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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.firstbase.co.uk](http://www.firstbase.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](mailto:webmaven@firstbase.co.uk) with your comments.

Didi Barnes - Partner (Head of R&D)  
Keiron Northmore - Partner (Head of Technical Services)  
Peter Wood - Partner (Chief of Operations)

## 2. **\*\*NEW SERVICE\*\*** - Blended Attacks

We have introduced a brand new service for 2008 which we launched at Infosecurity Europe back in April - Blended Attacks. But what are blended attacks? To learn more, check out the below to see a video of Peter Wood on the subject.

<http://news.zdnet.co.uk/security/0,1000000189,39405258,00.htm>

For further information on this offering, just click here:  
<http://www.firstbase.co.uk/Content/Services/blendedattacks.shtml>.

## 3. PCI- ASV Consultancy

Do you require PCI-ASV testing?

Fed up with confusing PCI-ASV reports that seem to be full of false positives and not enough detail concerning the fixes to apply?

Let us help you - check out our new PCI-ASV offering:  
<http://www.firstbase.co.uk/Content/Services/PCIConsultancy.shtml> and call us now!



## 4. If the “Spooks” trust us, so can you!

Several of us have now obtained UK Government Security Clearance. If the Spooks trust us, so can you! Various of the team are involved in several high-level governmental security-related committees now. We can't tell you more than that; otherwise we will have to kill you ☺

## 5. white-hats.co.uk addresses the horrible issue of Database Security

Are you one of the over 200 members of white-hats.co.uk? Sponsored by First Base Technologies, this vendor-neutral user group provides a knowledge base and a friendly support group for IT security professionals working for UK business and government.

Our next quarterly meeting is in London on Friday 26 September 2008 and addresses the thorny subject of Database Security. Why not come along?

Take a look at <http://www.white-hats.co.uk/nextmeeting.shtml> for more information or phone Andy on +44 1273 45 45 25

## 6. Vishal Garg demonstrates cross-site request forgery (CSRF) exploit

Our Senior Penetration Tester, Vishal Garg, recently demonstrated a rather nasty exploit that we think you should all be made aware of - that is, if you aren't already!

To quote Vishal ...and there was a moral to the story at the end of the demo; and that was: never visit an untrusted web whilst remaining logged into trusted sites, such as online banking or retailer web sites, otherwise someone else could be receiving the money or the goods without you ever knowing.

I think that says the gist of it, but you can find more information here:  
[http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site\\_Request\\_Forgery](http://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery)

## 7. Our Bloggers

Yes, some of us have finally had a chance to get around to setting up blogs concerning day-to-day experiences, discoveries and commentaries from the world of IT Security.

- Our Chief of Operations, Peter Wood, has a blog called "Famous Pete Wood Security" - the link below will explain the name!
- Our Senior Penetration Tester, Vishal Garg, has a blog entitled "Ethical Hacker" which has very useful and well-written articles largely concerning web security

See what they have to say via: <http://www.fbtchies.co.uk/Content/NewsEvents/Blogs.shtml>

## 8. Welcome to Rob

We have just taken on a new penetration tester, Rob Shapland. Rob joined the team in April. He brings a wide experience of web application and Windows application quality assurance testing to the team. He has an in-depth understanding of applications and testing methodologies.

Rob's focus will be on external penetration testing and network penetration testing. He will also maintain and develop our in-house security vulnerability database, which ensures that our tests and your reports are accurate and relevant.

We wish him every success in his new role.



### 9. Andy Rides for the British Heart Foundation

On a more personal note, our Account Manager, Andy Wilson, successfully completed the arduous 54-mile London to Brighton Bike Ride last Sunday. It took him 4 hrs 50 mins and he raised over 350.00 for the British Heart Foundation. The rest of us here at First Base Technologies think this is awesome. If you or your organisation feel inclined to donate to Andy's British Heart Foundation fund, send him an e-mail on [andy@firstbase.co.uk](mailto:andy@firstbase.co.uk).

For more information, check out:

[http://www.bhf.org.uk/get\\_involved/take\\_part\\_in\\_our\\_events/bike\\_rides/london\\_to\\_brighton\\_bike\\_ride.aspx?gclid=ClA78vuW\\_pMCFQ2qQwodCHojXA](http://www.bhf.org.uk/get_involved/take_part_in_our_events/bike_rides/london_to_brighton_bike_ride.aspx?gclid=ClA78vuW_pMCFQ2qQwodCHojXA)

### 10. Subscription Information

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

This newsletter is intended to be published four 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.

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

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