Don't be a DDoS Attacker

Tony Miu

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About us

NEXUSGUARD ™
DDoS Mitigation Lab

Independent academic R&D division of Nexusguard building next generation DDoS mitigation knowledge and collaborate with the defense community.

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Who is under DDoS attack?
Cyber Warfare News

Is it the full story of Attack?

Attacker / Hacker

Remote control

Botnet

ATTACK

Web server under Attack

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Web base DDoS attack Tool - WebHIVE

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Attack pattern of WebHIVE

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The challenge of mitigation

Random Query string(including ?id and msg), force no cache

GET /?id=**1412739384587**&msg=**We%20are%20Hackitvist** HTTP/1.1

Host: **<Victim domain>**
Connection: keep-alive
Accept: image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_9_4)
AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/37.0.2062.124 Safari/537.36
Accept-Encoding: gzip,deflate,sdch
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8,zh-TW;q=0.6,zh;q=0.4

Cookie: _pk_id.19F236C2-8EE1-AB85-C47B-E2516D1D5AEC.7cc5=33ee64db654ad0cd.1383814595.4.1385705542.1385703313
90.; Hm_lvt_afc503f51323bcd69e0fb1bed230c988=1408001287;

Signature base detection no long to work!?!?

Learn from existing browser

Bypass the source host verification!?!?

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Web base Attack Tools VS traditional attack tool

- No need to install extra things, e.g. python, java, .NET, library, etc

- Cross platform available e.g. including Smart Phone, Windows, IOS, Mac, etc

- Easy to share

- No significant/interesting signature

- Any one can build the code with free online tools

  (e.g. pastehtml.com, pastebin.com, etc)

- Customize, e.g. auto-run script, hidden inside webpage

Risk and Impact

If it is auto-run script behind the page

Botnet + WebHive

Attacker / Hacker

Build

Remote control

Botnet

Access the web page

Access the web page

ATTACK

ATTACK

Client computers

ATTACK

Smart Phone

Web server under Attack

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Persistent cross-site scripting(XSS) used and injected into <img> tag

1 Using a persistent XSS vulnerability the attacker injects JavaScript payload into the <img> tag in his profile.

2 Attacker strategically places the injected image by posting in the comment sections of popular videos.

3 When a regular visitor views the video, the JavaScript is activated, adding a hidden <iframe> with DDoS tool that sends GET request to several target sites, once every second.

4 The longer the video and the more viewers it has, the larger the DDoS attack becomes.

Ref: http://www.incapsula.com/blog/world-largest-site-xss-ddos-zombies.html

Facebook Notes to DDoS any website

chr13.com/2014/04/20/using-facebook-notes-to-ddos-any-website/

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A Programmer's Blog

Using Facebook Notes to DDoS any website

Posted by chr13 on April 20, 2014

[Update]

Facebook Notes allows users to include <img> tags. Whenever a <img> tag is used, Facebook crawls the image from the external server and caches it. Facebook will only cache the image once however using random get parameters the cache can be by-passed and the feature can be abused to cause a huge HTTP GET flood.

Steps to re-create the bug as reported to Facebook Bug Bounty on March 03, 2014.
Step 1. Create a list of unique img tags as one tag is crawled only once

```
<img src=http://targetname/file?r=1></img>
<img src=http://targetname/file?r=1></img>
..
<img src=http://targetname/file?r=1000></img>
```

RSS Feed

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Using Facebook Notes to DDoS any website
A Bug in the Bug Bounty Program
Using Google to DDoS any website

Archives

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Incapsula's Blog

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2014

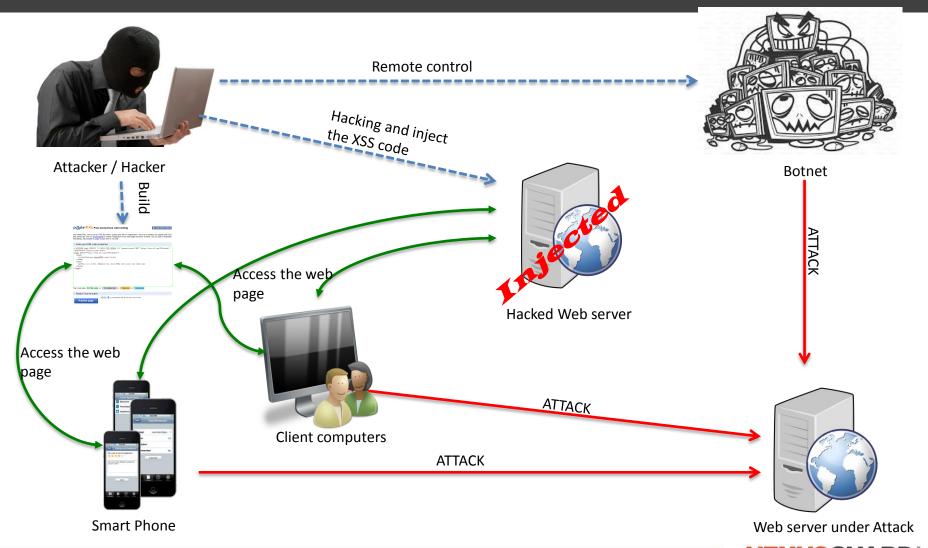# One of World's Largest Websites Hacked: Turns Visitors into "DDoS Zombies"

By Ronen Atias

Yesterday we mitigated a unique application layer DDoS attack against one of our clients. The attack was carried out using traffic hijacking techniques, which flooded our client with over 20 ET requests originating from the browsers of over 22,000 Intern all turned into unwilling accomplices by the offender.

What makes this case especially interesting is the fact that the attack was enabled by a vulnerability in one of the world's largest and most popular sites - one of the domains on Alexa's "Top 50" list.

We can't disclose the domain name in question at this time, as our team is now working to resolve the breach. However, we will provide further details, once the vulnerability is fixed.

Having said that, we can already describe the method used by the attackers, in the hopes that it will help prevent similar abuse of other websites.

Botnet + WebHive + Injected Web server

Remote control

Hacking and inject the XSS code

Attacker / Hacker

Build

Botnet

ATTACK

Injected

Access the web page

Hacked Web server

Access the web page

ATTACK

Client computers

ATTACK

Smart Phone

Web server under Attack

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Layer 7 Amplified attack - XMLRPC

list.txt

```
http://lunarscience.nasa.gov/xmlrpc.php http://sservi.nasa.gov/overview/
http://longtermcare.gov/xmlrpc.php http://longtermcare.gov/medicare-medicaid-more/
http://www.cityofhampton-ga.gov/xmlrpc.php http://www.cityofhampton-ga.gov/xmlrpc.php
http://97.107.133.130/xmlrpc.php http://beta.chafic.com/2007/onair-bus-tour-presentation-
material-air-windowing-api/
http://caddonation-nsn.gov/xmlrpc.php http://caddonation-nsn.gov/news/
http://173.45.227.5/xmlrpc.php http://www.acumenbrands.com/john-james-southland/
http://151.236.42.67/xmlrpc.php http://officinetredici.it/prova/?
utm_source=rss&#038;utm_medium=rss&#038;utm_campaign=prova
http://192.81.213.128/xmlrpc.php http://www.dlaube.com/2011/10/my-impressions-of-opscode-
chef-training/
http://93.104.213.100/xmlrpc.php http://15greenleaves.com/15gl/our-website-is-now-
available-in-english/
http://198.252.102.15/xmlrpc.php http://www.bridalprom.com/?p=31
http://www.dmh.ms.gov/xmlrpc.php http://www.dmh.ms.gov/providers/provider-bulletins/
http://130.88.198.11/xmlrpc.php http://130.88.198.11/2013/reasoners/
http://54.246.145.85/xmlrpc.php http://urbanpundit.view.co.uk/matthew-turners-best-bits-
of-glasgow-film-festival-2014/
http://193.2.241.15/xmlrpc.php http://www.izida.si/2014/05/vesele-pocitnice-na-izidi-
%e2%80%93-celodnevno-pocitnisko-varstvo-med-poletnimi-pocitnicami/
http://70.32.94.108/xmlrpc.php http://perrybelcher.biz/?p=24
http://65.23.159.94/xmlrpc.php http://walrusmusicblog.com/blog/we-were-the-walrus/
http://31.22.7.127/xmlrpc.php http://bianca.marinescu.us/?p=1
http://205.186.136.174/xmlrpc.php http://205.186.136.174/lecture-series-one-elizabeth-
scharpf-of-sustainable-health-enterprises/
http://50.31.2.194/xmlrpc.php http://50.31.2.194/2012/07/11/check-back-soon-to-see-how-
our-story-unfolds/
http://184.154.245.79/xmlrpc.php http://www.it-guru.net/cyberthreats/
http://94.136.188.42/xmlrpc.php http://vm-1110.cls-vm.de/?p=1
http://205.186.160.233/xmlrpc.php http://americanprintingco.net/wide-format-and-digital-
```

Attacker amplify the DDoS Attack from single computer

Send pingback request to vulnerable WordPress site Lists

By default, the pingback is enable

The Attack is amplified few times

Vulnerable WorPress site

Vulnerable WorPress site

Web server under Attack

Attacker / Hacker

Vulnerable WorPress site

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Impact and Risk

Online checking for WordPress site

WordPress XML-RPC PingBack Vulnerability

- Any WordPress site with Pingback enabled can be used in DDoS attack against other sites

- By default, the pingback is enabled

- From some hacker forums, they already provided the attack tool and vulnerable WordPress List

- Statistics from Spider Lab, it is more than 162,000 site used in DDoS attack (March 2014)

- The vulnerability in WordPress's XMP-RPC API is not new, it is over 7 years ago!!!!

Attack Representation

Send pingback request to vulnerable WordPress site Lists

Remote control

Hacking and inject the XSS code

Attacker / Hacker

Botnet

Group of vulnerable WorPress servers

Injected!

Access the web page

Hacked Web server

ATTACK

ATTACK

Access the web page

ATTACK

Client computers

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Smart Phone

Web server under Attack

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Conclusion

- Who are the victims today?
  - Web server under attack
  - People who open the injected/hacked web page
  - vulnerable web server amplify and forward the attack
- The Trend of cyber war is changed, WE need to build up our security sense to prevent the attack from us
- Information security start from everyone, today!!!

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Thank You!

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