Design issues
- Firewalls
 - Four different types