



How things go wrong.

The lucky one and the unlucky one

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The Lucky One

The SCADA Researcher

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The screenshot shows a Windows desktop with several open windows. On the left, a Twitter window displays a tweet from Rubén Santamarta (@reversemode) posted 3 hours ago with the text "Just posted 'The #scada #LHC'". The main window is a web browser displaying a blog post titled "THE POWER OF READING: THE CERN CASE." by Rubén Santamarta, dated Thursday, 18 August 2011. The article discusses the researcher's experience with the SCADA system at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC). It mentions that the researcher spent hours compiling documentation and software, eventually downloading a large amount of data from a website. The article includes several XLS file icons and a photograph of server racks with labels such as "CPU 534 14A 588 CONTROLLER" and "NOE 771 00 ETHERNET 10/100".

A month earlier, the Researcher reported to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security who informed us via SWITCH and MELANI.





What happened?

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The screenshot displays a remote desktop connection to a CMS control room. The main window shows a 'CRYOPLANT' schematic diagram with various components like LN2 tanks, compressors, turbines, and adsorbers. The interface includes a menu bar, a toolbar, and a status bar. The status bar shows 'Operational configuration: CRYOEXPUSER' and 'Monday, 22 August 2011 17:02'. The schematic diagram displays various parameters such as pressure (7.85 bara, 17.71 bara), flow rates (186.0 g/s, 22.5 g/s), and temperatures (23.4 C).

Key components and data points in the CRYOPLANT schematic:

- LN2 Tank:** 50000 L, 21048.5 kg, 6.57 bar
- Compressor Station:** 46.4 A, 17.71 bara, 186.0 g/s
- Compressor 2:** 46.8 A, Full Power, 6.41 bara
- Compressor 1:** 3.92 bara, 23.4 C
- Turbines:** Turbines12 (2256 Hz), Turbine3 (1159 Hz, 1134 Hz)
- Adsorbers:** 80K, 20K
- Cold Box:** 0.0 mm, 2.977 bara
- C/SdP:** 1.12 bara, 2.93 bara
- ATM:** 1.011 bara





Counter-Measures

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Standard event response:

- ▶ Inform stakeholders
- ▶ Prepare press statement
- ▶ Take documents offline incl. Google cache
- ▶ **Change passwords on all instances** (*can be costly!*)
- ▶ **Check access logs for unauthorized activity:**

We've been able to identify the corresponding actions, e.g. the original scan for the document and WTS accesses



Lessons Learned:

- ▶ Starting to **block access from the Internet** for selected service accounts (i.e. non-personal accounts)
- ▶ Working on a general policy prohibiting service accounts on LXPLUS and CERNTS



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The Unlucky One



The Attack

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The screenshot shows a web browser window with a terminal window overlaid. The terminal window, titled 'Terminal — ssh — ttys000 — 80x24', displays the following content:

3200K	.....	95%	10.85 MB/s
3250K	.....	96%	11.49 MB/s
3300K	.....	98%	10.99 MB/s
3350K	.....	99%	11.24 MB/s
3400K	.....	100%	10.83 MB/s

15:03:29 (11.18 MB/s) - 'exploit2.tgz' saved [3492005/3492005]

```
tar -zxvf exploit2.tgz && cd wunderbar_emporium
wunderbar_emporium/
wunderbar_emporium/pwnkernel.c
wunderbar_emporium/tzameti.avi
wunderbar_emporium/wunderbar_emporium.sh
wunderbar_emporium/exploit.c
id
uid=48(apache) gid=48(apache) groups=48(apache),50004(ticketgroup),1100241092 context=root:system_r:system_mail_t
./wunderbar_emporium.sh
sh: mplayer: command not found
sh: no job control in this shell
sh-3.00# id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=48(apache),50004(ticketgroup),1100241092 context=root:system_r:system_mail_t
sh-3.00#
```





Counter-Measures

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Standard event response:

- ▶ Inform stakeholders
- ▶ Prepare press statement
- ▶ Check network logs and attacker Ips
- ▶ **Forensics of compromised server**
Difficult if local admins already have tampered with the data
- ▶ Determination of compromise extent
- ▶ **Reinstallation after all** (*painful*)



Lessons Learned:

- ▶ **Patching** is a must
- ▶ **Central syslogging** is a must, too
- ▶ Adequate security training is beneficial for *all*
(“Once bitten, twice shy” 😊)
- ▶ Deployment of so-called “**Security Baselines**”



Security Baselines

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- ▶ ...define basic security objectives
- ▶ ...are simple, pragmatic & complete, and do not imply technical solutions

All systems/services must be implemented and deployed in compliance with their corresponding “Security Implementation Document”

- ▶ Non-compliance will ultimately lead to reduced network connectivity (i.e. closure of CERN firewall openings, ceased access to other network domains, full disconnection from the network).

Today, we have Security Baselines...

- ▶ ...for servers ([EDMS 1062500](#))
- ▶ ...for file hosting services ([EDMS 1062503](#))
- ▶ ...for web hosting services ([EDMS 1062502](#))
- ▶ ...for Industrial Embedded Devices ([EDMS 1139163](#))

Prevention is the key

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Training & Awareness

- ▶ **Dedicated training courses** on “Secure programming in Java/PHP/Perl/Python” and “...for Web applications”
- ▶ **Mandatory on-line security course** every two years for all CERN account owners
- ▶ Awareness poster campaign through-out CERN
- ▶ Check out at <http://cern.ch/security/training/en/index.shtml>

Consulting & Assistance

- ▶ Helping system owners with securing their services

Website scanning

- ▶ ...plus Nessus...

skipfish

SECURITY is not complete without U

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Quelques astuces pour protéger votre ordinateur et vos données

- Utilisez les systèmes d'exploitation fournis par le département IT du CERN : ils sont configurés de manière sûre et mis à jour automatiquement pour vous.
- Protégez votre ordinateur privé : utilisez l'antivirus du CERN; appliquez les mises à jour logicielles; n'installez pas de logiciels douteux.
- Protégez vos fichiers et données : limitez l'accès à vos documents et répertoires; appliquez le principe du droit d'accès minimal.
- Soyez prudent lorsque vous naviguez sur le Web : ne cliquez pas sur des liens suspects et n'installez pas de plug-in douteux.
- Suivez les règles informatiques du CERN : respectez le droit d'auteur; n'utilisez pas de logiciels non-autorisés; consultez <http://cern.ch/ComputingRules>
- Protégez vos mots de passe : ne les partagez jamais; prenez garde au phishing (technique qui utilise les escrocs en ligne pour voler votre mot de passe); ne les réutilisez pas (utilisez des mots de passe différents pour des applications différentes); ne les tapez pas sur des ordinateurs ou des sites Web suspects.
- Demandez conseil : l'équipe de sécurité informatique vous propose des cours de formation, des analyses de codes logiciels, des balayages Web ou serveur etc., et est là pour vous aider : contactez Computer.Security@cern.ch ou consultez <http://cern.ch/Computer.Security>

Be careful with e-mail & Web

Cybercriminals are trying to trick you!

