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TippingPoint Leads in Discovery of Both High Severity and Microsoft Flaws



TippingPoint, the leader in intrusion prevention, has announced that its research organization, DV Labs, was recognized as the fastest growing discoverer of new vulnerabilities and the leader in the discovery of high-severity and Microsoft vulnerabilities by recent Frost & Sullivan research.

This research, titled "Analysis of Vulnerability Discovery and Disclosure," tracks vulnerability discoveries and their severity level from January 2005 to September 2006 by correlating research from the US-CERT vulnerability database, the National Vulnerability Database (NVD), SecurityFocus, and other public sources. Frost & Sullivan's analysis uses the rankings of the Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS) used by the NVD as a basis for severity level of the threats. By correlating information from the most widely recognized vulnerability databases and scoring systems, Frost & Sullivan's report clearly shows that TippingPoint's DV Labs discovered more high severity vulnerabilities than any other research firm.

TippingPoint's DV Labs consists of a large team of recognized internal TippingPoint researchers as well as over 400 researchers from its Zero Day Initiative (ZDI), an external research program launched in the summer of 2005 to enable the responsible disclosure of vulnerabilities and give TippingPoint Intrusion Prevention System customers advanced protection for zero day threats. Through its researchers, TippingPoint was responsible for the discovery of over 100 vulnerabilities in 2006, 23 of which were Microsoft vulnerabilities. TippingPoint customers were protected from these zero day issues well in advance of attacks.

According to Rob Ayoub, industry manager at Frost & Sullivan, "During the first three quarters of 2006, companies that leveraged in-house research with external talent were the most successful in discovering high-severity vulnerabilities. Through initiatives like DV Labs, TippingPoint is able to provide timely discovery, comprehensive development, and rapid delivery of vulnerability remediation to its enterprise customers."

Organizations face more threats today than ever before. The Frost & Sullivan research points to the increasing number of vulnerabilities and the shrinking window between vulnerability and exploit. In addition, there is the newer threat of zero day attacks. A zero day vulnerability is one that is unknown or one that has been publicly disclosed without a corresponding patch, leaving organizations with few solutions to protect themselves against attacks. IPS is one of the few solutions able to provide zero day protection. In 2006, 19 zero day vulnerabilities were disclosed without a patch, according to the report.

Through its ZDI program, TippingPoint rewards security researchers for responsibly informing TippingPoint of newly discovered zero day vulnerabilities. TippingPoint notifies the affected vendor so a patch can be developed and the researcher agrees to keep the information confidential until the patch is issued so affected organizations are not at risk of attack. In addition to protecting all users from zero day threats by ensuring potentially harmful information is kept confidential until a solution is available, TippingPoint customers are protected against exploits of zero day vulnerabilities through security filters delivered through the Digital Vaccine(R) service. Further, through its stewardship with other vendors and research organizations, TippingPoint extends the benefit of its vulnerability discovery intelligence to the security industry, which helps drive network security excellence for many businesses.

[Press Release](#)

Source : NetEvents 2007, Asia-Pacific Press Summit

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