Extending the Charter: Addressing Vulnerability and Exploit Information
Vulnerability & Exploit DEF

- Background
- Standardisation Requirement
- Current Activity
- Working with IETF INCH
- Questions ?
Background
Area of Information Security most ripe for standardisation is information sharing formats, ideally based on XML.

Current thinking suggests that 4 Description & Exchange Formats (DEFs) are required:

- **IDDEF**: Intrusion Detection DEF
  - Covered by IETF IDWG (IDMEF)
- **IODEF**: Incident Object DEF
  - Being actively progressed by IETF INCH
- **PTDEF**: Penetration Testing DEF
  - Initial work being done by Military
  - OVAL
- **VEDEF**: Vulnerability and Exploit DEF
  - Multiple initiatives
  - Needs concerted development
Standardisation Requirement
The *de facto* standard for storage of Vulnerability information is Mitre's Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE).

Mitre’s OVAL (Open Vulnerability Assessment Language) format aimed (approximately) at PTDEF.

A Vulnerability and Exploit DEF (VEDEF) for CSIRT community is therefore needed.

There are (at least) 6 existing initiatives:

- Varying degrees of activity in their development
- Being proposed by differing regions / communities
- No real efforts towards their deconfliction
## VEDEF - Existing Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Initiative Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EISPP</td>
<td>Common Format for Vulnerability Advisories</td>
<td>Under active development</td>
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<tr>
<td>RUS-CERT</td>
<td>Common Announcement Interchange Format (CAIF)</td>
<td>Under active development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenSec</td>
<td>Advisory and Notification Markup Language (ANML)</td>
<td>Last updated during January 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OASIS</td>
<td>Application Vulnerability Description Language (AVDL)</td>
<td>Initial issue published June 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Classification Scheme for Web Security Vulnerabilities</td>
<td>No obvious progress since 1st meeting June 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>JPCERT/CC</td>
<td>VulDEF element of Vendor Status Notes (JVN)</td>
<td>Under active development</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Basic Information Requirement

- Description of the platform(s) affected
- Description of the nature of the problem
- Description of the likely impact if the Vulnerability and/or Exploit were, accidentally or maliciously, triggered
- Available means of remediation
- Disclosure restrictions
Proposed Deliverable Set

Document series consolidating Best Practice for Vulnerability and/or Exploit description

- Functional requirements for collaboration between Vendors, CSIRTs, and end users
- Specification of the extensible, data language to describes the data format(s) to satisfy requirements
- Guidelines for implementing the WG data format, with a set of sample Vulnerability and/or Exploit reports and their associate representation
- Extension to support Resource Description Framework (RDF) Site Summary (RSS) feeds
Current Activity
TF-CSIRT VEDEF WG

- European Task Force (TF) on Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSI RT), who initiated IODEF
- Co-chaired between NISCC and Cisco
  - Select underlying Vulnerability Format(s) to be developed
  - Evolve with:
    - IODEF / RFC3067 nomenclature etc.
    - CMSI to formalise the System Information
    - Cisco update tool
    - RSS extension
- Collaboration with JPCERT/CC
  - Joint sponsor of this amendment
TF-CSIRT Pilots

- **EISPP**
  - Initial work funded by EU FP5
  - Version 2.0 of the XML Common Format for Vulnerability Advisories now published
  - In active use with 7 European CSIRTs

- **NISCC**
  - Filtered Warning and Alerting Software (FWAS)
  - Being trialled with WARP communities
Cisco Proposed Extension

- Extended Usage of Security Advisories
- Distribute Advisories, or only parts of them, as XML files
- Embed XML tags which would carry additional information regarding the vulnerability and solution
- Additional software on the customer side to parse this information and, optionally, verify devices and download appropriate fixed code
- Not proposed to automatically perform and upgrades or configuration changes on a device
JPCERT/CC Pilots

- JVN / VulDEF
  - JPCERT/CC and Japanese domestic vendors
  - Currently using Version 1.0
  - Currently implemented on Portal site
- JVN RSS extension being used to provide information to general public
- Collaborative initiative with CERT/CC and NISCC for Vulnerability Management
Working with INCH

IETF
Current Charter Summary

Background

Computer security incidents occur across administrative domains often spanning different organizations and national borders. Therefore, the free exchange of incident information and statistics among involved parties and the responsible Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) is crucial for both reactionary analysis of current intruder activity and proactive identification of trends that can lead to incident prevention.

Scope

The purpose of the Incident Handling (INCH) working group is to define a data format for exchanging security incident information used by a CSIRT.
High Level Charter Revisions

Background

Computer security challenges and incidents occur across administrative domains often spanning different organizations and national borders. Therefore, the free exchange of incident and vulnerability information and statistics among involved parties and the responsible Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) is crucial for both reactionary analysis of current intruder activity and proactive identification of trends that can lead to incident prevention.

Scope

The purpose of the Incident Handling (INCH) working group is to define a data formats for exchanging vulnerability and security incident information used by a CSIRT.
Summary of Deliverables

- Requirements Specification
  - Informational
- Data Model
  - Standard
- Implementation Guidelines
  - Informational
  - Derived from inter-CSIRT, JVN, EISPP and Cisco pilots
- RSS Extension
  - Informational
  - Derived from JPCERT/CC prototypes
### Summary - VEDEF WG Project Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep-04</td>
<td>Initial Draft of the Requirements Specification by TF-CSIRT / JPCERT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct-04</td>
<td>Initial Internet-Draft (I-D) of the Requirements Specification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov-04</td>
<td>Submit Requirements Specification I-D to IESG as Informational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-05</td>
<td>Initial Draft of the Data Model by TF-CSIRT / JPCERT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb-05</td>
<td>Initial I-D of the Data Model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar-05</td>
<td>Submit Data Model I-D to IESG as Standard</td>
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<tr>
<td>May-05</td>
<td>Initial Draft Implementation Guidelines document by TF-CSIRT / JPCERT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun-05</td>
<td>Initial I-D of the implementation guidelines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul-05</td>
<td>Submit implementation guidelines I-D to IESG as Informational</td>
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<tr>
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Questions?
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