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1. Welcome

We are proud to be one of the UK's leading independent ethical hacking firms. We provide penetration testing, web application security testing, network security audits and related security consultancy services. Visit us at www.fbtechies.co.uk.

We hope that the information in this newsletter will be useful to you and would love to get your feedback regarding the content. What would you like to see in future issues? Do you have anything you would like to submit for inclusion? Please feel free to send an email to: webmaven@firstbase.co.uk with your comments.

Peter Wood - Partner (Chief of Operations)
Didi Barnes - Partner (Head of R&D)

2. Peter Wood & Didi Barnes to be on the telly!

Tune in to BBC1 at 8.00 pm on Wednesday 25 October 2006 to watch Peter Wood and Didi Barnes in a BBC prime-time documentary entitled "ID Fraud: They Stole My Life". The BBC describes the programme as follows:

"ID Fraud: They Stole My Life: Identify theft is the fastest growing "new" crime in Britain. Thousands of unsuspecting people are having their money and lives plundered by criminals. Now, the police are mobilizing to tackle the crime and this film has unprecedented access to the City of London Police identity fraud unit and reveals shocking details on how easy it is for the crooks to copy our lives. If we allow them to."

3. R&D News

Didi (our Head of R&D) has spent the last couple of months researching VoIP technology. The initial findings were presented at our last white-hats meeting and Didi's white paper on the subject, entitled "VoIP - Circuit-Switched Heaven to Packet-Based Hell" will be available for download from our web site sometime towards the end of November. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this paper, then please e-mail webmaven@firstbase.co.uk and we will put you on a priority list.

Once the paper is complete, Didi will then be researching a security testing methodology, so we expect to be able to extend our VoIP security testing early next year.

Keiron's penetration testing team are constantly on the look out for new exploits and methods for external penetration testing as new vulnerabilities come to light. We now have a full testing lab that runs many different kinds of operating systems from Windows to Solaris for testing many different testing tools and techniques before they are deployed on clients' live networks. The team also find new vulnerabilities which we report through our relationship with the NISCC Vulnerability



Management Team. A recent vulnerability discovered by Ben Rexworthy was shared through our white-hats.co.uk group and released through NISCC: <http://www.niscc.gov.uk/niscc/docs/re-20060920-00634.pdf?lang=en>

4. White-hats.co.uk Information

white-hats.co.uk is our vendor-neutral user group that we set up in May 2002 with the intention of providing a knowledge base and a friendly support group for IT security management and staff. All prospective members undergo a full vetting process, and are expected to sign a confidentiality agreement, prior to being admitted for membership, allowing open discussion of key issues in a confidential environment. Membership comprises, and is open to (provided that they clear vetting), IT security professionals working for UK business and government.

We now have 174 members making this an unique opportunity for networking with your peers via our on-line (members-only) discussion list and our quarterly meetings.

The next white-hats.co.uk workshop, **External and Internal Penetration Testing**, will take place on 20-23 November 2006 near Gatwick. Full details at: <http://www.white-hats.co.uk/nextworkshop.shtml>

The next white-hats.co.uk meeting is in London on Friday 8 December 2006 with two topics: "Surely you can't be serious! You want to connect what to the database!?" by Dr Steve Moyle, Chief Technology Officer of Secerno, and "Changing the value perception of security" by Des Ward, Senior Security Assurance Specialist at Legal and General. More details at <http://www.white-hats.co.uk/nextmeeting.shtml>

Check out <http://www.white-hats.co.uk> for more information and for membership application forms.

5. Keiron Northmore joins us as a partner

Many of you will know or have spoken to Keiron Northmore at some stage. Keiron joined First Base Technologies in 2001 as a Network Security Analyst. He made such a success of the role that he was first promoted to Senior Penetration Tester and then subsequently to Operations Manager in 2004.

Keiron has become such a valuable member of the firm that the existing partners (Peter Wood and Didi Barnes) decided to offer him a partnership in September 2006. Keiron accepted the offer and we know he will help us take the firm forward to an exciting future. He is now partner and Head of Technical Services and is responsible for our testing team and operations. We all wish him many congratulations.

6. Welcome to our newest team member, Mike McLaughlin

First Base Technologies has continued to grow over the past year. Following our recruitment of Vishal Garg as a Penetration Tester in December 2005, we added Mike McLaughlin to the team in June 2006. Mike has a sharp mind and is a quick learner, so he is already involved in a number of important projects.

7. Subscription Information

We hope that you have found this newsletter to be informative and useful.

This newsletter is intended to be published six times a year. Subscription is free. Please feel free to pass this copy on to friends and colleagues. If you do not wish to receive further copies, please reply to this email with a subject line containing UNSUBSCRIBE NEWSLETTER.

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If your friends or colleagues wish to receive the newsletter directly, they should send a request to: webmaven@firstbase.co.uk.

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