

Current Threats and Open Document Formats

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Federal Office for Information Security

6th ODF Plugfest Berlin, July 15th, 2011



Targeted Attacks via Email

- On average between 4 and 5 targeted emails with malicious attachments are detected within German governmental networks per day
- The attacker sends an email containing direct references to the victim's occupation and function

Points of origin for producing the malicious attachments are
 documents that are available on public websites
 official letters from governmental organizations
 internal documents of working groups

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| 0 | Bilder | www.bmvbs.bund.de/cae/servlet//200-jahre-hydrologie- einladung .pdf Dateiformat: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - Schnellansicht | | | | | | |
| | Videos | Einladung. Panta Rhei. Hydrologie für eine sich verändernde Welt. Internationales | | | | | | |
| | | hydrologisches Symposium. Eine Veranstaltung des Bundesministeriums | | | | | | |
| | News | _(Роғ) Einladung zum 7. Werkstattgespräch Kunst am Bau und ihre 🤍 | | | | | | |
| œ | Shopping | www.bmvbs.bund.de/cae//einladung-zum-7-werkstattgespraech.pdf | | | | | | |
| | Bücher | Dateiformat: PDF/Adobe Acrobat Einladung zum 7.Werkstattgespräch. Donnerstag, 27. August 2009, 19.00 Uhr. | | | | | | |
| 0 | Places | Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Bau und Stadtentwicklung | | | | | | |
| | Blogs | (PDF) Einladung zum 53. ZEBET Seminar 🔍 | | | | | | |
| - | 0 | www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/seminar53.pdf | | | | | | |
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| | Mehr | Alternativmethoden mit dem. Herbert-Stiller-Preis 2000 der Vereinigung "Ärzte gegen | | | | | | |
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| | Bonn | (РОР) Einladung zum 61. ZEBET-Seminar Q www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/ einladung _zum_61_zebet_seminar.pdf | | | | | | |
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| | | Einladung zum 61. ZEBET-Seminar. (Q)SARs in der Risikobewertung: Einsatzmöglichkeite | en | | | | | |
| | Das Web | von Struktur-Wirkungs-Beziehungen im BfR | | | | | | |
| | Seiten auf Deutsch | [PDF] Einladung des BfR zu einem Vortrag von Hubert W Vesper, Ph.D 🤍 | | | | | | |
| | Seiten aus Deutschland | www.bfr.bund.de//einladung_zu_einem_vortrag_von_hubert_vesper | | | | | | |
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| | 0001001210 0011011 | Einladung des BfR zu einem Vortrag von. Hubert W Vesper, Ph.D. National Center for | | | | | | |
| | Maha Ostianan | Environmental Health,. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), | | | | | | |
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| | | (РОР) Einladung zum 64. ZEBET-Seminar - BfR Q www.bfr.bund.de/cm/343/ einladung _zum_64_zebet_seminar.pdf | | | | | | |
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| | | Entwicklung von in vitro. Methoden | | | | | | |

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| 0 | Bilder | www.oss.bund.de/sites/default/files/3PM_Beratungsanfrage_Formular.odt Dateiformat: OpenDocument - HTML-Version | | | | |
| | Videos | Datum: Ressort / Behörde: Hausanschrift: Ansprechpartner(in): Organisationseinheit: Telefon: Fax: E-Mail: Wie sind Sie auf den Rahmenvertrag auf-merksam | | | | |
| | News | Muster für die Unsetzungenrüfung einen Dasie Cieberheitschadt: | | | | |
| • | Shopping | [орғ] <u>Muster für die Umsetzungsprüfung eines Basis-Sicherheitscheck</u> https://www.bsi.bund.de//Muster_Verifikation_Basissicherheitscheck.odt? | | | | |
| | Bücher | Dateiformat: OpenDocument - HTML-Version 30. März 2011 – Für Rückfragen zu diesem Dokument können Sie sich gerne wenden an: | | | | |
| Q | Places | gszertifizierung@bsi.bund.de. | | | | |
| | Blogs | торя <u>Muster Auditbericht</u> | | | | |
| P | Diskussionen | https://www.bsi.bund.de/SharedDocs//Muster_Auditbericht.odt?blob Dateiformat: OpenDocument - HTML-Version | | | | |
| | Mehr | 17. März 2011 – Für Rückfragen zu diesem Dokument können Sie sich gerne wenden an: gszertifizierung@bsi.bund.de. | | | | |
| | <mark>Bonn</mark> Standort ändern | [орг] <u>EVB-IT Überlassungsvertrag Typ A Langfassung</u> www.cio.bund.de//evb_it_ueberlassungsvertrag_typ_a_langf_odf Dateiformat: OpenDocument - HTML-Version | | | | |
| | Das Web | Vertrag über die zeitlich unbefristete Überlassung von Standardsoftware, gegen Einmalvergütung, Zwischen, – im Folgenden "Auftraggeber" genannt – | | | | |
| | Seiten auf Deutsch | | | | | |
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| | Mehr Optionen | über die zeitlich unbefristete Überlassung von Standardsoftware gegen | | | | |
| | | [орг] <u>Konzeptvorlage IT-Beratung und CCVBPO</u> www.bit.bund.de//20080521_bit2_vorlage_konzeptvorlage_odt.odt Dateiformat: OpenDocument - HTML-Version | | | | |
| | | IT-Beratung, Kompetenzzentrum Vorgangsbearbeitung, Prozesse und Organisation (CC VBPO). < Name Dokument > für. < Name Behörde >. Version < 0.1 > | | | | |



Senders of Malicious Emails

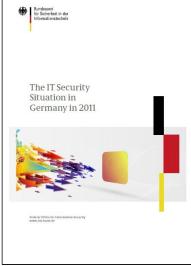
□ The sender is chosen *meaningfully*

- The sender's name has a direct connection to the document that was found on a public website beforehand
- The sender's name can be put in the context of a governmental organization easily
- The sender's name can be found on a members list of a working group
- The way the email displays the sender's address is plausible
 - □ A real email account is compromised
 - A new email account is registered with a free webmail service using the sender's name
 - The sender's address is counterfeit



BSI Status Report on IT Security 2011

- "Large waves of malware like Sasser or Loveletter are no longer being observed. A typical malicious program only lasts for a few days and is only targeted at a small group of victims."
- "Targeted attacks for sabotage and espionage purposes increased significantly in the period under review and were carried out with a hitherto unknown professionalism."
- "The BSI is concerned about the ever more widespread use of mobile devices for writing and reading e-mails, as these are often poorly protected due to a lack of suitable protection programs."



Source: BSI, The IT Security Situation in Germany 2011



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Defense against Targeted Attacks

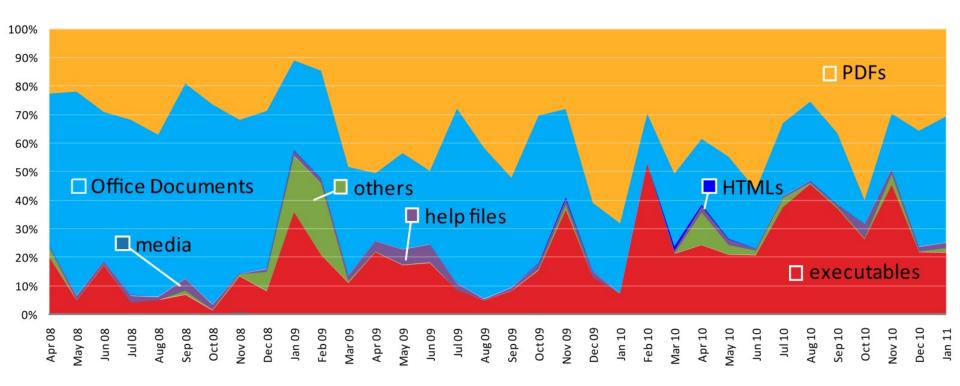
Antivirus solutions generally do not come with appropriate signatures that are able to protect from targeted attacks

| | AV solution 1 | AV solution 2 | AV solution 3 | AV solution 4 |
|------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| .pdf | 65% | 85% | 80% | 55% |
| .doc | 90% | 20% | 10% | 5% |
| .xls | 50% | 65% | 15% | 10% |

Source: Christoph Fischer, Effektivität von gängigen Malwarescannern bei dokumentenbasierten Schadprogrammen, 2011



File Types Used in Targeted Attacks



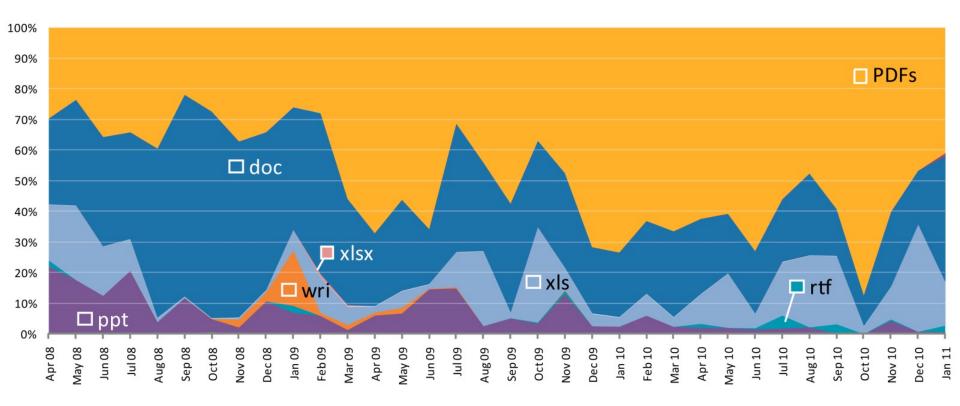
Source: Symantec MessageLabs Intelligence, February 2011 Intelligence Report

July 15th, 2011



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Document File Types Used in Targeted Attacks



Source: Symantec MessageLabs Intelligence, February 2011 Intelligence Report

July 15th, 2011



Challenges: Weaknesses in the Standard Itself

Exploitation of the PDF Launch Action (Didier Stevens)

```
7 0 obj
<</pre>
/Type /Action
/S /Launch
<<</pre>
/F (cmd.exe)
```

Launch Actions are specified under section 12.6.4.5 in ISO PDF 32000-1:2008 "Document management — Portable document format"

http://www.adobe.com/content/dam/Adobe/en/devnet/acrobat/pdfs/PDF32000_2008.pdf



Possibilities: Enabling the Analysis of Attacks

Obfuscating malicious code in PDFs using filters

- ASCIIHexDecode
- **ASCII85Decode**
- 🗖 LZWDecode
- **FlateDecode**
- RunLengthDecode
- CCITTFaxDecode
- 🗖 JBIG2Decode
- 🗖 DCTDecode
- JPXDecode
- Crypt

Specified under 7.4 in ISO PDF 32000-1:2008 "Document management — Portable document format"

Thomas Caspers and Oliver Zendel

July 15th, 2011

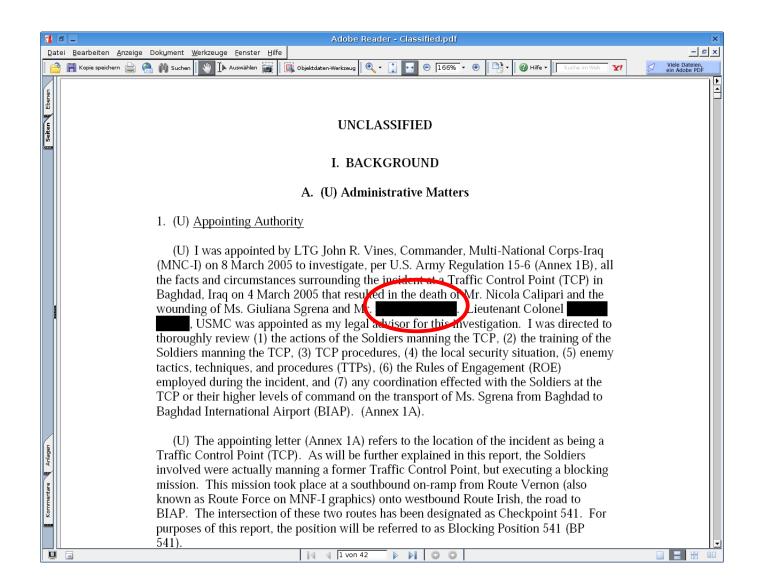


IT Security Advantages of Open Document Formats

Open Discussions about weaknesses in document formats

- Enabling a <u>deeper analysis</u> of techniques used in attacks
- Development of <u>custom mechanisms</u> to detect attacks
- Adapting Free Software that is used for rendering and processing of document formats to individually specific purposes – also independently from the vendor
- Prerequisite for <u>software diversity</u>
- Promotion of a competitive environment for vendors

→ Strengthening IT Security



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ZendelOliver@C06829:~\$ cat

(U) I was appointed by LTG John R. Vines, Commander, Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I) on 8 March 2005 to investigate, per U.S. Army Regulation 15-6 (Annex 1B), all the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident at a Traffic Control P oint (TCP) in Baghdad, Iraq on 4 March 2005 that resulted in the death of Mr. Ni cola Calipari and the wounding of Ms. Giuliana Sgrena and Mr. Andrea Carpani. Li eutenant Colonel Richard Thelin, USMC was appointed as my logal advisor for this investigation. I was directed

thoroughly review (1) the actions of the Soldiers manning the TCP, (2) the train ing of the Soldiers manning the TCP, (3) TCP procedures, (4) the local security situation, (5) enemy tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs), (6) the Rules o f Engagement (ROE) employed during the incident, and (7) any coordination effect ed with the Soldiers at the TCP or their higher levels of command on the transpo rt of Ms. Sgrena from Baghdad to Baghdad International Airport (BIAP). (Annex 1A).(U) I was appointed by LTG John R. Vines, Commander, Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I) on 8 March 2005 to investigate, per U.S. Army Regulation 15-6 (Annex 1B), all the facts and circumstances surrounding the incident at a Traffic Control Point (TCP) in Baghdad, Iraq on 4 March 2005 that resulted in the death of Mr. Nicola Calipari and the wounding of Ms. Giuliana Sgrena and Mr. Andrea Carpani. Lieutenant Colonel Richard Thelin, USMC was appointed as my legal advisor for th is investigation. I was directed

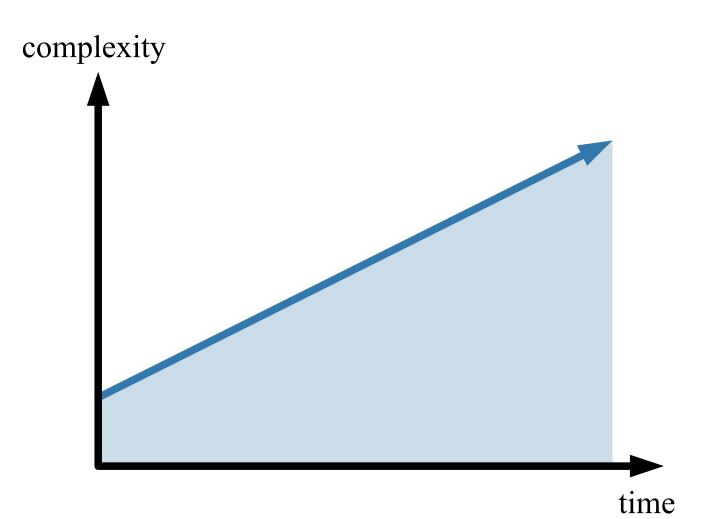
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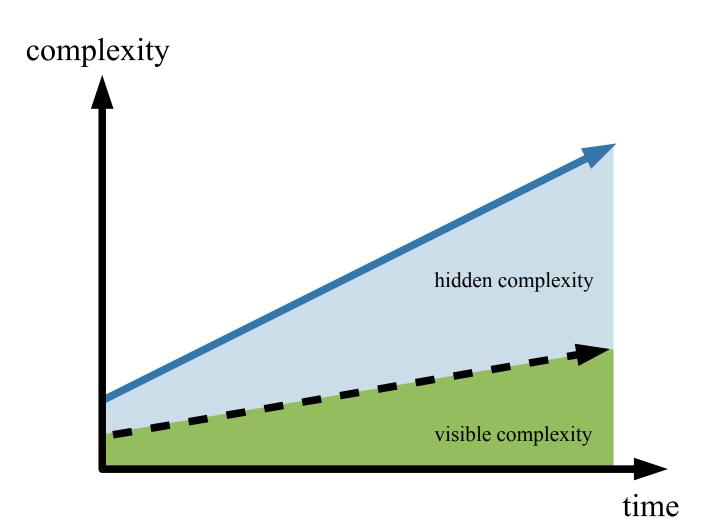
Complexity of IT Systems







Hiding Complexity (Usability)





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Complexity within Document Formats

| Document Format | # Elements | |
|---------------------|------------|--|
| Office Open XML | 1792 | |
| WordprocessingML | 780 | |
| OASIS Open Document | 530 | |

As of 2006





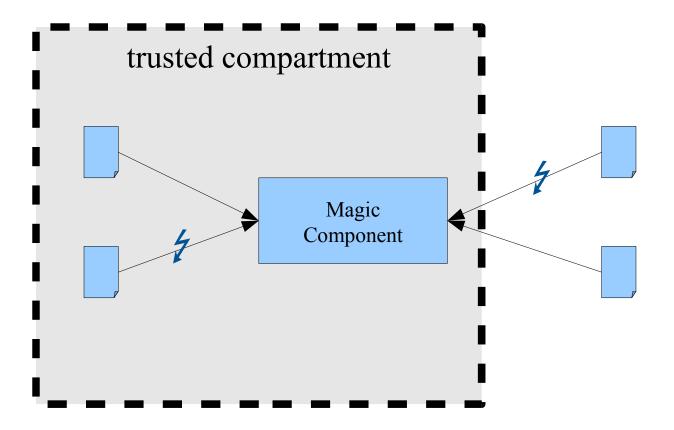
Goal: Sanitization of Office Documents

- Check for weak removal of sensitive information
- Check for hidden content
- Check for malicious content
- Remove unneeded or potential dangerous parts

Requirements

- Fully documented
- Low complexity (format and semantics)
- □ Easy to integrate in 3rd party products
- Separation of static and dynamic parts
- Possibility to remove dynamic parts





Contact



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