

# Debian Security

An overview of features and processes



Who is this guy?



# Todd Troxell



# Debian Developer



# “Security Enthusiast”



# Logcheck maintainer



# What is Debian?



# Linux Distribution





# Free Operating System



# Volunteer project



# Based on Linux Kernel



and 15,000+  
free software  
packages



# 12

# Architectures

i386, m68k, sparc, alpha, powerpc, arm, mips, mipsel ,hppa, ia64, s/390, amd64



# Universal



# Freedom



# Debian Security Team

<http://www.debian.org/security>





# Review security problems



# Upload patched packages



# Issue Advisories



# Public Disclosure



# Not security through obscurity



# Advisories: DSAs



Available in  
multiple  
formats



# debian-security-announce





<http://debian.org/security>



<http://www.debian.org/security/dsa-long>  
(RSS)



# Best format:



# Easily installed verified patches



Updates:  
change as little as  
possible



# Favor patching



# Not upgrading



# Secure-APT





# Automated updating



Ideal: no  
security  
problems  
ever!



# Not going to happen



# Pro-active search for vulnerabilities



# Debian Audit Project

<http://www.debian.org/security/audit>



Steve Kemp

Ulf Härnhammar

David A. Wheeler



# White hats, pen-testers



Discovered  
near 100  
vulnerabilities





Audit as many  
packages as  
possible



# Not a short order



15,000  
Packages



# 20 CDs



# 3 DVDs



# Counting only i386 binary



# Priority



# Packages with setuid/setgid binaries





# Anything providing a service over a network



# Widely- distributed packages



# Anything associated with CGI/PHP



# Automated jobs running as root



-flawfinder  
-ITS4  
-RATS  
-pscan  
(many more)

<http://www.debian.org/security/audit/tools>



# Open code



# from boot loader



to web  
browser.





Not  
“Trust me”  
code.



possible to  
audit from top  
to bottom



rarely  
possible in  
proprietary  
software



# Security related packages



# Intrusion Detection



# Snort, Ntop

+ modules for My/Pg SQL logging and analysis applications: acidlab, ethereal



# Integrit, AIDE, Tripwire, Fcheck



# Logcheck, Logwatch, Epylog





# debsigs, dpkg-sig



# Encryption



# GNU Privacy Guard (GPG)



# OpenSSL/SSH



# CFS, EncFS, loop-aes



# Gaim-OTR



# OpenVPN, Racoon/ipsec, stunnel, OpenSWAN



# Kerberos





# OpenAFS



# Various libraries, APIs



Cryptographic  
algorithms already  
written and tested.



# Penetration Testing



# NMAP



# Nikito, Airsnort, Aircrack



smb-nat,  
tiger,  
irpas



# Anti-virus





Typically  
referring to  
Windows AV



# ClamAV, amavis



# PAM



Allows for a  
wide array of  
auth/session  
options



# libpam-chroot



# libpam-cracklib



# libpam-krb5



# libpam-ldap





# PAM Smartcard modules, SecureID



libpam-ccreds - Pam module to cache authentication credentials  
libpam-chroot - Chroot Pluggable Authentication Module for PAM  
libpam-cracklib - PAM module to enable cracklib support.  
libpam-devperm - PAM module to change device ownership on login  
libpam-doc - Documentation of PAM  
libpam-dotfile - A PAM module which allows users to have more than one password  
libpam-encfs - PAM module to automatically mount encfs filesystems on login  
libpam-foreground - create lockfiles describing which users own which console  
libpam-heimdal - PAM module for Heimdal Kerberos 5  
libpam-http - a PAM module to authenticate via http/https  
libpam-krb5 - PAM module for MIT Kerberos  
libpam-ldap - Pluggable Authentication Module allowing LDAP interfaces  
libpam-modules - Pluggable Authentication Modules for PAM  
libpam-mount - PAM module that can mount volumes for a user session  
libpam-musclecard - PAM module for MuscleCard Framework  
libpam-mysql - PAM module allowing authentication from a MySQL server  
libpam-ncp - PAM module allowing authentication from a NetWare server  
libpam-openafs-kaserver - AFS distributed filesystem kaserver PAM module  
libpam-openafs-session - PAM Module to get AFS tokens and set up PAG  
libpam-opie - Use OTPs for PAM authentication  
libpam-p11 - PAM module for using PKCS#11 smart cards  
libpam-passwdqc - replacement for the pam\_cracklib module  
libpam-pgsql - PAM module to authenticate using a PostgreSQL database  
libpam-poldi - PAM module allowing authentication using a OpenPGP smartcard  
libpam-pwdfc - PAM module allowing authentication via an /etc/passwd-like file  
libpam-pwgen - a password generator  
libpam-radius-auth - The PAM RADIUS authentication module  
libpam-runtime - Runtime support for the PAM library  
libpam-shishi - PAM module for Shishi Kerberos v5  
libpam-smbpass - pluggable authentication module for SMB/CIFS password database  
libpam-ssh - enable SSO behavior for ssh and pam  
libpam-tmpdir - automatic per-user temporary directories  
libpam-umask - adjust users' default umask using PAM  
libpam-unix2 - Blowfish-capable PAM module



# Kernel Features



# NetFilter



# SELinux



# Xen Hypervisor



# GRSecurity ACL patches



# GR PAX Patches (address space)





# Other GR Patches

<http://www.grsecurity.net/features.php>



# Debian “harden” packages...



**hardened-clients** - Avoid clients that are known to be insecure

**hardened-development** - Development tools for creating more secure programs

**hardened-environment** - Hardened system environment

**hardened-nids** - Harden a system by using a network intrusion detection system

**hardened-remoteaudit** - Audit your remote systems from this host

**hardened-servers** - Avoid servers that are known to be insecure

**hardened-surveillance** - Check services and/or servers automatically

**hardened-tools** - Tools to enhance or analyze the security of the local system



# Harden packages make clever use of Debian's packaging system



Package: **harden-servers**

**Conflicts:** telnetd, ftpd, lukemftpd, muddleftpd, wu-ftp, oftp, pyftpd, vsftpd, proftpd, bsd-ftp, talkd, fingerd, xfingerd, ffingerd, cfingerd, efingerd, sendmail, netkit-rpc, nfs-kernel-server, nfs-user-server, rwall, rusersd, portmap, rsh-server, uw-imapd, cyrus-imapd, rstartd, bidentd, pidentd, midentd, oidentd, gidentd, mdidentd, remstats-servers, pawserv



...too many  
packages to  
mention



checksecurity - basic system security checks  
libapache2-mod-security - Tighten web applications security for Apache 2.x  
libnasl-dev - Nessus Attack Scripting Language, static library and headers  
libnasl2 - Nessus Attack Scripting Language, shared library  
libnessus-dev - Nessus static libraries and headers  
libnessus2 - Nessus shared libraries  
libpcap0.7 - System interface for user-level packet capture  
libpcap0.7-dev - Development library and header files for libpcap 0.7  
libpcap0.8 - System interface for user-level packet capture  
libpcap0.8-dev - Development library and header files for libpcap 0.8  
libsasl2 - Authentication abstraction library  
libselinux1 - SELinux shared libraries  
libselinux1-dev - SELinux development headers  
libsepol1 - Security Enhanced Linux policy library for changing policy binaries  
libsepol1-dev - Security Enhanced Linux policy library and development files  
libwrap0 - Wietse Venema's TCP wrappers library  
libwrap0-dev - Wietse Venema's TCP wrappers library, development files  
libxmlsec1 - XML security library  
libxmlsec1-dev - Development files for the XML security library  
libxmlsec1-nss - Nss engine for the XML security library  
libxmlsec1-openssl - Openssl engine for the XML security library  
logcheck - mails anomalies in the system logfiles to the administrator  
mod-security-common - Tighten web applications security - common files  
nessus - Remote network security auditor, the client  
nessus-dev - Nessus development header files  
nessus-plugins - Nessus plugins  
nessusd - Remote network security auditor, the server  
nmap - The Network Mapper  
tcpd - Wietse Venema's TCP wrapper utilities  
unattended-upgrades - Install security upgrades automatically  
vsftpd - The Very Secure FTP Daemon  
apticron - cron-script to mail impending apt updates  
bastille - Security hardening tool  
bftotester - Brute Force Binary Tester  
ccrypt - secure encryption and decryption of files and streams  
cfs - Cryptographic Filesystem  
checkpolicy - SELinux policy compiler



chiark-really - really - a tool for gaining privilege (simple, realistic sudo)  
chpax - user-space utility to control PaX flags  
clamassassin - simple virus filter wrapper for ClamAV  
cron-apt - automatic update of packages using apt-get  
cvstd - chroot wrapper to run `cvs pserver' more securely  
dcfldd - enhanced version of dd for forensics and security  
debsecan - Debian Security Analyzer  
elfsh - The ELF shell  
flawfinder - examines source code and looks for security weaknesses  
gnunet - Secure, trust-based peer-to-peer framework  
gradm - Administration program for the GrSecurity ACL system  
gradm2 - Administration program for the grsecurity2 RBAC based ACL system  
gsasl - GNU SASL commandline utility  
guarddog - firewall configuration utility for KDE  
harden - Makes your system hardened  
harden-development - Development tools for creating more secure programs  
harden-tools - Tools to enhance or analyze the security of the local system  
ipkungfu - iptables-based Linux firewall  
isakmpd - The Internet Key Exchange protocol openbsd implementation  
kernel-patch-skas - Separate Kernel Address Space patch  
kernel-patch-vserver - context switching virtual private servers - kernel patch  
knocker - a simple and easy to use TCP security port scanner  
lcap - Removes 'capabilities' in the kernel, making the system more secure  
libapache-mod-ssl - Strong cryptography (HTTPS support) for Apache  
libapache-mod-ssl-doc - Documentation for Apache module mod\_ssl  
libcrypt-ecb-perl - Perl library to encrypt data using ECB mode  
libcryptokit-ocaml - cryptographic algorithm library for OCaml - runtime  
libcryptokit-ocaml-dev - cryptographic algorithm library for OCaml - development  
libdigest-md2-perl - MD2 Message Digest for Perl  
libdigest-md4-perl - MD4 Message Digest for Perl  
libelfsh0 - The ELF shell library  
libelfsh0-dev - The ELF shell library  
libetoken - PC/SC Driver for Aladdin's eToken usb plug  
libgsasl7 - GNU SASL library  
libgsasl7-dev - Development files for the GNU SASL library  
libopensc2 - SmartCard library with support for PKCS#15 compatible smart cards





libpam-tmpdir - automatic per-user temporary directories  
libroxen-ntuserauth - WinNT/SMB user authentication module for the Roxen Challenger web server  
libroxen-referrerdeny - File deny module for the Roxen Challenger web server  
libsemanagel - shared libraries used by SELinux policy manipulation tools  
libsemanagel-dev - Header files and libraries for SELinux policy manipulation tools  
libxmlsec1-gnutls - Gnutls engine for the XML security library  
makepasswd - Generate and encrypt passwords  
maradns - Simple security-aware Domain Name Service server  
mew - mail reader supporting PGP/MIME for Emacs  
mew-beta - mail reader supporting PGP/MIME for Emacs (development version)  
nikto - web server security scanner  
opensc - SmartCard utilities with support for PKCS#15 compatible cards  
openswan - IPSEC utilities for Openswan  
openvpn - Virtual Private Network daemon  
otp - Generator for One Time Passwords  
paxctl - user-space utility to control PaX flags - new major upstream version  
paxtest - Test suite for the PaX kernel patch  
popa3d - A tiny POP3 daemon, designed with security as the primary goal  
pscan - Format string security checker for C files.  
python2.4-selinux - Python2.4 bindings to SELinux shared libraries  
python2.4-semanage - Python2.4 bindings for SELinux policy manipulation tools  
raccess - Security Tool to audit remote systems  
rats - Rough Auditing Tool for Security  
realtime-lsm - Scripts for handling the realtime Linux security module  
realtime-lsm-source - Source for the realtime Linux security module  
rssh - Restricted shell allowing only scp, sftp, cvs, rsync and/or rdist  
sanitizer - The Anomy Mail Sanitizer - an email virus scanner  
schroot - Execute commands in a chroot environment  
secpolicy - KDE PAM security policy configuration tool  
selinux-doc - documentation for Security-Enhanced Linux  
selinux-policy-default - Policy config files and management for NSA Security Enhanced Linux



selinux-utils - SELinux utility programs  
sepol-utils - Security Enhanced Linux policy utility programs  
slat - Tools for information flow analysis of SELinux policies  
smb-nat - Netbios Auditing Tool  
smtp-refuser - Simple spam-block with refusal message  
spikeproxy - Web application security testing proxy  
splint - A tool for statically checking C programs for bugs  
splint-doc - Documentation for splint: a tool for statically checking C programs for bugs  
systray - monitor your system and warn when system files change  
tcpspy - Incoming and Outgoing TCP/IP connections logger  
tiger - Report system security vulnerabilities  
tiger-otheros - Scripts to run Tiger in other operating systems  
xmlsec1 - XML security command line processor  
xprobe - Remote OS identification  
xsu - Allow users to run commands as root, after prompting for password.  
irpas - Internetwork Routing Protocol Attack Suite  
uae-suid - The Ubiquitous Amiga Emulator: Suid root binaries  
libgnutls-dev - the GNU TLS library - development files  
libgnutls12 - the GNU TLS library - runtime library  
libnss-dev - Network Security Service Libraries - development  
libnss3 - Network Security Service Libraries - runtime  
gnutls-bin - the GNU TLS library - commandline utilities  
libgnutls11 - GNU TLS library - runtime library  
libgnutls11-dbg - GNU TLS library - debugger symbols  
libgnutls11-dev - GNU TLS library - development files  
libgnutls12-dbg - GNU TLS library - debugger symbols



# Secure Development of Debian



“If it's volunteer project, what stops someone from uploading a trojan?”



# Cryptographic Web of trust



# Verify identities, Exchange GPG key signatures



# “Key signing parties”



A DD must have a  
key in debian  
keyring to upload.





Uploads are also  
hand screened by  
ftpmasters



# Voting in Debian: GPG signed email



Same type of keys  
are used to sign:



# Packages



# Releases



# Advisories



No (known)  
trojans uploaded  
to date.



# Debian Policy enhances security

<http://www.debian.org/doc/debian-policy/>





Clearly defined  
rules for how  
things should  
work



Section 3.1:  
“Every package  
must have a  
unique name”



## Section 10.9:

“Files should be owned by root.root, and made writable only by the owner and universally readable (and executable, if appropriate), that is mode 644 or 755.”



Breaking policy is  
considered a very  
serious bug.



# Debian stable release cycle



# “Relaxed”



# “Laid Back”



# By which I mean





# Notoriously slow



While software is  
a bit older,



# Debian packages are time-tested



# Fewer security vulnerabilities



-Stable  
-Testing  
-Unstable



# Testing: rigorous peer overview



If you want newer  
code: run testing!



Testing even has a  
security team.





# Debian Developers and Community



Schneier:  
“Security is a  
process.”



Our users and  
developers  
include many  
enthusiasts



--folks interested  
in the technology



Security nerds  
ravidly tracking  
down  
vulnerabilities



Google: don't  
force anyone to  
work on anything



Huge user-base  
means  
vulnerabilities  
matter



open code ==  
secure code





“Given enough eyeballs, all bugs are shallow”



"Commercial software typically has 20 to 30 bugs for every 1,000 lines of code, according to Carnegie Mellon University's [CyLab](#) Sustainable Computing Consortium. This would be equivalent to 114,000 to 171,000 bugs in 5.7 million lines of code. The study identified 0.17 bugs per 1,000 lines of code in the Linux kernel."

-Wired



“15,000 packages!  
How can that  
possibly be  
secure?”



A tiny subset form  
a solid base  
install.



# Thanks!

