WeChall - hacker contest

Balázs Zoltán
Budapest New Technology
Meetup October 5, 2011

Wanna learn to hack? Afraid of prison?

- Computer hacking is cool
 - everybody wants to be cool
- Hacking other people's servers/website/binary is fun/cool
 - until you get caught by the police, e.g. LulzSec
- Hacking your own server/website/binary
 - no fun (or less fun)
- Solution
 - hack something what is created to be hacked

Notable challenge sites



- 2000-2004 was the born of the challenge sites
 - SQL injection published in 2001...
- The most famous and oldest ones (and still reachable)
 - Electrica (2001)
 - HackQuest (2003)
 - TheBlackSheep (2003)
- HackThisSite.com lot's of players
- Hungarian challenge sites
 - Hax.tor.hu
 - Gekkó
 - Ördöglakat :-/
- WeChall.net since 2008
 - Global challenge ranking











(Global) Challenge rankin



- Beware, challenge ranking is addictive
- Global individual ranking
 - Dloser is the 1st (country unknown)
 - sysfail from Hungary is the 50th
- Country ranking Score per Citizen
 - Slovakia 1st
 - Hungary 5th (cc. 50 "hackers")

- Encryption from rot13 over Enigma to RSA
 - proprietary encryption hack is less fun
 - Studying the encryption history and trying it is fun
- Stegano from basic binary patterns to crazy stuff
 - Beware: some challenges aren't fun after solved, because of no hints/too many possibilities

- Cracking binary reversing
 - Learning assembly is a must
 - Fun
- Exploit, Realistic ... usually web challenges
 - XSS, SQL injection, Javascript, Authentication Bypass etc.
 - Simulated SQL inj challs are usually no fun, but others can be superfun

- Flash, Java
 - Reversing, understand why thick clients sucks
- Shell
 - Unix knowledge is a must
 - Local privilege escalation exploits, the fun is REAL (buffer overflow, format string, race condition, known temp attack)
- IRC
 - talk to bots

Storyline

- Complex hacks (locate default password, config router for MiTM, create SSH key with similar fingerprint, MD5 collision, erase logs) (crack WPA, generate RSA token code)
- Programming
 - needs programming knowledge, usually NP algos
 - It's on you, which programming language you use
- Lockpicking
 - Send video about how you solved it
- Logic, math, science...

Common rules

- Forbidden
 - Brute-force or DOS the site
 - Trade challenge solutions
- Ask in the forum after many hours of research
 - Not after trying one thing
- Be kind in the forum, help other people
 - don't spoil the fun
- Creating hacking challenges
 - FUN, FUN, FUN

