

## Re: Holes in my security – advice needed

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.server.networking/2007-04/msg00417.html>

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- *From:* "Danny Sanders" <[DSanders@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:DSanders@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Wed, 25 Apr 2007 11:53:26 -0600
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It's difficult, if not impossible, to protect the company from itself.  
Yet,  
I will be blamed if there is an attack, infection or theft of corporate  
and  
client information. It worries me a lot.

I would do a audit of the information on the network. Classify the information into categories ranging Information needed to be kept from the public (Social Security numbers, private business info that needs to be kept out of competitors hands, Info that if released to the public would damage the company's credibility and profitability) Information that needs to be kept from other departments ( Wages, Social Security numbers, etc) and information that is created for the public (Info released on the website, etc.).

This over all audit will allow you to know first *\*if\** there is sensitive info on the network, where it is, how much there is, and who has access.

Then you can go to the powers that be and show them how much data is on their network that is covered by HIPPA or Sarbanes Oxley. If they put some teeth in their policies, this overall audit will allow you to know where the data resides on your network that needs the most protection and you can target your efforts accordingly.

If they still refuse to put some teeth in their own policy after that CYOA. Find another job or have them sign off on a letter that states you informed them of the possible security hole and the data that they store on their network. It's possible that their data can be intercepted and modified, deleted or copied, or just read to get an unfair advantage.

hth  
DDS

"SteveP" <[SteveP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:SteveP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:7985F434-F919-4729-9293-3DFA3E071D9B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:7985F434-F919-4729-9293-3DFA3E071D9B@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Re: Holes in my security – advice needed

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I can talk over their heads about man in the middle attacks and virus's.

Other IT people must have found ways to present the danger to their  
employeeer and enforce IT policy for the good of the company? Suggestions,  
please?

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Thanks, Steve

"Phillip Windell" wrote:

"SteveP" <SteveP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message  
[news:6D5CCEF8-C345-4D38-84CC-742365ADEF45@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:6D5CCEF8-C345-4D38-84CC-742365ADEF45@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

The network is 2003 standard servers and one W2K server.  
All users are  
XP  
Pro. All users are joined to the domain.

Except:  
One user bought a laptop with Vista Home on it. It is used at  
home by  
children and then brought into work and plugged into the  
network. It  
was  
also given the printer drivers. It cannot be joined to the  
network and  
I  
have no control over it. I do not know if it has up-to-date  
antivirus.

One Mac desktop that was just brought in one day and  
plugged in.

Company policy is XP Pro machines only and they must be  
joined to the  
domain.

I need information to present to management on why having  
computers  
just  
plugged into the network is dangerous.

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I don't know what to say. It would be like trying to explain what the color blue looks like.  
If they don't understand why it is bad,...then how did the company policy get put in place that says, "Company policy is XP Pro machines only and they must be joined to the domain"? That would be the whole point of that policy,...if they aren't going to enforce that policy then get rid of it and let the LAN be a free-for-all, because your Policies have no "teeth",..they have no authority.

—  
Phillip Windell  
[www.wandtv.com](http://www.wandtv.com)

The views expressed, are my own and not those of my employer, or Microsoft, or anyone else associated with me, including my cats.

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