Binary Analysis: Finding Secrets in Code

Nish Bhalla Founder, Security Compass



Agenda



Product Review Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

Process Isolation

isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis

Typical Product Review Methodology



 What it is: Product reviews examine vendor applications using a black-box approach to find security vulnerabilities



- Why: Product reviews discover vulnerabilities before the product is shipped, thereby decreasing potential security updates, enhancing your organization's reputation amongst customers and creating a competitive advantage
- **How:** Product reviews examine applications to determine security vulnerabilities by performing the following steps:
 - 1. Threat Analysis Incorporate the full threat analysis methodology
 - 2. <u>Design Analysis</u>- Map out the application use and functionality requirements
 - 3. <u>Architecture Review</u>- Examine the dataflow model and the controls "by design" on each communication point to secure data
 - 4. <u>Application Penetration Testing</u>- Perform black and grey-box testing on the product on a variety of potential end-user environments

Threat Analysis



- What is Threat Analysis?
- Threat Analysis or threat modeling is the process of systematically deriving the **key threats** relevant to an application in order to efficiently **identify** and **mitigate** potential **security weaknesses** before deployment
- It is a method to determine the unique threats that an application might face; it is a systematic method of finding security issues in an application by **forcing developers to think like an attacker**
- Security staff can **focus** their resources on the most important issues an application faces after performing this activity

Design And Architecture Review



- Design Review: Understand what the thought process was when the application was originally designed
- More often than not the design and the end product are two completely different applications
- Architecture Review: Evaluate the deployed application's architecture and implementation in a real world scenario

??? SECURE BY DEFAULT ???

Application Penetration Testing



- Our Sample Application is an ISAPI. It requires a pass phrase to browse into the website
- Why did I choose an ISAPI and not a stand alone application?
 - Developers often store credentials of back end databases in ISAPIs
 - ISAPIs are commonly where algorithms are stored
 - ISAPIs are typically not expected to land in the hands of a hacker
 - ISAPIs are typically reviewed for lost code and lost developers
 - ISAPIs can help you crash systems that are otherwise secure
 - I recently reviewed a few ISAPIs and I am partially basing this example on observations made in those reviews

Agenda



Product Testing Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

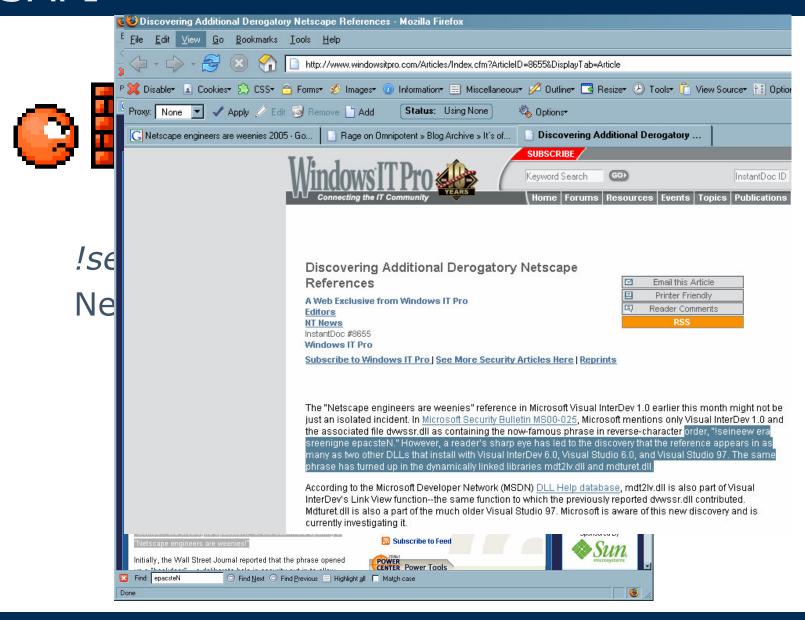
Process Isolation

isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis

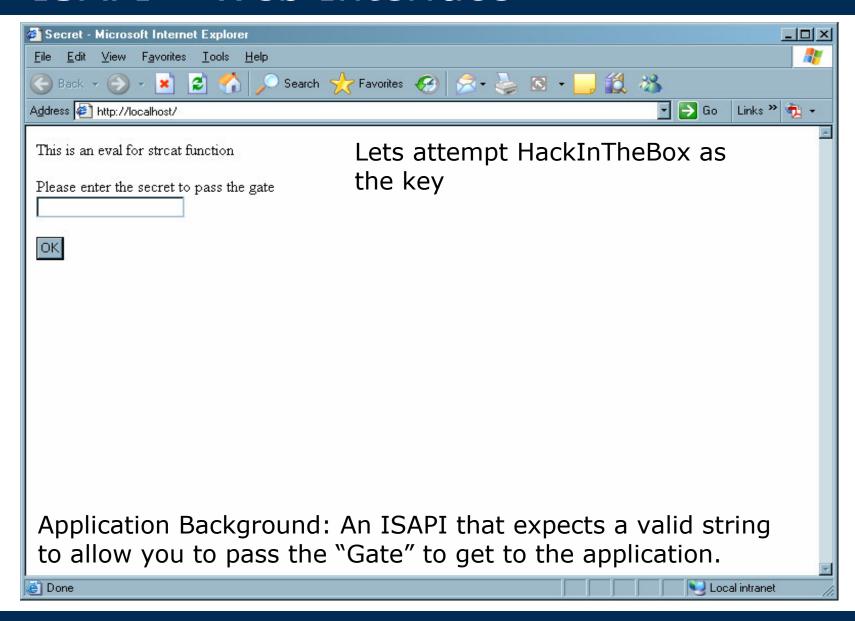
ISAPI





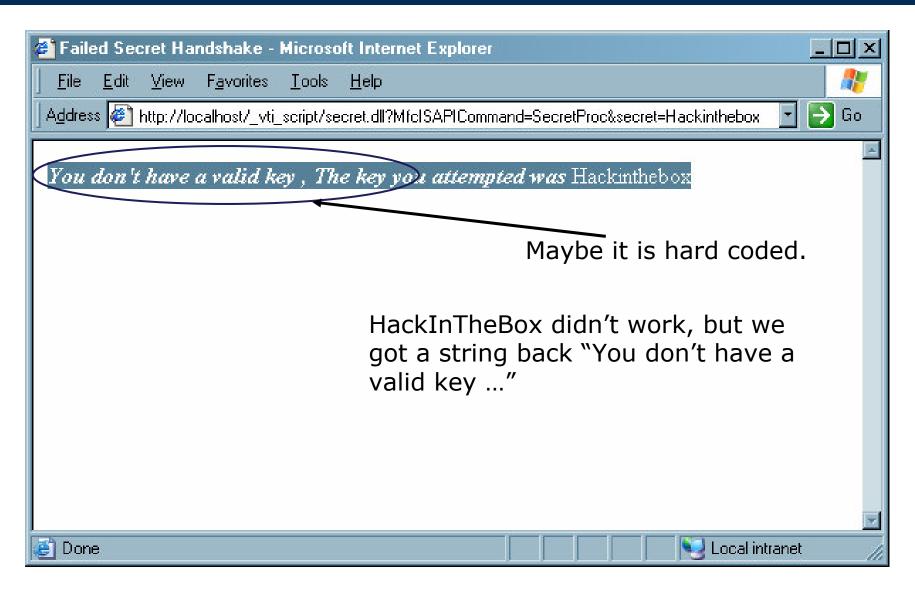
ISAPI – Web Interface





ISAPI – Web Interface





Agenda



Product Testing Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

Process Isolation

isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis

ISAPI – Debugging Steps



- Attach/Load ISAPI in debugger
 - Decide which debugger.
- Bypass any anti-debugging steps
- Step through binary

Set breakpoints at best locations possible/



ISAPI – Debugger, Ollydbg





- Lets attach a debugger to the DLL to see what is going on.
 - Ollydbg
 - GDB / DDD [GUID GDB]
 - Windbg
- Ollydbg is one of the best User Mode debuggers available and it is free
- To learn more about ollydbg, download and read the help files. Additional links will be provided at the end of the presentation.
- Ollydbg can be downloaded from http://www.ollydbg.de/
- Ollydbg has a community forum which has moved to this http://www.asmcommunity.net/board/. The older messages will be available sometime in the near future

Agenda



Product Testing Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

Process Isolation

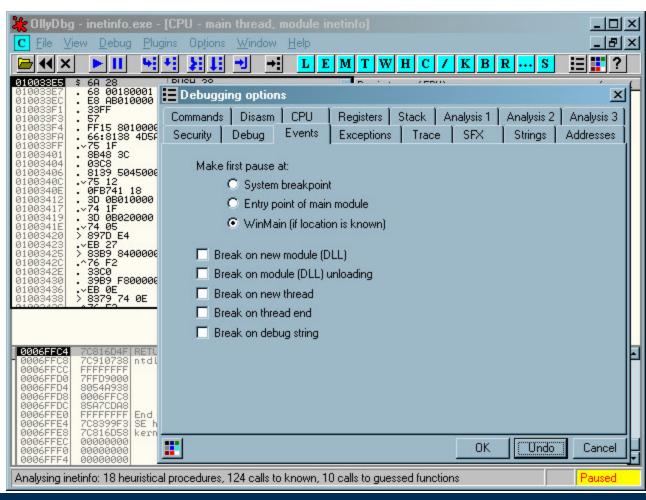
isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis

ISAPI - OllyDBG



- Attach inetinfo.exe process. [Demo]
- The default in OllyDbg breaks at WinMain. We shall wait for it to pause at that location.



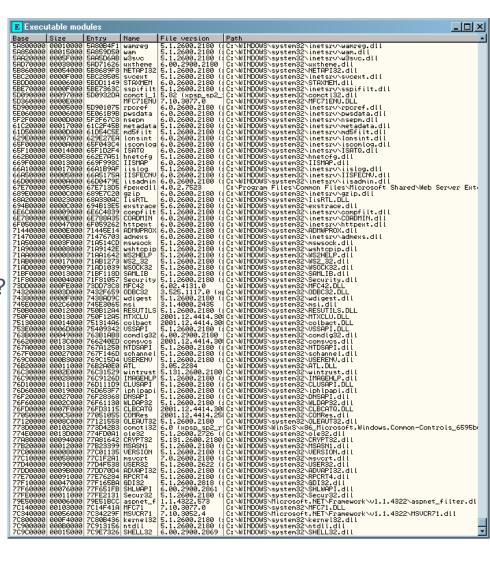
ISAPI - Ollydbg



View Executable Modules.



- The ISAPI can't be found ☺
- What should be our next step?
- Ideas / Suggestions ?
- Search Google / Microsoft what is happening behind the scenes?



Agenda



Product Testing Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

Process Isolation

isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis

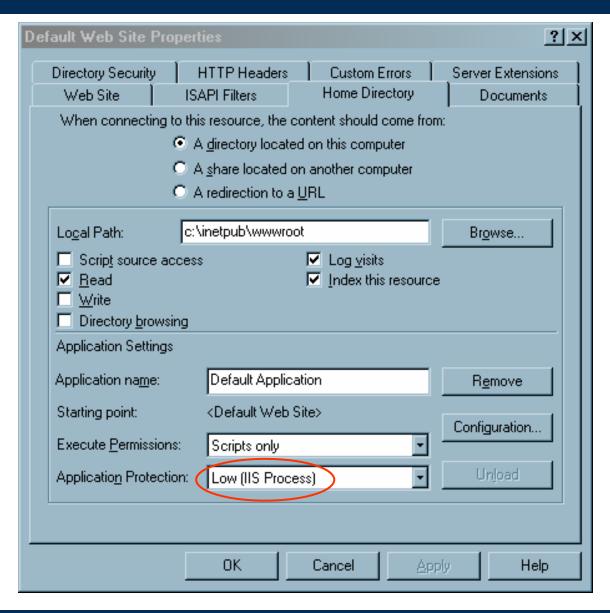
IIS Process Isolation - Microsoft



- Application Protection or Isolating Applications refers to the process in which applications (ISAPIs) are run. It means configuring them to run in a process (memory space) that is separate from the Web server and other applications. You can configure applications to have one of three levels of application protection:
 - Low (in-process) application protection.
 - Medium (pooled) application protection.
 - High (isolated) application protection.
- IIS 5.0 & 6.0 offers three levels of application protection.
 - Low ISAPI is inside inetinfo.exe process space
 - Medium ISAPI is in dllhost.exe process space
 - High ISAPI is in dllhost.exe process space.
- In case you encounter a In IIS 4.0 based application, the ISAPI ran in either (Inetinfo.exe) or in a process separate from Web services (DLLHost.exe), Low & High only.

IIS Process Isolation - Microsoft





ISAPI – Ollydbg



- Easiest for debugging is make it low; in-process application protection. We might have other applications running in DLLhost.exe process space and we don't want to kill our other apps.
- Restart IIS
- Attach Inetinfo.exe and let the application loop through while you input data into the HTML form
- Should be able to find Secret.dll in loaded executables (View / Executable Modules) in inetinfo.exe



- Application is Terminated
- IDEAS / Suggestions ?

Agenda



Product Testing Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

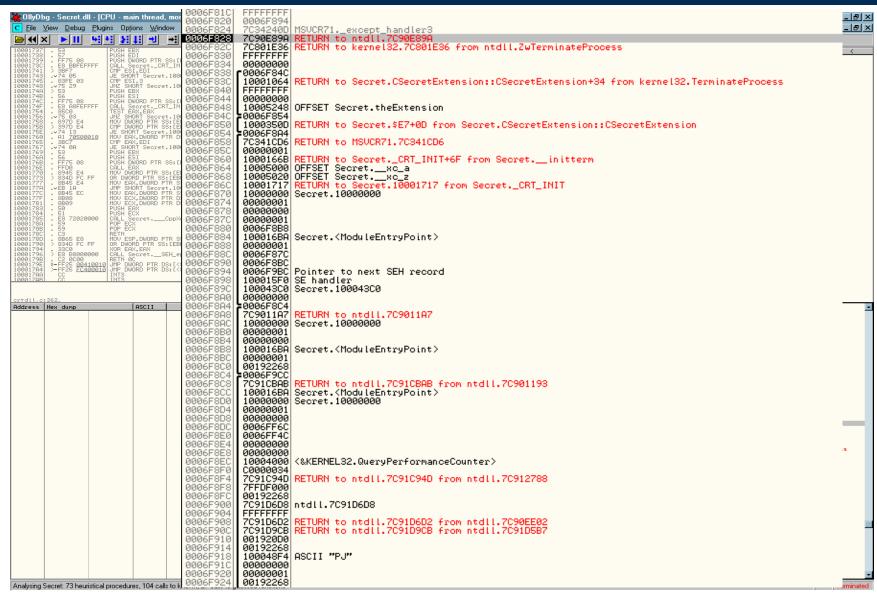
Process Isolation

isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis

ISAPI - isDebuggerPresent()





ISAPI - isDebuggerPresent()



- ntdll.ZwTerminateProcess
- Viewing names in Secret.dll we find that there is a call to function isDebuggerPresent.
- The IsDebuggerPresent function terminates execution of the process. This is a common technique used to discourage debugging of applications.

Manually - Bypassing iSDebuggerPresent



Method 1

- Set a breakpoint on the IsDebuggerPresent function.
 - we'll load the command-line plug-in (Alt+F1)
 - bp IsDebuggerPresent
- Once the break point is reached, executes "Step Into" twice (Shift+F7 * 2) and stop
- By right clicking in the Disassembler pane and selecting Follow in Dump | Memory Address, the location and value of the IsDebuggerPresent function is displayed in the Dump pane. The location is 7FFDA002
- 01 00 FF FF FF FF 00 00 40 00 A0 1E 19 00
- Right-clicking the first value in this string (01) and selecting "Binary\Fill with 00's"

Manually - Bypassing iSDebuggerPresent 🦠



Method 2

- A simpler way to do this is to load Ollydbg's command-line plug-in (Alt-F1).
- Insert the following command set byte ptr ds:[fs:[30]+2]] = 0
- The command changes the return value of the API (isDebuggerPresent) to always be 0.

Plugins - Bypassing isDebuggerPresent



- Hide Debugger
 - Hides debugger from the Kernel32.isDebuggerPresent function
- isDebuggerPresent Plugin
 - Hide mode, hides debugger from the Kernel32.isDebuggerPresent function
 - Extra Hide
 - Dump process (need to provide from where to where).

Plugins - Bypassing isDebuggerPresent



Olly Invisible

- System Wide Hooking This method Ollydbg will be hidden to the whole system.
- User Wide Hooking This method Ollydbg will be hidden to the current user session only.
- Only Target Process This method hides to targe process only (saves hooking)

Functions Olly Invisible hides

- IsdebuggerPresent
- BeingDebugged
- CsrGetProcessId
- ZwQuerySystemInformation
- ZwQueryInformationProcess

Agenda



Product Testing Methodology

Basics

Debugging Steps

Ollydbg

Process Isolation

isDebuggerPresent

ISAPI Analysis



- Enumerate functions, imported and exported by ISAPI
- Enumerate strings inside ISAPI
- Review code of key functions
- Set breakpoint on any or all key aspects



Enumerate functions, imported and exported by ISAPI

- The functions can be enumerated using Quick View or Quick View Plus utility
- Same can be done using dumpbin utility, provided with Visual Studio
 dumpbin /EXPORTS secret.dll
- In Ollydbg, to view the list of functions, select View Executable Modules, right-clicking on Secret.dll option from the list and selecting view names displays the functions being imported and exported



Enumerating strings

- All the strings being used inside secret.dll can be viewed either by using the "strings" utility available from sysinternals website
- ASCII strings inside secret.dll can be viewed by right-clicking inside the Disassembler pane where secret.dll is loaded and selecting Search for | All referenced Text strings
- Set a breakpoint on any interesting strings that are seen.
 Example: "You don't have a valid key, The key you attempted was". The error we had seen on attempt to login.



Review code of key functions

- Key Functions such as strcpy and strcat are being used
- To select references on import, right click on the function and select references on import. A new pane with a list of references pops up. Set a breakpoint on the references



- Browse to the website and provide a string.
 - String providing strategy
 - AAAAAAAAAAAAAA
 - AAAABBBBCCCCDDDD
 - 1111222233334444
- The application should stop before the Failed secret error message.
- Tracing the call in code a few lines above the breakpoint, we note
 a comparison is performed between the data input and a string
 locally stored in the binary, "SecurityCompass".
- GAME OVER !!

ISAPI - Input Valid String



- http://localhost/ and providing the string SecurityCompass.
- To obtain the dll either browse to securitycompass.com and obtain it from the resources section or by browsing to http://www.webhackingexposed.com/.

Available only after July 01, 2006.



Some Interesting Links



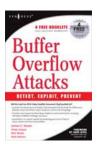
- OllyDebugger Web Site http://www.ollydbg.de/
- OllyDebugger Forum for Discussion <u>http://www.asmcommunity.net/board/</u>
- Open Reverse Code Engineering Community Website http://www.openrce.org/
- Site with a lot of interesting tools
 http://www.sysinternals.com/Utilities/Strings.html
- Assembly Tutorials
 http://spiff.tripnet.se/~iczelion/tutorials.html

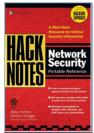
Security Compass Profile



- Our consultants have serviced large (Fortune 500) and medium sized companies across most major industries
- We have worked for major security players, including Foundstone and Deloitte
- We have co-authored or contributed to several security books, including:
 - Buffer Overflow Attacks: Detect, Exploit & Prevent
 - Windows XP Professional Security
 - HackNotes: Network Security
 - Writing Security Tools and Exploits
 - Hacking Exposed: Web Applications, 2nd Edition
- We have presented at and continue to present at security conferences, including:
 - Reverse Engineering Conference 2005 in Montreal;
 HackInTheBox 2005 in Malaysia; ISC2's Infosec Conferences in Las Vegas, NYC, Toronto & DC; CSI NetSec; DallasCon; ToorCon; and Freenix.
- We present and contribute to open source projects:
 - Chair at OWASP Toronto, Presented at OWASP Toronto, Contributed to YASSP Project (Lead by SANS and Xerox), Botan Crypto library, Cutlas P2P network & VNCCrack













QUESTIONS?

Contact:

Nish Bhalla (Nish@securitycompass.com)

Founder, Security Compass

Toronto, Ontario, CANADA: 647.722.4883

Shrewsbury, New Jersey, USA: 201.390.9198