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Securing the Enterprise from a Dangerous Cyberworld

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The Encryption Conundrum

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From dictionary.com: co*nun*drum/Noun

1. A confusing and difficult problem or question.

2. A question asked for amusement, typically one with a pun in its answer; a riddle.









The Question:

Is encryption ALWAYS required and is it ALWAYS practical to encrypt all private data?







The Answer: Let's Encrypt All Our Data!

We are security practitioners and professionals.

We are smart?

We know that the bad guys can't see our data if we encrypt it.

It's that simple...isn't it?







The basic questions...

- Who are we protecting the data from?
- What data are we protecting?
- When does the data require protection?
- Where is the protection required?
- Why does the data require protection?
- How are we going to do this?







Who?

 Network engineers and sysadmins should not be looking at private or confidential data.

 No unauthorized individual should be looking either.







What?

What data has to be encrypted?

 City of New York data classified at a particular level must be encrypted in transit and at rest.







When?

- Encrypt data at rest
 - On disk
 - On backup media

- Encrypt data in transit over the wire
 - LAN
 - WAN
 - And SAN—that too is a network!







So the data has left the wire...

And now it is on some host

- First it is in memory, which is very hard to encrypt and process at the same time
- Although encryption is a great idea for nonvolatile storage on mobile devices, there are key management issues
- And now you need to store the data on some permanent storage device such as disk







Where?

- Database columns (TDE)
- Fileshares and filesystems (efs, Bitlocker)

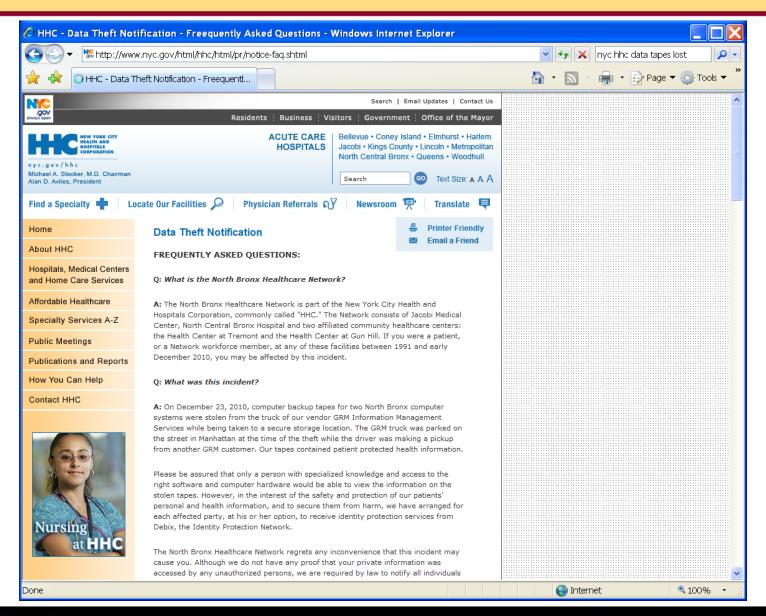
Tapes (especially tapes that are exported outside

of the datacenter!)









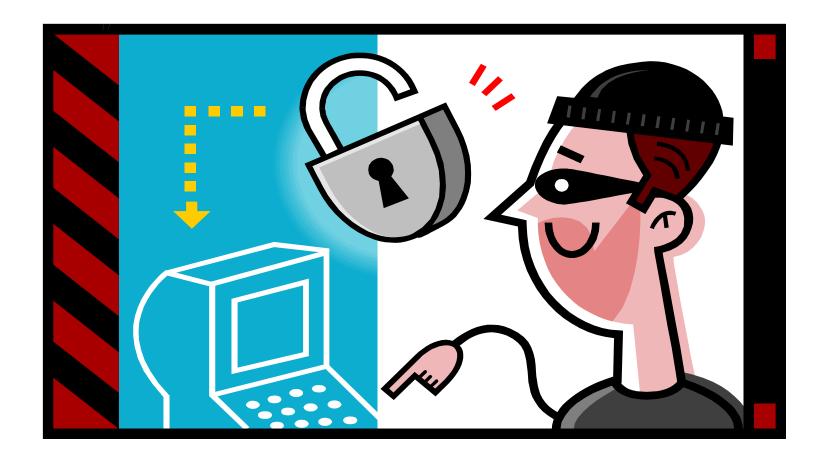




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How?









Encryption: The path to secure commerce and data security

Secure Socket Layer (SSL)

- First 40 bit, later 56 bit, now 128 bit
- Protects data traveling "across the wire" from prying eyes
- Ensures secure online financial and e-commerce transactions by overcoming credential or credit card interception







Without SSL there would be no...

eBay

Amazon

Online Banking



Online Securities Trading







Can we encrypt it to keep it secure?

Let's start with a local disk...

 It makes complete sense to use some type of disk or file system encryption package.

 Someone can walk about with the disk and your data, so an encrypted file system is great protection if you hold the key.







iSCSI me please...

- iSCSI offers an over-the-wire solution for encryption
- iSCSI can be tunneled through IPSEC
- iSCSI also offers other security advantages such as CHAP (describe)







Encrypted File Systems

Not seen much in production use

 The encryption occurs on the host rather than on the SAN

Microsoft EFS

Linux Ecryptfs







This seems difficult -- Is that why they're called "Hard Disks"?

- The not-for-profit Trusted Computing Group wants to make disk encryption easier.
- Self-encrypting drive solutions based on TCG specifications enable integrated encryption and access control within the protected hardware of the drive.
- Self- encrypting drives may provide the best solution for full disk encryption, protecting data when the machines or drives are lost or stolen.
- TCG's open standards provide multivendor interoperability.







Benefits of Self Encrypting Drives

- Better performance hardware optimized
- Stronger security always on
- Easier to use completely transparent to users and softare
- Lower TCO no key management infrastructure required.







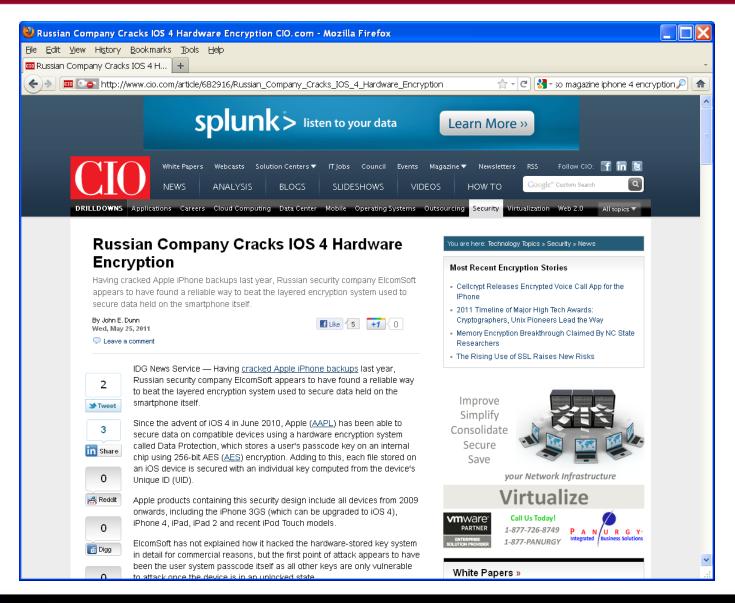
How is your mobile device encryption?

- iPhone/iPad?
- Android?
- Blackberry?
- Laptop?
- Netbook?
- Any mobile device that stores the encryption key onboard is not going to be so secure
- Any mobile device requiring a user to input an encryption key is not going to be seen as user friendly













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Solutions

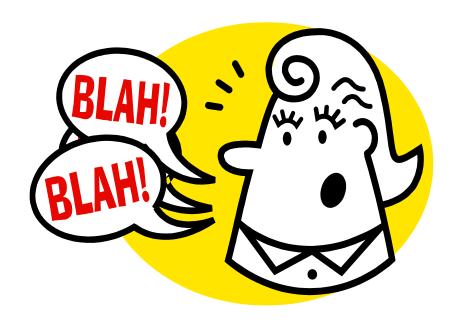
- Encrypt where practical
 - SSL, sure
 - IPSEC where it works, sure
 - Databases, maybe but what about audit based solutions
- Find other solutions where not so practical
 - Database security gateways
 - Self encrypting drives
- Understand the limitations of user friendly mobile devices
 - Onboard keys make for easy targets
- Virtualize data on mobile devices to keep it secure in the datacenter







Discussion









Thank You!

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