



OWASP Top 10 – 2010

The Top 10 Most Critical Web Application Security Risks

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Introduction

■ OWASP Top 10 Project

- ▶ ***"The OWASP Top Ten represents a broad consensus about what the most critical web application security flaws are."***

■ Why are we covering this?

- ▶ Flaws 4, 5 and 6
- ▶ What I see day to day during webapp assessments
- ▶ Widely applicable to .nz businesses

■ These slides are heavily entirely based on the work of others

- ▶ See credits at the end



OWASP Top Ten (2010 Edition)

A1: Injection

A2: Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

A3: Broken Authentication and Session Management

A4: Insecure Direct Object References

A5: Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

A6: Security Misconfiguration

A7: Failure to Restrict URL Access

A8: Insecure Cryptographic Storage

A9: Insufficient Transport Layer Protection

A10: Unvalidated Redirects and Forwards



OWASP

The Open Web Application Security Project
<http://www.owasp.org>

http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Top_10

<http://www.owasp.org>

OWASP - 2010



A4 – Insecure Direct Object References

How do you protect access to your data?

- This is part of enforcing proper “Authorization”, along with A7 – Failure to Restrict URL Access

A common mistake ...

- Only listing the ‘authorized’ objects for the current user, or
- Hiding the object references in hidden fields
- ... and then not enforcing these restrictions on the server side
- This is called presentation layer access control, and doesn’t work
- Attacker simply tampers with parameter value

Typical Impact

- Users are able to access unauthorized files or data



Insecure Direct Object References Illustrated

Online Banking | Account Summary | Checking - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <https://www.onlinebank.com/user?acct=6065>

Welcome Teodora

What can our Cash Maximizer account do for you?

Your Accounts

- Checking-6534
Current Balance: \$3577.98
Available Balance: \$3568.99
- Checking-6515
Current Balance: \$2,518.08
Available Balance: \$2200.00

Transfer Funds

Open New Account

Your Bills

\$9999.99 due in next: 1 day

Pay Bills

Customer Service | Privacy & Security

Income and Expenses from Sep 26, 2004 to Jan 16, 2005

Checking-6534

Category	Amount
Total Costs	\$16,174.49
Recurring Costs	
Variable Costs	\$7,014.04
Fixed Costs	\$8,297.58
Total Deposits	\$23,293.31

Date	Description	Category	Amount
Nov 22, 2004	Interest Payment	Interest	\$.25
Nov 22, 2004	ATM Withdrawal, myBank, San Rafael, CA	Cash	\$100.00
Nov 19, 2004	ATM Withdrawal, myBank, San Francisco, CA	Cash	\$100.00
Nov 16, 2004	SBC Phone Bill Payment	Phone	\$94.23
Nov 16, 2004	myBank Credit Card Bill Payment	Credit Card	\$2,853.57
Nov 15, 2004	ATM Withdrawal, myBank, San Rafael, CA	Cash	\$100.00
Nov 15, 2004	myBank Payroll	Payroll	\$4,373.79
Nov 10, 2004	ATM Withdrawal, myBank, San Francisco, CA	Cash	\$100.00
Nov 4, 2004	ATM Withdrawal, myBank, San Francisco, CA	Cash	\$100.00
Nov 3, 2004	myBank Credit Card Bill Payment	Credit Card	\$10.00
Nov 1, 2004	Working Assets Bill Payment	Phone	\$13.57
Nov 1, 2004	Prudential Insurance Bill Payment	Insurance	\$435.00
Nov 1, 2004	Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corp Bill Payment	Mortgage	\$2,184.42
Oct 29, 2004	ATM Withdrawal, myBank, San Francisco, CA	Cash	\$100.00
Oct 28, 2004	myBank Payroll	Payroll	\$4,338.96

Net Cash Flow: 6435.29

- Attacker notices his acct parameter is 6065
?acct=6065
- He modifies it to a nearby number
?acct=6066
- Attacker views the victim's account information



A4 – Avoiding Insecure Direct Object References

■ Eliminate the direct object reference

- ▶ Replace them with a temporary mapping value (e.g. 1, 2, 3)
- ▶ ESAPI provides support for numeric & random mappings
 - `IntegerAccessReferenceMap` & `RandomAccessReferenceMap`

<http://app?file=Report123.xls>

<http://app?file=1>

<http://app?id=9182374>

<http://app?id=7d3J93>



Report123.xls

Acct:9182374

■ Validate the direct object reference

- ▶ Verify the parameter value is properly formatted
- ▶ Verify the user is allowed to access the target object
 - Query constraints work great!
- ▶ Verify the requested mode of access is allowed to the target object (e.g., read, write, delete)



A5 – Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF)

Cross Site Request Forgery

- An attack where the victim's browser is tricked into issuing a command to a vulnerable web application
- Vulnerability is caused by browsers automatically including user authentication data (session ID, IP address, Windows domain credentials, ...) with each request

Imagine...

- What if a hacker could steer your mouse and get you to click on links in your online banking application?
- What could they make you do?

Typical Impact

- Initiate transactions (transfer funds, logout user, close account)
- Access sensitive data
- Change account details



CSRF Vulnerability Pattern

■ The Problem

- ▶ Web browsers automatically include most credentials with each request
- ▶ Even for requests caused by a form, script, or image on another site

■ All sites relying solely on automatic credentials are vulnerable!

- ▶ (almost all sites are this way)

■ Automatically Provided Credentials

- ▶ Session cookie
- ▶ Basic authentication header
- ▶ IP address
- ▶ Client side SSL certificates
- ▶ Windows domain authentication



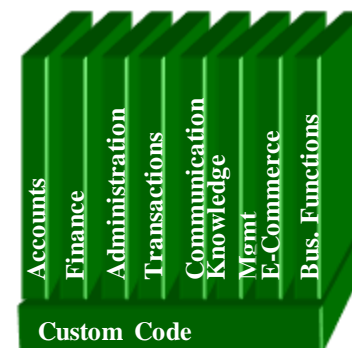
CSRF Illustrated

Attacker sets the trap on some website on the internet
(or simply via an e-mail)

1

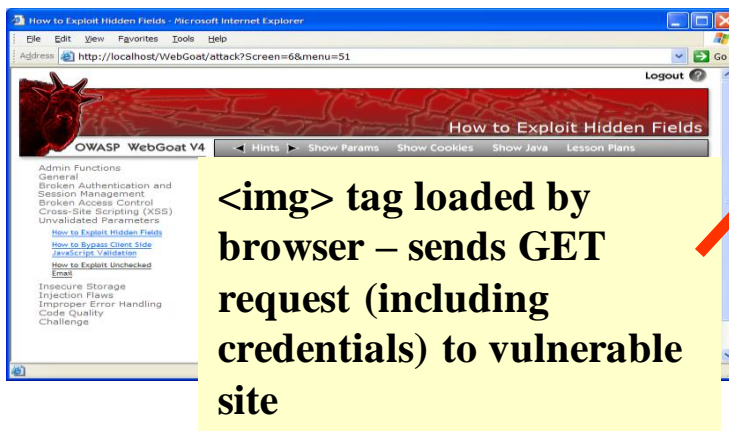


Application with CSRF vulnerability



2

While logged into vulnerable site, victim views attacker site



3

Vulnerable site sees legitimate request from victim and performs the action requested



A5 – Avoiding CSRF Flaws

- Add a secret, not automatically submitted, token to ALL sensitive requests
 - ▶ This makes it impossible for the attacker to spoof the request
 - (unless there's an XSS hole in your application)
 - ▶ Tokens should be cryptographically strong or random
- Options
 - ▶ Store a single token in the session and add it to all forms and links
 - **Hidden Field:** `<input name="token" value="687965fdfaew87agrde" type="hidden"/>`
 - **Single use URL:** `/accounts/687965fdfaew87agrde`
 - **Form Token:** `/accounts?auth=687965fdfaew87agrde ...`
 - ▶ Beware exposing the token in a referer header
 - Hidden fields are recommended
 - ▶ Can have a unique token for each function
 - Use a hash of function name, session id, and a secret
 - ▶ Can require secondary authentication for sensitive functions (e.g., eTrade)
- Don't allow attackers to store attacks on your site
 - ▶ Properly encode all input on the way out
 - ▶ This renders all links/requests inert in most interpreters

See the new: www.owasp.org/index.php/CSRF_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet
for more details



A6 – Security Misconfiguration

Web applications rely on a secure foundation

- Everywhere from the OS up through the App Server
- Don't forget all the libraries you are using!!

Is your source code a secret?

- Think of all the places your source code goes
- Security should not require secret source code

CM must extend to all parts of the application

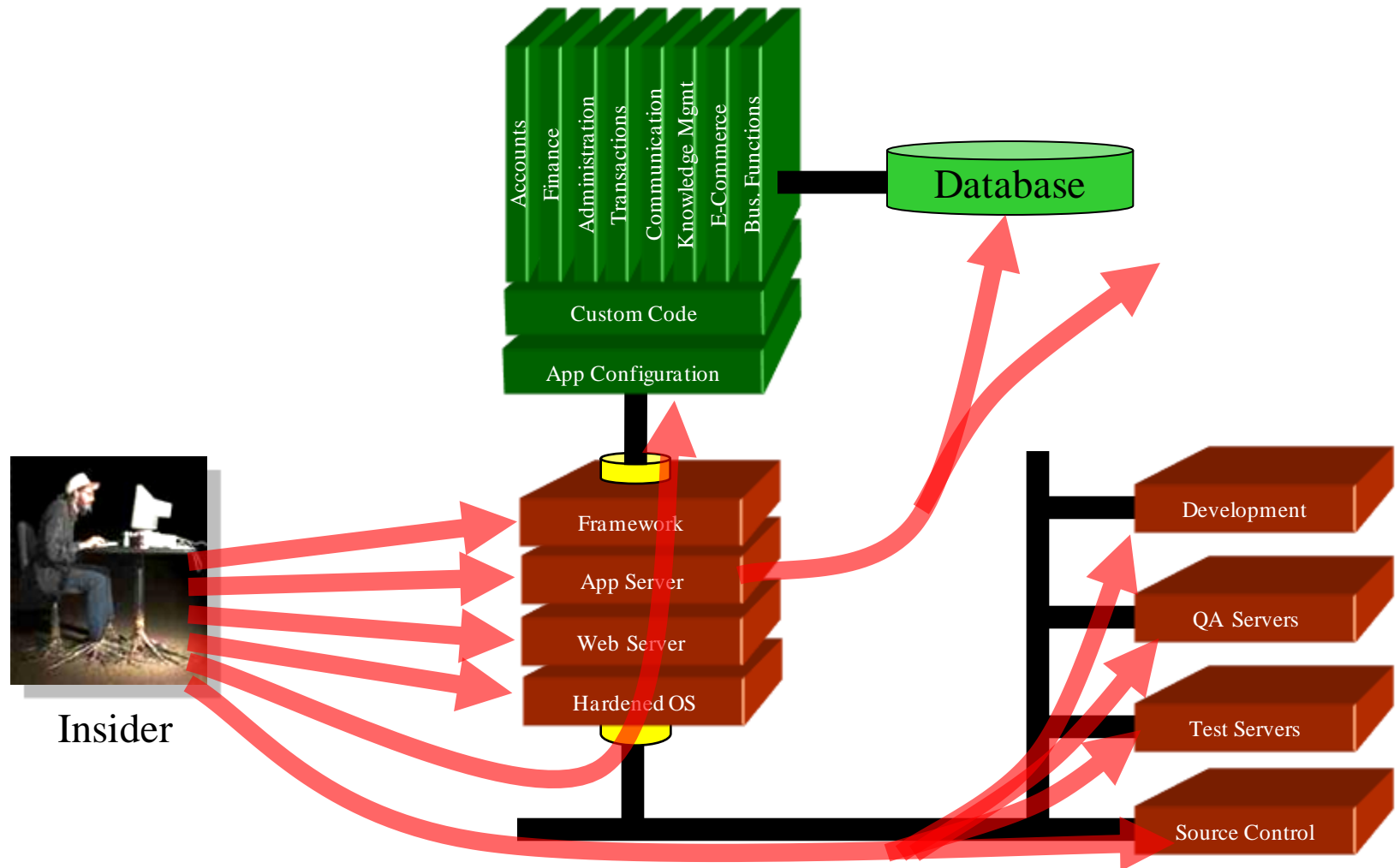
- All credentials should change in production

Typical Impact

- Install backdoor through missing OS or server patch
- XSS flaw exploits due to missing application framework patches
- Unauthorized access to default accounts, application functionality or data, or unused but accessible functionality due to poor server configuration



Security Misconfiguration Illustrated



A6 – Avoiding Security Misconfiguration

- Verify your system's configuration management
 - ▶ Secure configuration "hardening" guideline
 - Automation is REALLY USEFUL here
 - ▶ Must cover entire platform and application
 - ▶ Keep up with patches for ALL components
 - This includes software libraries, not just OS and Server applications
 - ▶ Analyze security effects of changes

- Can you "dump" the application configuration
 - ▶ Build reporting into your process
 - ▶ If you can't verify it, it isn't secure

- Verify the implementation
 - ▶ Scanning finds generic configuration and missing patch problems



Summary: How do you address these problems?

■ Develop Secure Code

- ▶ Follow the best practices in OWASP's Guide to Building Secure Web Applications
 - <http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Guide>
- ▶ Use OWASP's Application Security Verification Standard as a guide to what an application needs to be secure
 - <http://www.owasp.org/index.php/ASVS>
- ▶ Use standard security components that are a fit for your organization
 - Use OWASP's ESAPI as a basis for your standard components
 - <http://www.owasp.org/index.php/ESAPI>

■ Review Your Applications

- ▶ Have an expert team review your applications
- ▶ Review your applications yourselves following OWASP Guidelines
 - OWASP Code Review Guide:
http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Code_Review_Guide
 - OWASP Testing Guide:
http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Testing_Guide



OWASP (ESAPI)

Custom Enterprise Web Application

OWASP Enterprise Security API

Authenticator

User

AccessController

AccessReferenceMap

Validator

Encoder

HTTPUtilities

Encryptor

EncryptedProperties

Randomizer

Exception Handling

Logger

IntrusionDetector

SecurityConfiguration

Your Existing Enterprise Services or Libraries

ESAPI Homepage: <http://www.owasp.org/index.php/ESAPI>



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