Toxic Waste Removal for Active Directory

Quickly Identifying and Safely Removing Dangerous Legacy Permissions



HELLO!

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Outline

- Prior Work
- What's the Problem?
- Attack Taxonomy
- How to Quickly Identify Dangerous Permissions
- Two Ideas for Identifying Legacy Permissions
- Conclusion and Future Work



Prior Work



Chemins de contrôle en environnement Active Directory

Chacun son root, chacun son chemin

Lucas Bouillot, Emmanuel Gras

Agence Nationale de la Sécurité des Systèmes d'Information

SSTIC 2014 - 4 juin 2014

https://www.sstic.org/2014/presentation/chemins_de_controle_active_directory/



ACTIVE DIRECTORY BACKDOORS: Myth or Reality BTA: an open source framework to analyse AD

Philippe Biondi, Joffrey Czarny — Airbus Group Innovations

BlackHat Arsenal — 2015-08-06



https://bitbucket.org/iwseclabs/bta

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Active Directory Security

Active Directory & Enterprise Security, Methods to Secure Active Directory, Attack Methods & Effective Defenses, PowerShell, Tech Notes, & Geek Trivia...

Home	About	AD Resources	Contact	Mimikatz	Presentations	Schema Versions	Security Resources
SPNs	Top Posts	;					
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Gathering AD Data with the Active Directory PowerSh Module

Microsoft provided several Active Directory PowerShell cmdlets with Windows Server 2008 R2 (and newer) which greatly simplify tasks which previously required putting together lengthy lines of code involving ADSI. On a Windows client, install the ...

What's the Problem?



- Out of the box, Active Directory (AD) is already a sophisticated, complicated directory service.
- Over time, the complexities of intertwining permissions and privileges become unwieldy
- Software installers and admins grant themselves dangerous permissions. This "misconfiguration debt" degrades the organization's security posture.
- Removing dangerous permissions can be very risky.

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Defenders think in lists. Attackers think in graphs. As long as this is true, attackers win.

John Lambert, GM, Microsoft Threat Intelligence Center



Attack Taxonomy



Attack Taxonomy

- All securable objects in AD have a Security Descriptor.
- The Security Descriptor has a Discretionary Access Control List (DACL) and a System Access Control List (SACL)
- The DACL is populated by Access Control Entries (ACEs), which define who is allowed or denied permissions on the object.

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Owner:	Domain	Admins	(CONTOSO\Domai	n Admins)	Change
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P	ermissions	Auditing

Effective Access

For additional information, double-click a permission entry. To modify a permission entry, select the entry and click Edit (if available).

Permission entries:

Туре	Principal	Access	Inherited from	Applies to	_
Allow	Domain Admins (CONTOSO	Full control	None	This object only	
Allow	Authenticated Users	Special	None	This object only	
Allow	SYSTEM	Full control	None	This object only	=
Allow	ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Computer objects	_
Allow	ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Group objects	
Allow	ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant User objects	
Allow	SELF		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Computer objects	
Allow	Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant InetOrgPerson o	
Allow	Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Group objects	
Allow	Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant User objects	~
Add	Remove View			Restore default	ts
Disable inh	heritance				

Change

- 🗆 X

Owner:	Domain Admins	(CONTOSO\Domain	Admins)
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Permissions	Auditing

Effective Access

For additional information, double-click a permission entry. To modify a permission entry, select the entry and click Edit (if available).

Permission entries:

Туре	Principal	Access	Inherited from	Applies to	2
& Allow	Domain Admins (CONTOSO	Full control	None	This object only	
& Allow	Authenticated Users	Special	None	This object only	
& Allow	SYSTEM	Full control	None	This object only	=
& Allow	ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Computer objects	
& Allow	ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Group objects	
& Allow	ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant User objects	
& Allow	SELF		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Computer objects	
& Allow	Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant InetOrgPerson o	
🔏 Allow	Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Group objects	
🔏 Allow	Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant User objects	
Add Disable in	Remove View			Restore defaul	ts

- **D** X

Owner:	Domain Admins (CONTOSO\Domain Admins)	Change
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Permissions Auditing

Effective Access

For additional information, double-click a permission entry. To modify a permission entry, select the entry and click Edit (if available).

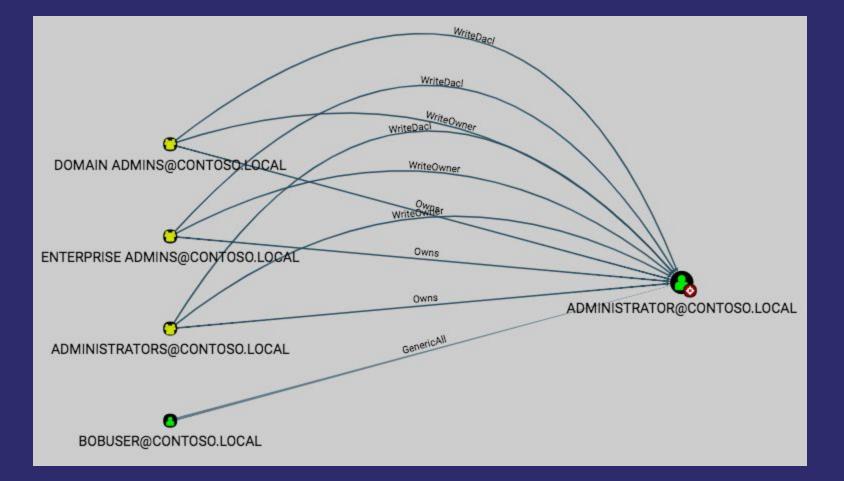
Permission entries:

	A CONTRACTOR OF	Inherited from	Applies to	1
Domain Admins (CONTOSO	Full control	None	This object only	1
Authenticated Users	Special	None	This object only	
SYSTEM	Full control	None	This object only	:
ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Computer objects	1
ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Group objects	
ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant User objects	
SELF		DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Computer objects	
Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant InetOrgPerson o	
Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant Group objects	
Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Special	DC=contoso,DC=local	Descendant User objects	
Remove View			Restore default	ts
eritance				
	Authenticated Users SYSTEM ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT SELF Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib	Authenticated Users Special SYSTEM Full control ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT Secial Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special	Authenticated Users Special None SYSTEM Full control None ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local SELF DC=contoso,DC=local Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local View	Authenticated Users Special None This object only SYSTEM Full control None This object only ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant Computer objects ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant Group objects ENTERPRISE DOMAIN CONT DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant User objects SELF DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant Computer objects Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant Computer objects Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant Computer objects Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant InetOrgPerson o Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant Group objects Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant User objects Pre-Windows 2000 Compatib Special DC=contoso,DC=local Descendant User objects Remove View Restore default Restore default

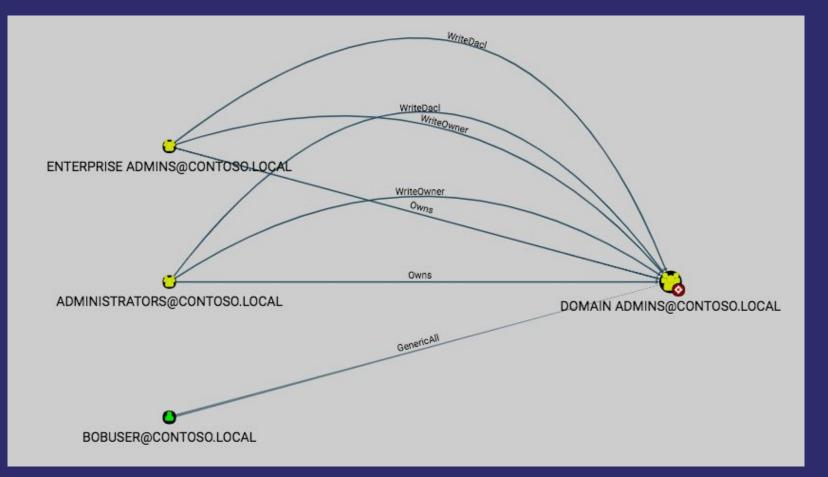
Dangerous Permissions Against Users

- Two basic attacks: reset a user's password, or perform a targeted kerberoasting attack*
- Two specific rights: ForceChangePassword, and GenericWrite
- FullControl, WriteDACL, WriteOwner, and AllExtendedRights will get us there too.

*see http://www.harmj0y.net/blog/activedirectory/targeted-kerberoasting/

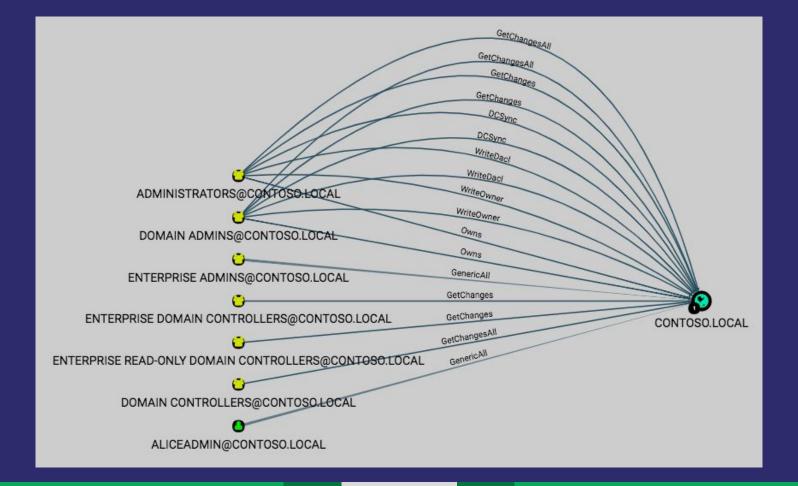


- One attack: add other principals to that group, then use the permissions of that group to continue the attack path.
- One specific right: AddMembers
- FullControl, WriteDACL, WriteOwner, and AllExtendedRights will get us there too.



Dangerous Permissions Against Domain Objects

- One domain object specific attack: DCSync
 Two specific rights are needed: DSGetReplicationChanges and DSGetReplicationChanges-All
- FullControl, WriteDACL, WriteOwner, and AllExtendedRights will get us there too.



- Will Schroeder (<u>aharmj0y</u>) has added abuse functions to PowerView for each of these attack primitives
- See the talk by me, Will Schroeder and Rohan Vazarkar at DerbyCon 7.0 for more in-depth information and attack demonstrations: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8thoG7gPd0</u>

Quickly Identify Dangerous Permissions



Quickly Identify Dangerous Permissions

- We need: security group memberships, user session information, local admin group memberships, and securable object ACEs
- By default, ANY domain user can collect this data without any special privileges
- SharpHound makes collection easy and fast



Collect the enumeration tool

Download SharpHound: <u>https://github.com/BloodHoundAD/BloodHound/tree/ma</u> <u>ster/Ingestors</u>



Use SharpHound to collect the data

PS C:\Users\dfm\Desktop\test> .\SharpHound.exe --CompressData Initializing BloodHound Starting enumeration for testlab.local Status: 25 objects enumerated (+25 1.086957/s --- Using 35 MB RAM) Finished enumeration for testlab.local in 00:00:23.4276987 2 hosts failed ping. 0 hosts timedout. Compressing data to .\BloodHound_20170907131224238.zip PS C:\Users\dfm\Desktop\test> ls

Directory: C:\Users\dfm\Desktop\test

LastWriteTime		Length	Name	
9/7/2017	1:12 PM	2081	BloodHound.bin	
9/7/2017	1:12 PM	1117	BloodHound_20170907131224238.zip	
9/7/2017	1:12 PM	2696	group_membership.csv	
9/7/2017	1:12 PM	401	local_admins.csv	
9/5/2017	3:00 PM	536576	SharpHound.exe	
9/7/2017	1:12 PM	187	trusts.csv	
	9/7/2017 9/7/2017 9/7/2017 9/7/2017 9/7/2017 9/5/2017	9/7/2017 1:12 PM 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 9/5/2017 3:00 PM	9/7/2017 1:12 PM 2081 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 1117 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 2696 9/7/2017 1:12 PM 401 9/5/2017 3:00 PM 536576	

https://blog.cptjesus.com/posts/newbloodhoundingestor



 Run SharpHound from a domain-joined computer.
 To collect object control data, SharpHound requires LDAP access to at least one domain controller per domain.



Download Neo4j Server: https://neo4j.com/download/ Download BloodHound: <u>https://bit.lv/GetBloodHound</u> Follow the setup instructions at: https://github.com/BloodHoundAD/BloodHound/wiki/Get ting-started or https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=o22EME



BloodHound Interface Demonstration

https://youtu.be/BAEfEdNWijO

Two Ideas for Identifying Legacy Permissions



- Removing permissions can be risky
- We need confidence we aren't going to break something
- We need assurance that applications won't silently fail and affect business due to permissions we removed
- What follows are two ideas we believe can be effective, which we've tested in a lab but not in production (yet!)

Method One: Comparative Analysis

- Most applications do not remove unneeded/legacy permissions during updates.
- Compare permissions granted by legacy installers with those granted by newest installer.
- Verify all application instances are running latest version.
- Mark permissions granted by legacy installer as candidates for removal.

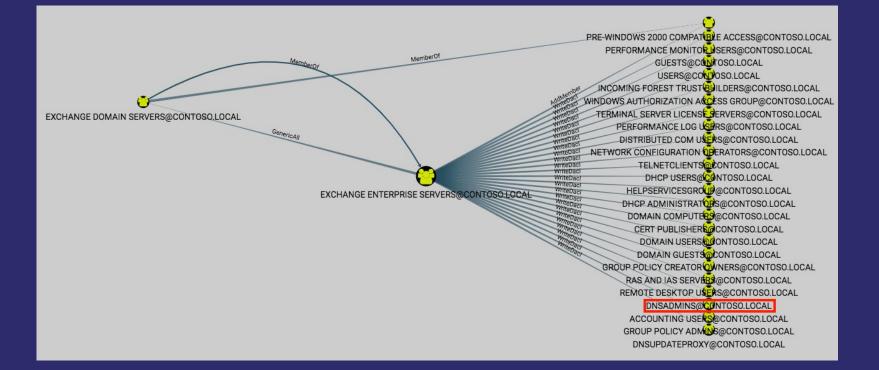
Method One: Comparative Analysis

- In separate AD labs, install the up-to-date version of the software in question, as well as the original version installed in your real environment
- Use BloodHound to compare the outbound object control granted by the different installers
- Don't forget to target DA-equivalent principals, as outlined by Sean Metcalf at adsecurity.org

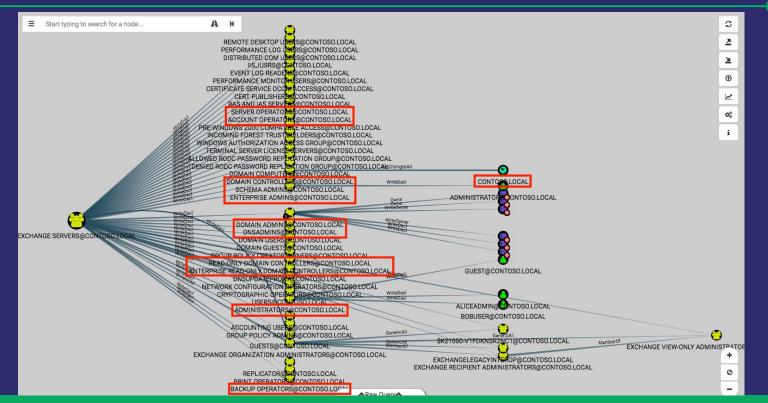


Active Directory has several levels of administration beyond the Domain Admins group. In a previous post, I explored: "Securing Domain Controllers to Improve Active Directory Security" which explores ways to better secure Domain Controllers and by extension, Active Directory. For more information on Active Directory specific rights and permission review my post "Scanning for Active Directory Privileges & Privileged Accounts."

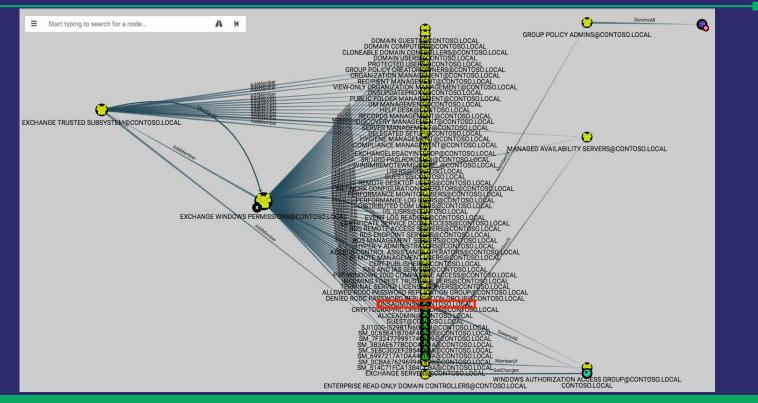
Transitive Outbound Control: Exchange 2003



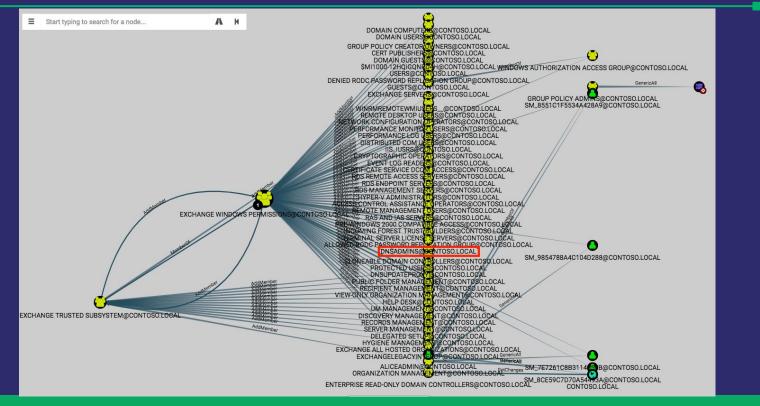
Transitive Outbound Control: Exchange 2007



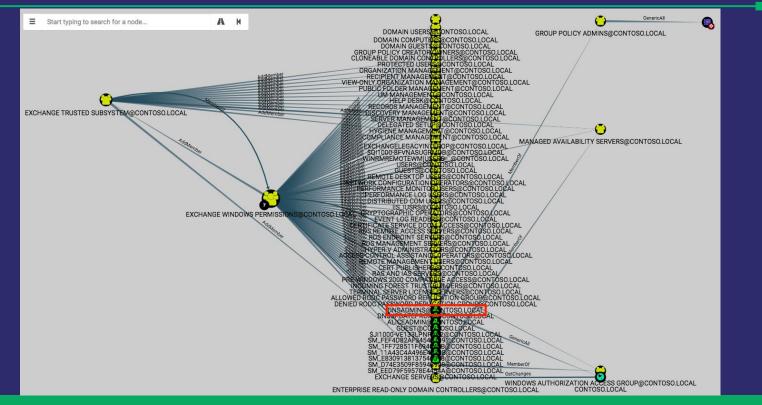
Transitive Outbound Control: Exchange 2007 SP1



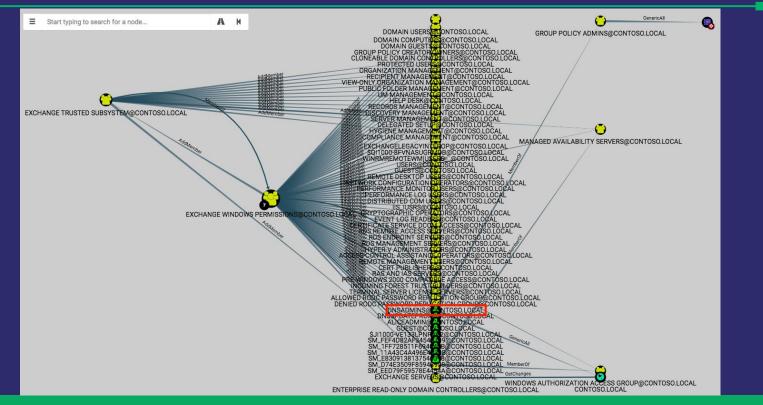
Transitive Outbound Control: Exchange 2010



Transitive Outbound Control: Exchange 2013



Transitive Outbound Control: Exchange 2016



Object Outbound Control Metrics - Exchange Server

	Exchange 2003	Exchange 2007	Exchange 2007 SP1	Exchange 2010	Exchange 2013	Exchange 2016
Direct control of Domain Admins	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Direct Control of DA-Equivalent Principals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Simple Path to Domain Admin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reset Most User Passwords	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Add Members to Most Groups	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Method One: Comparative Analysis

- Note: this information is not comprehensive for every minor update/service pack for Exchange Server.
- Your environment, and several environments we've been in, grant Exchange servers even MORE permissions.
- Bottom line: if the Exchange 2016 installer doesn't grant the permissions, your Exchange 2016 servers probably don't need them.
- Use BloodHound to see just how bad the situation is in your own environment.

Important Caveat!

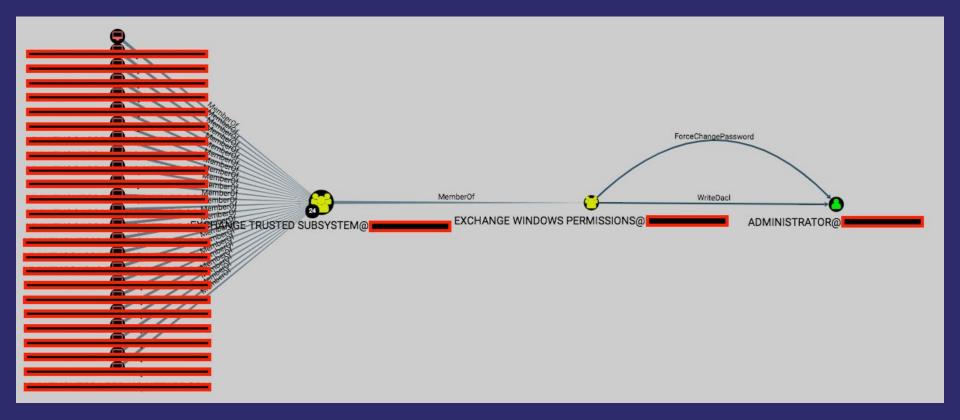
- The previous chart does not account for Exchange split permissions model, introduced with Exchange Server 2010.
- If you're running split permissions, I would still strongly advise you to enumerate dangerous permissions and attack paths.
- Microsoft's officially supported remediation guidance is to run the following:
 - setup.com /PrepareAD

/ActiveDirectorySplitPermissions:true

 In Thank you Josh M. Bryant (<u>@FixTheExchange</u>) at Microsoft Consulting Services for this information!

Method Two: Granted vs Requested Permissions

- Use event logs to compare requested rights vs granted rights. Remove unused rights.
- Strategically place SACL ACEs on the right objects.
- Defenders can already use these events to detect attackers, we can use them to determine whether the rights are ever legitimately used.



Dangerous Permission	Associated Event IDs
GenericAll	4662
GenericWrite	4662
DCSync*	4662
WriteOwner	4662
WriteDACL	4662, 4670
ForceChangePassword	4724
AddMember	4662, 4728

*See <u>https://adsecurity.org/?p=1729</u> for more info and in-depth detection guidance

Event Collection

- We're going to set up 4662 collection on specific principals.
- We'll limit the scope to only those principals with dangerous permissions against them, and only trigger the event when the relevant principal requests permissions against the object.
- In other words, only generate the event when an Exchange Server requests permissions against a Domain Admin or other critical object.

			Advanced Sec	curity Settings for Administrat	or	_	
Own	er:	Domain Admin	s (CONTOSO\Domain Ac	lmins) <u>C</u> hange			
Perr	m <mark>issions</mark>	Auditing	Effective Access				
	dditiona ting entr		ole-click an audit entry. T	o modify an audit entry, select the er	ntry and click Edi	it (if available).	
	Туре	Principal	Access	Inherited from	Applies	s to	
82	Succ	Everyone	Special	None	This ob	ject only	
88	Succ	Everyone		DC=contoso,DC=	local Descen	idant Organizatio	onal Un
26	Succ	Everyone		DC=contoso,DC=	local Descen	idant Organizatio	onal Un
	A <u>d</u> d sable <u>i</u> nl	<u>R</u> emove	Edit			Re <u>s</u> tore e	defaults
					OK	Cancel	Apply

		Auditing Entry for Administrator		x
Principal: Type: Applies to:	Select a principal Success This object and all descendant objects	v v		
Permissions	5:			
	Full control	Delete all child objects		
	✓ List contents	Create msExchActiveSyncDevices objects		
	Read all properties	Delete msExchActiveSyncDevices objects		
	Write all properties	Create ms-net-ieee-80211-GroupPolicy object	5	
	Delete	Delete ms-net-ieee-80211-GroupPolicy objects	5	
	Delete subtree	Create ms-net-ieee-8023-GroupPolicy objects		
	Read permissions	Delete ms-net-ieee-8023-GroupPolicy objects		
	Modify permissions	Allowed to authenticate		
	Modify owner	Change password		
	All validated writes	Receive as		
	All extended rights	Reset password		
	Create all child objects	Send as		
Properties:				
	Read all properties	Write msExchLabeledURI		
	Write all properties	Read msExchLastExchangeChangedTime		

	Auditing Entry	for Administrator	
Select User, Computer, Service Accou	unt, or Group		
Select this object type:			
User, Group, or Built-in security principal	Object Types	1	
From this location:			
contoso.local	Locations		
Enter the object name to select (examples):			
Exchange Servers	Check Names	1	
Advanced	OK Cancel	Delete all child objects Create msExchActiveSyncDevices objects Delete msExchActiveSyncDevices objects	
		Create ms-net-ieee-80211-GroupPolicy objects	
🗌 Delete		Delete ms-net-ieee-80211-GroupPolicy objects	
Delete subtree		Create ms-net-ieee-8023-GroupPolicy objects	
Read permissions		Delete ms-net-ieee-8023-GroupPolicy objects	
Modify permissions		Allowed to authenticate	
🗌 Modify owner	· (Change password	
All validated writes		Receive as	
All extended rights		Reset password	
Create all child objects		Send as	
Properties:			
Read all properties		Write msExchLabeledURI	
		Read msExchLastExchangeChangedTime	

		Auditing Entry for Administrator	- C	3	3
					-
Principal:	Exchange Servers (CONTOSO\Exchange Servers)	Select a principal			
Type:	Success				
Type.	Juccess .				
Applies to:	This object and all descendant objects	~			
2000000000000					
Permission	s:	✓ Delete all child objects			
	✓ List contents	✓ Create msExchActiveSyncDevices objects			
	Read all properties	✓ create instantativeSyncDevices objects			
	Write all properties	✓ Create ms-net-ieee-80211-GroupPolicy objects			
	✓ Delete	✓ Delete ms-net-ieee-80211-GroupPolicy objects			
	✓ Delete subtree	✓ Create ms-net-ieee-8023-GroupPolicy objects			
	Read permissions	✓ Delete ms-net-ieee-8023-GroupPolicy objects			
	Modify permissions	Allowed to authenticate			
	✓ Modify owner	Change password			
	All validated writes	Receive as			
	✓ All extended rights	Reset password			
	Create all child objects	✓ Send as			
Properties:					
	Read all properties	Write msExchLabeledURI			
	Write all properties	Read msExchLastExchangeChangedTime			

			Advanced Securi	ty Settings for Administrator	
Own	ner:	Domain Admins	(CONTOSO\Domain Admir	ıs) <u>C</u> hange	
Per	missions	Auditing	Effective Access		
	additiona iting entr		e-click an audit entry. To m	odify an audit entry, select the entry	and click Edit (if available).
	Туре	Principal	Access	Inherited from	Applies to
82	Succ	Exchange Servers (C	ONTOSO Full control	None	This object and all descendant
36	Succ	Everyone	Special	None	This object only
82	Succ	Everyone		DC=contoso,DC=loca	al Descendant Organizational Un
28	Succ	Everyone		DC=contoso,DC=loca	al Descendant Organizational Un
	Add	Remove	Edit		Restore defaults
D	isable <u>i</u> nł	neritance			OK Cancel Apply

- This will start generating 4662 events any time an Exchange server requests access to the Administrator user.
- We can collect and parse those events with Get-ADAuditAccess* by Ben Wilkinson: <u>https://gallery.technet.microsoft.com/scriptcenter/Auditing-Directory-S</u> <u>ervice-53574749</u>

*Find my modified version used for this demo here: <u>https://github.com/andyrobbins/Get-ADAuditAccess</u>

Event Collection

- Collecting these events at scale is beyond the scope of this talk.
- Check out these resources for getting started with event collection at scale:
 - <u>https://github.com/palantir/windows-event-forwarding/blob/master/WEF-Event-Mappings.md</u>
 - <u>https://blogs.technet.microsoft.com/jepayne/2017/12/08/weffles</u>

Event Collection

- Allow enough time for typical Exchange operations.
- This may be hours, days, or weeks depending on the size of your environment.
- Import the relevant requested accesses into the graph and compare requested accesses vs granted permissions.

Dangerous Permission	Corresponding Requested Access
GenericAll	Combination of 13 accesses, including Generic Write, All Extended Rights, Write DACL, and Write Owner.
GenericWrite	Combination of 3 accesses, including Write Property and Read Control
DCSync*	DS Replication Get Changes and DS Replication Get Changes All
WriteOwner	Write Owner
WriteDACL	Write DACL
ForceChangePassword	<generates 4724="" events=""></generates>
AddMember	<generates 4728="" events=""></generates>

Reference: <u>http://www.selfadsi.org/deep-inside/ad-security-descriptors.htm</u>

Event Collection

Administrator: Windows PowerShell	Administrator: Windows PowerShell
<pre>PS C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop> Get-ADAuditAccess >> -ComputerName WIN-2012-DC-001 -DaysAgo 30 Select -First 10 >> ComputerName Using provided ComputerNames WIN-2012-DC-001</pre>	<pre>PS C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop> Get-ADAuditAccess ` >> -ComputerName WIN-2012-DC-001 -DaysAgo 30 >> Select -First 1000 >> Select AccountName, AccountDomain,ObjectName,Accesses,AccessedProp >> Export-CSV -NoTypeInformation RealAccesses.csv >> ComputerName Using provided ComputerNames PS C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop> gc .\RealAccesses.CSV '* Administrator ".coNTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Public-Information" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Object-Class" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Object-Guid" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Domain-DNS" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Pr</pre>
ObjectName : DC=contoso,DC=local HandleID : 0x0 OperationType : Object Access Accesses : Read Property AccessedProp : Object-Class	"Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Domain-DNS" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Domain-DNS" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Public-Information" "Administrator", "CONTOSO", "DC=contoso,DC=local", "Read Property", "Public-Information"

Method Two: Granted vs Requested Permissions

- Parse the CSVs and add the relevant dangerous permissions that are actually requested into the graph
- Compare the granted vs requested permissions, delete any granted, non-requested permissions
- Continue to monitor the affected objects in case of a silent failure in the future.
- We'll release the cypher ingestion queries and relevant queries you can run in BloodHound in a future blog post soon!

Conclusion and Future Work



Conclusion

- Object-control attack paths in AD are extremely common
- Using an attack graph brings the most important permissions into immediate focus
- We can use existing, built-in features in Windows and AD to identify dangerous permissions we can safely remove without breaking anything



Future Work

- Make analysis much easier by automating much of the process discussed in this talk
- Place even more specific SACL ACEs to reduce number of events generated during analysis period
- Continue research on abusable ACEs in AD and Windows
- Expand the attack graph to include dangerous ACEs on host-based objects



THANKS!

- <u>specterops.io</u>
- <u>(a)SpecterOps</u>
- <u>(a)_wald0</u>



 Join the BloodHound Slack: <u>https://bloodhoundgang.herokuapp.com</u>