

Social Networking - Addressing the Risks

Why us?

- The #1, largest provider of penetration and security testing in Europe
- Over 50 testers, able to react quickly to your requirements
- Largest team of CHECK and CREST qualified testers in the UK
- 100% ethical - a stable PLC listed on the London Stock Exchange with robust vetting of all staff

Social networking sites are now ubiquitous. From school children and students to IT professionals and senior executives, it seems everyone is regularly logging on to catch up with school friends, network with peers and make new online contacts.

The potential risks to personal security brought about by careless disclosure of personal information including contact details, family relationships and leisure interests has been well-documented but could your organisation also be at risk?

Are your employees, suppliers or even customers disclosing too much information about your organisation, and what could an attacker do with any information gleaned?

How we can help?

We examine, the 'people' aspect of security by addressing risks such as obtaining sensitive information, impersonation and deception and unauthorised access into buildings.

We draw on experience of a wide range of social engineering projects for clients ranging from government bodies to online retailers and financial services organisations.



Our Expertise

Penetration Testing:
Network Infrastructures
Web applications
Compiled applications
Wireless networks
Laptops and mobile devices
Remote access
Databases and mainframes
Forensics

Managed Security Monitoring Service:

Daily assurance that your networks and applications stay secure through the provision of more scanning and tailored alerting services

PCI DSS Services:

Gap Analysis
PCI Audit
Quarterly ASV scanning
PCI workshops

Social Engineering:

We test organisations to see where 'people' and physical weaknesses lie

Do you know what information is available on your organisation and its key executives and what your employees, suppliers and partners are disclosing on a regular basis?

Social Networking Healthcheck

Our Social Networking Healthcheck service has been designed to specifically explore and assess the risks posed to your organisation by the disclosure of company information through social networking sites and other Internet sources.

Our experienced testing team will work with senior contacts within your organisation to establish project objectives and focus areas which will remain completely confidential.

The Healthcheck will cover:

- Key employee research - targeted research on nominated key employees establishing available personal information which could potentially be used to crack passwords or validate an attacker (e.g. date of birth, family names, personal interests)
- Organisational research - thorough research of social networking/blog comments relating to the issues specified (e.g. comments on prospective buy-outs, legal cases, specific individuals, company trading performance in a close-down period)
- Disclosure analysis - analysis of general level and content of disclosure relating to the organisation posted on social networking sites/blogs categorised according to likely source (e.g. employee, ex-employee, supplier/related contact, customer)
- Comprehensive report - a comprehensive report detailing our findings supplemented by an optional board level debrief session covering the issues we found and solutions that the business could consider
- Employee training session - customised training to alert employees to the risks and establish guidelines to mitigate them

Our findings are documented in a comprehensive report, providing you with a clear picture of where data leakage is occurring and recommendations on how you can stem the flow.

Call us now on 0161 209 5111 for a Social Networking audit

0161 209 5111
securetest@nccgroup.com

Individuals exposed

When carrying out a recent research session for a national newspaper, our team of experts were able to uncover reams of information about an individual journalist, knowing only his name and occupation, simply by using the world-wide web.

Within three hours the team had discovered his full name, date of birth, address, home telephone number, route taken to work, the schools and universities he attended, his career history and his long-harboured passion for rock music, golf and tennis.

Perhaps more worryingly they were also able to find out his daughters' names, ages, dates of birth and the schools they attend.

The team only used tools that anyone could access such as social networking sites and Google and highlighted what an attacker with malicious intent could do, including opening bank accounts and taking out loans or mortgages.

In another experiment, the team also discovered some interesting information about the UK's Information Commissioner, Sir Richard Thomas. It took just half an hour to discover the details of three bank accounts held by Mr Thomas, as well as his age, his home address and his work email.

We were able to glean most of the information on Mr Thomas from Freedom of Information requests, and from a register of interests declaration he submitted when he took the governmental position in 2002.

These same techniques can also be used to target businesses through finding out what information is available on senior executives. Using the same methods and techniques as with the journalist, a detailed search could enable fraudsters to easily uncover system passwords and gain access to sensitive corporate data. Passwords are often comprised of pet or family names or favourite football teams.

About NCC Group Secure Test

Secure Test, the penetration and security testing division of NCC Group, is a leading independent provider of expert security testing and training services, with over 500 clients across the private, public and not for profit sectors.

Our mission is to provide the highest quality security testing and training services, whilst advancing the understanding of security vulnerabilities throughout the IT industry and amongst our clients.

We are 100% ethical - all security testing consultants undergo a rigorous security clearance, sponsored by CESG, the Government information security body. Many of our consultants are accredited to the highest levels, allowing them to work on high-level Government security projects of critical national importance.

The reason for our success is simple - we meet and exceed expectations - as a result we have very happy clients from all market sectors, including finance, local & central government, gaming/gambling and service sectors.

NCC Group is a leading global provider of independent IT assurance, security and consultancy services. As a trusted advisor, we help over 15,000 public, private and not for profit sector organisations, including 94 of the FTSE 100, to make the most efficient use of information and technology and to manage the associated risks.



Call us now: 0161 209 5111

- Speak with a Social Networking security expert
- Book a Social Networking workshop
- Read a sample Social Networking report
- Request an invite to a Secure Test security event

Our accreditations:



CLAS

CESG Listed Adviser Scheme



CHECK

IT Health Check Service