

Michael Brunton-Spall
Technical Architect
Government Digital Service
@bruntonspall

Building secure software and keeping it secure in the face of changing requirements

# This guidance is in alpha

### I am a civil servant

# I work for the Government Digital Service

# Publishing

#### **Transactions**

### API's

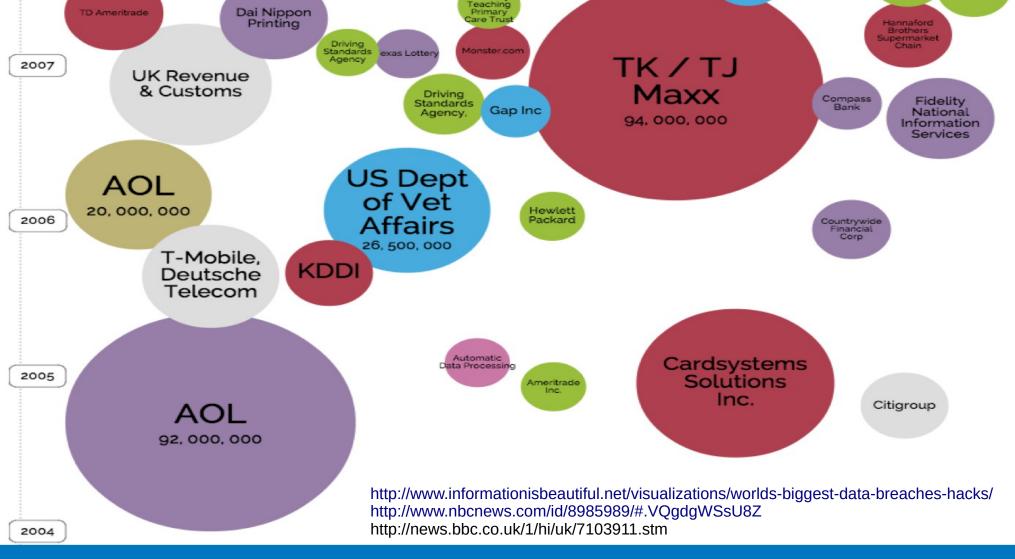
# Agile

# Security vs Information Risk

# Why bother?

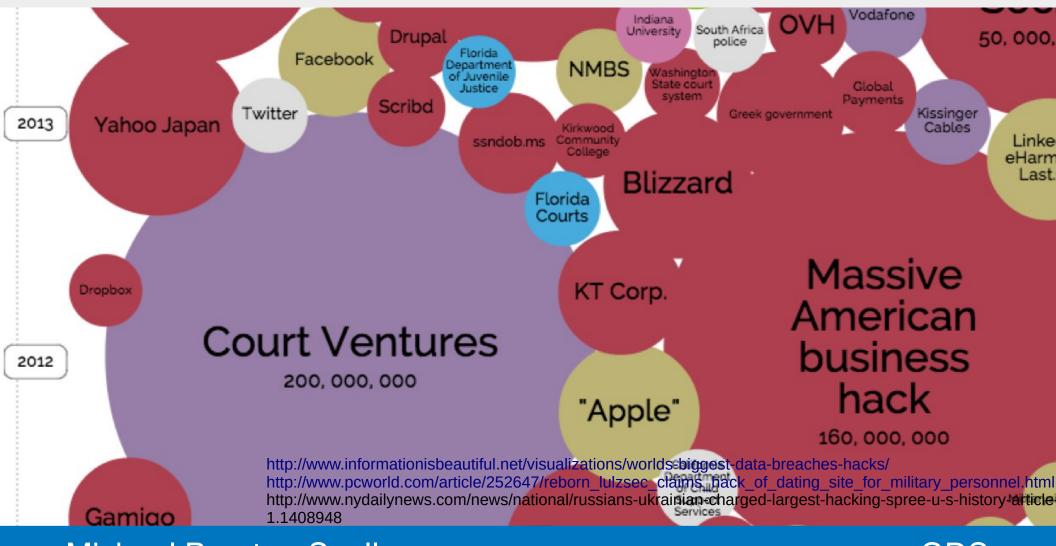
#### What are the threats?

#### Data loss and theft



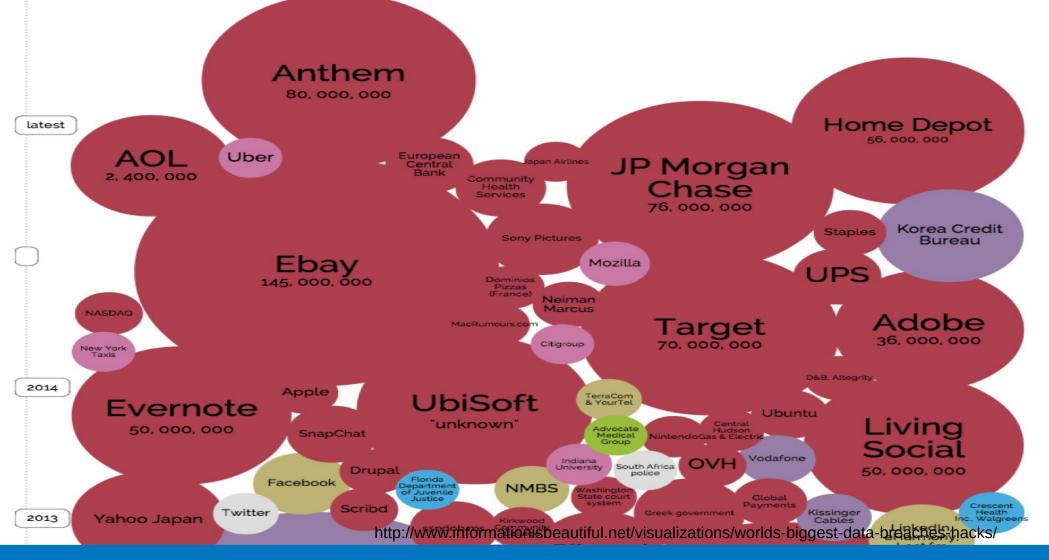


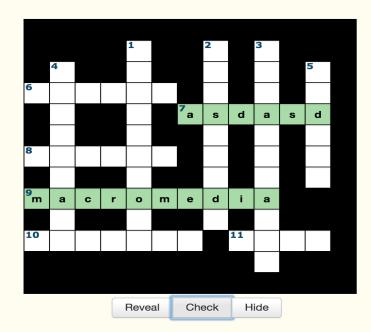
SEEBLE DAILE



Michael Brunton-Spall

**GDS** 





#### **Across**

- ▶ 6: zk8NJgAOqc4=
- ▶ 7: WIMTLimQ5b4=
- ▶ 8: FTeB5SkrOZM=
- ▼ 9: WqflwJFYW3+PszVFZo1Ggg==

macro; adobe; flash; software; mac; company; programa; dreamweaver; site; program; company name; old company name; old company; Flash; product name; software name; not adobe; name; mm; ma; freehand; before adobe; Adobe; this: product: old name: flash company; ??????; macromedi; empresa; producto; old adobe; macro...; macr; fireworks; aidemorcam; website; this site; this company; pagina; macromedia is the password; macro media; macrom; where am i; studio; mx; marca; manufacturer; flash player; dise?o

- ▶ 10: yxzNxPlsFno=
- ▶ 11: L3uQHNDF6Mw=

#### Down

- ▶ 1: 2aZI4Ouarwm52NYYI936YQ==
- ▼ 2: L8qbAD3jl3jSPm/keox4fA==

password; pass; usual; p1; pw1; same; passwordone; pass1; 1; easy; password one; duh; normal; pw; myspace; hint; Password; the usual; p; one; password?; word; none; work; password 1; obvious; standard; password+1; always; first password; simple; password plus 1; my password; facebook; pwd1; password#; what is it?; same as always; dog; default; generic; email; Usual; regular; name; you know; pword1; password + 1; me; guess

- ▶ 3: 7Z6uMyq9bpxe1EB7HijrBQ==
- ▶ 4: vp6d18mfGL+5n2auThm2+Q==
- ▶ 5: dA8D8OYD55E=

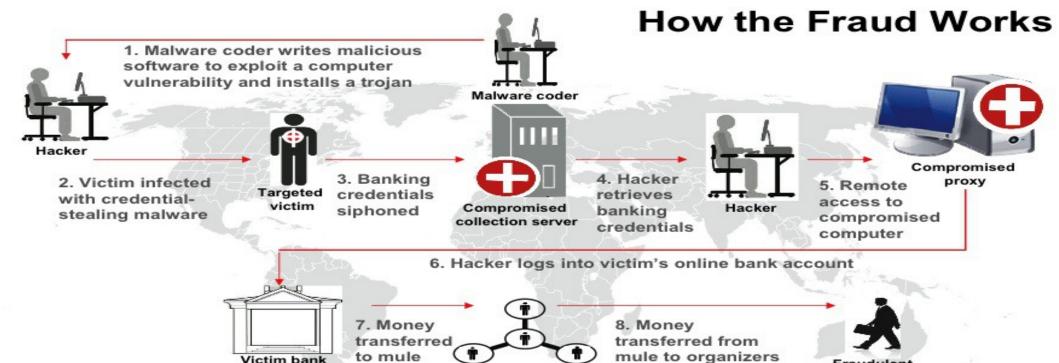
http://zed0.co.uk/crossword/

#### Criminal users on the internet

# GameOver/Zeus Banking Malware

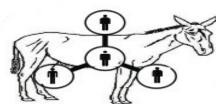
Figure 16: The webinject file is used by attackers to customize attacks for specific sites and applications

http://www.stateoftheinternet.com/resources-web-security-threat-advisories-2014-zeus-zbot-malware-crimeware.html





Victims are both financial institutions and owners of infected machines.



Money mules

Money mules transfer stolen money for criminals, shaving a small percentage for themselves.

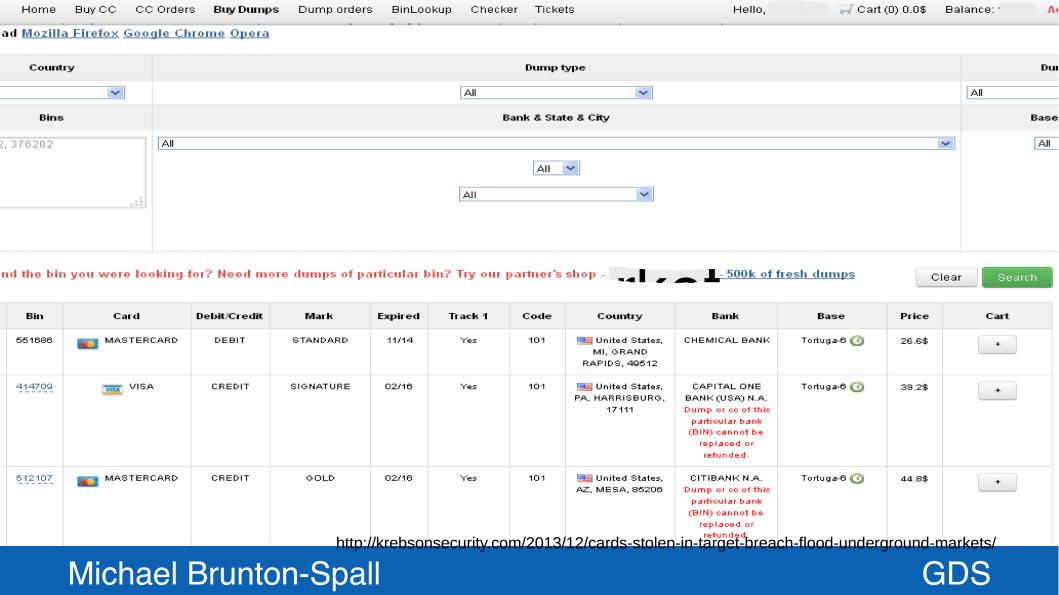


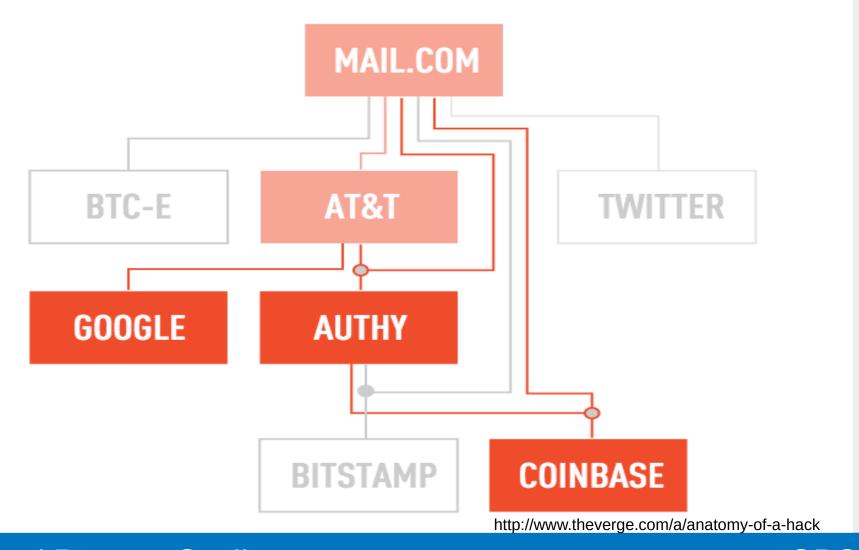
Fraudulent

company

Criminals come in many forms: Malware coder Malware exploiters Mule organization

"FBI Fraud Scheme Zeus Trojan" by FBI. Licensed under Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:FBI Fraud Scheme Zeus Trojan.jpg





#### **Advanced Persistent Threats**

# 100+ TARGETS

Since mid-2013, FIN4 has targeted over 100 organizations, all of which are either publicly traded companies or advisory firms that provide services such as investor relations, legal counsel, and investment banking. Approximately two-thirds of the targeted organizations are healthcare and pharmaceutical companies.



FIN4 knows their targets. Their spearphishing themes appear to be written by native English speakers familiar with both investment terminology and the inner workings of public companies.



FIN4 does not infect their victims with malware, but instead focuses on capturing usernames and passwords to victims' email accounts, allowing them to view private email correspondence.



FIN4 uses their knowledge to craft convincing phishing lures, most often sent from other victims' email accounts and through hijacked email threads. These lures appeal to common investor and shareholder concerns, enticing the intended victims into opening the weaponized document and entering their email credentials.

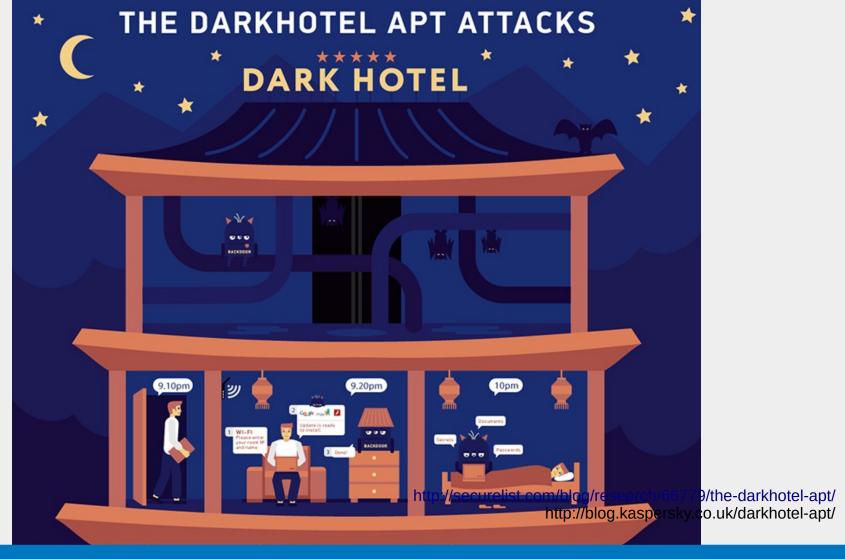


On multiple occasions, FIN4 has targeted several parties involved in a single business deal, to include law firms, consultants, and the public companies involved in negotiations. They also have mechanisms to organize the data they collect and have taken steps to evade detection.

https://www2.fireeye.com/fin4.html

# Watering Hole Attacks

http://www.invincea.com/2015/02/chinese-espionage-campaign-compromises-forbes/



# The state of information security

#### BS7799-1:1999

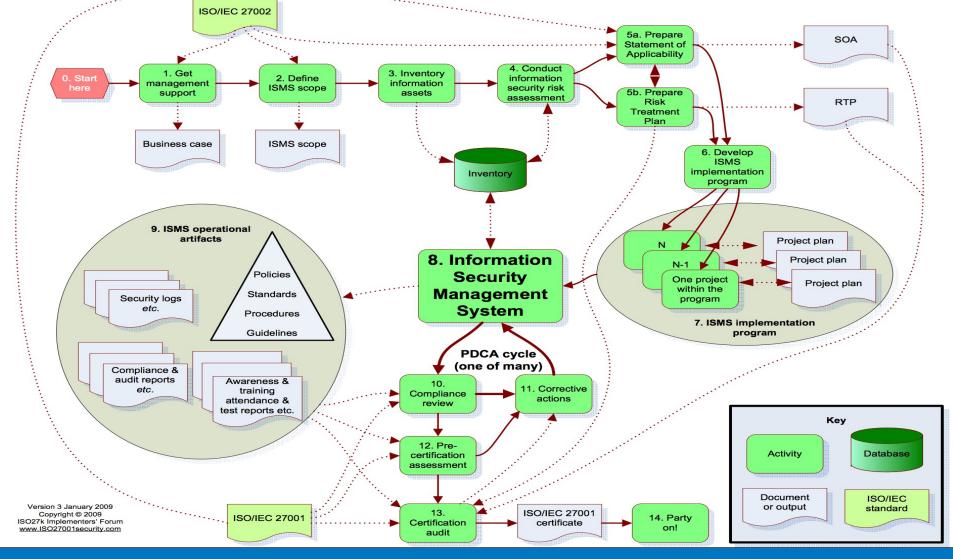
#### ISO27001:2005

# Accreditation Certification Approval to operate

# PCI

### How do we deal with this?

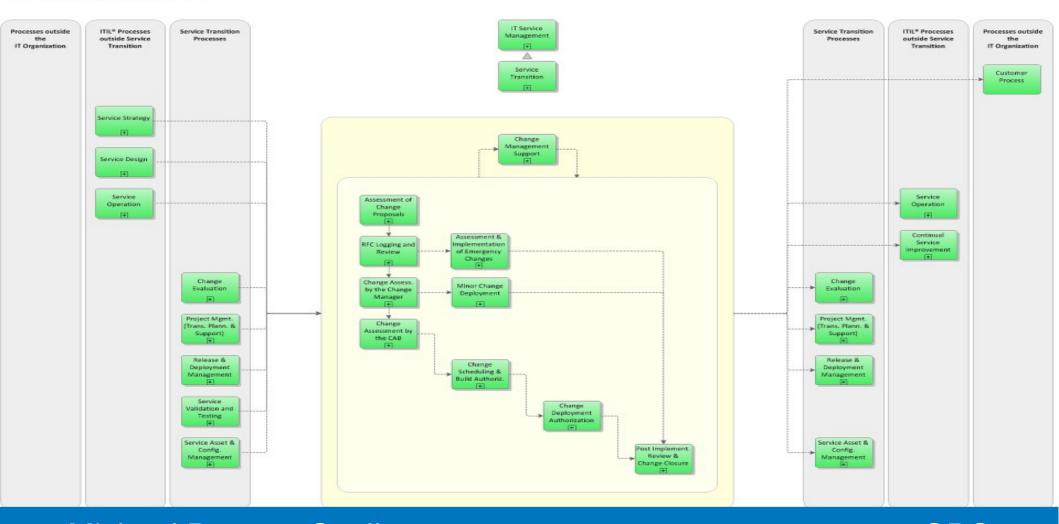
#### Traditional model



#### How do we deal with changes?

#### ITIL Change Management





#### Agile changes everything

#### Only do what's needed now

#### Release It!

#### MVP and iterate

#### A security nightmare!

#### How can we deal with it?

## Investigated projects across government

#### Variety of approaches

#### ... and that's ok

#### A new world of security

#### Principles over rules

## The UK Government published 8 principles

#### Accept uncertainty

#### Security as part of the team

#### Understand the risks

#### Trust decision making

### Security is part of everything

#### User experience is important

#### Audit decisions

#### Understand big picture impact

#### But what do they mean?

#### Let's get practical

#### National Insurance Claim

## User submits their details and claim

## Company confirms details via 2<sup>nd</sup> channel

#### User gets paid

# System is currently paper based for users mainframe based for staff

## This team is going to digitise the service

#### Embed security on the team

## Choose security model that's appropriate

#### Understand the threats

## Hackers break in and steal data from database

#### Fraudsters submit false claims

#### Educate decision makers to risks

# Make risk decisions on a per story basis

### Example

"Allow user to enter bank details to be paid by bank transfer"

#### Adds risk

# "Add 2 factor authentication to staff login system"

#### Counters risk

# "Allow user to enter multiple holiday periods"

#### Risk neutral

#### What do you do about the risk?

"Allow user to enter bank details to be paid by bank transfer"

#### **Avoid**

#### Don't do it, use cheques instead

#### Transfer

### Use a banking third party

### Accept

#### Just do it

### Mitigate

# Encrypt bank details on submission using public key cryptography

#### How much extra work is that?

# Accept for now, add a story to backlog to mitigate

# Feature flags and feature releases

#### Risk evaluation

#### R = Impact \* Likelihood

# What does it cost to lose data/customers etc

### How likely is it to happen

# Is the business owner willing to take the risk?

### How long for?

## What sorts of mitigations might we use?

"Allow user to enter bank details to be paid by bank transfer"

### Against hackers stealing the data

#### "Encrypt the data" - Prevent

### "Transaction monitoring" - Detect

# "Store data only while session is live" - Compensate

### Against fraudsters inputing false data

# "Check bank details against claim details" - Detect

# "Only pay the same account once a year" - Prevent

## "Don't pay until second channel supplies details"

# Deter, Prevent, Correct, Recover, Detect, Compensate

### Record decision in a log

### ... probably a wiki

### What about big picture impact?

# Most information disclosure risks are business process

# Can a case worker add/replace bank account details with their own details

### ... without getting caught?

#### Can we automate this?

#### Ideas

### Connect the risk log to the story tracker

# When a story is played, the risks get updated

#### It's clear what current risk is

#### Misuse cases

As a fraudster, When I submit a fake claim for £1000, A payment for £1000 gets authorised

### Expected to fail

### Really fun to write

#### Define a set of threat actors

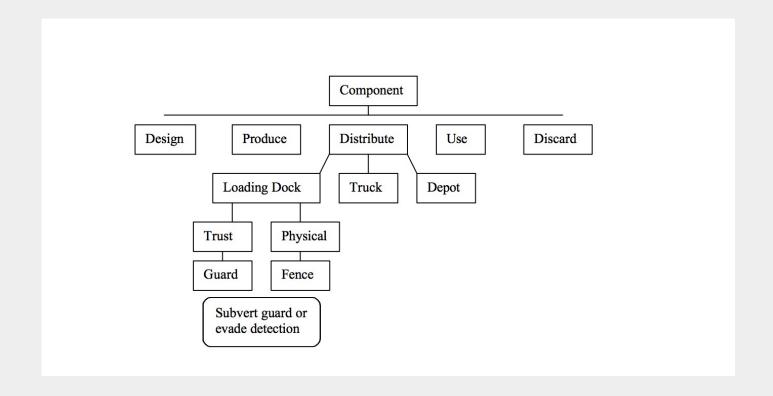
### External Attacker, Internal Attacker, Insider, Fraudster etc.

# Executed like other user acceptance tests

# Give confidence that a story hasn't had an impact elsewhere

# Gives confidence in business process

#### **Attack Trees**



https://www.schneier.com/paper-secure-methodology.pdf

#### Think as an attacker

### Evaluate Risk, Access, Effectiveness

### Identify most efficient countermeasures

### Use attack trees to pick misuse cases to automate

### In summary

### We have a duty of care to our users

Choose the right process for you Apply some basic principles Dedicate someone to it Align security and delivery

# We're still learning, so let us know if this works for you or not

### Michael Brunton-Spall **Technical Architect** Government Digital Service @bruntonspall mbs@digital.cabinet-office.gov.uk