



The cloud is still dark and more full of terrors

SEC-T - 0x10sion

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PrimeHarbor Technologies



Who Am I?

- Built the cloud security programs for some media companies
- Founder: fwd:cloudsec conference
- Rants a lot on Twitter
- Somehow was named a Security Hero by AWS
- Cloud Security Consultant

aws
security
HERO

THAT'S WHAT I DO:
I DRINK AND
I KNOW THINGS.





Agenda

- Major Cloud Incidents
- Themes
- Are the Cloud Providers to Blame?
- What we can do about it!

Link to the slides available at the end



CUSTOMER

RESPONSIBILITY FOR
SECURITY 'IN' THE CLOUD

CUSTOMER DATA

PLATFORM, APPLICATIONS, IDENTITY & ACCESS MANAGEMENT

OPERATING SYSTEM, NETWORK & FIREWALL CONFIGURATION

CLIENT-SIDE DATA
ENCRYPTION & DATA INTEGRITY
AUTHENTICATION

SERVER-SIDE ENCRYPTION
(FILE SYSTEM AND/OR DATA)

NETWORKING TRAFFIC
PROTECTION (ENCRYPTION,
INTEGRITY, IDENTITY)

SOFTWARE

COMPUTE

STORAGE

DATABASE

NETWORKING

HARDWARE/AWS GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE

REGIONS

AVAILABILITY ZONES

EDGE LOCATIONS

AWS

RESPONSIBILITY FOR
SECURITY 'OF' THE CLOUD



Major Cloud Incidents

<https://breaches.cloud>

Code Spaces

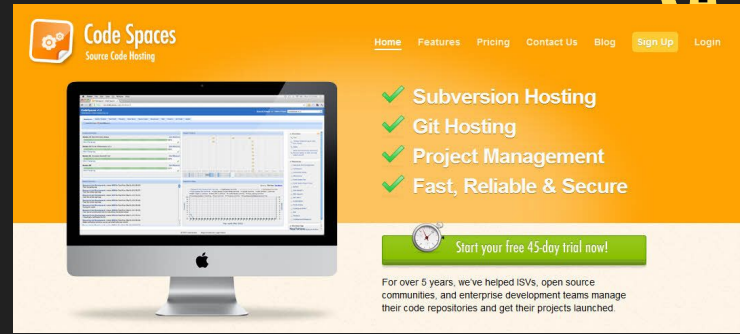
Anyone remember them?

Admin keys were leaked

Account was ransomed

Ransom wasn't paid

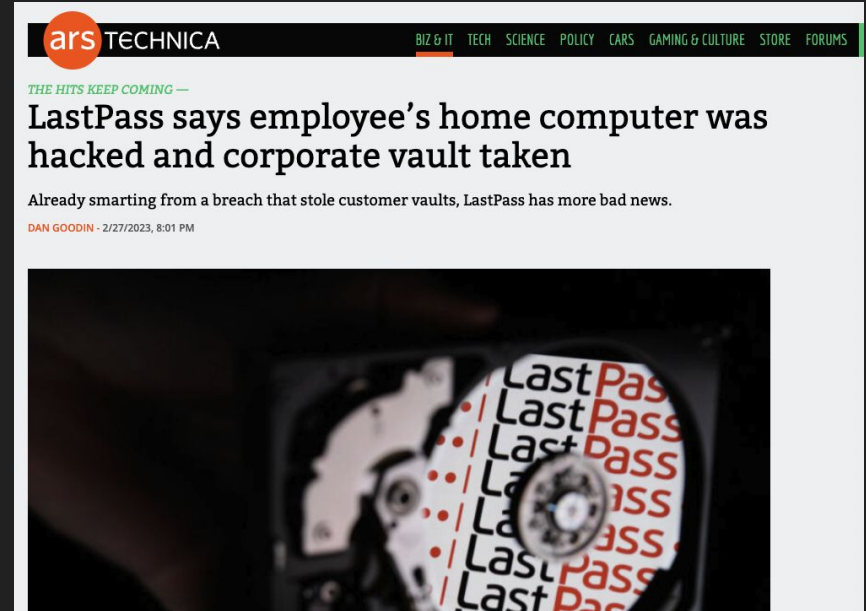
Account deleted!





LastPass

- Two incidents in 2022
- First was source code leak
- Second was targeted at Sr. DevOps Engineer
- Initial Access: Home Plex Server
- Client-Side encryption keys accessed
- Vaults were on-prem, but backed up to S3



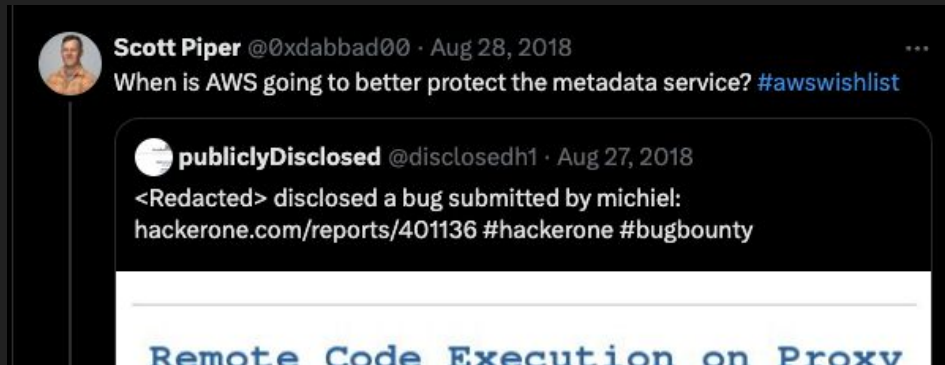
WHO'S IN YOUR

S3 BUCKETS



Capital One - Timeline

- June 2012 - Instance Metadata Released
- 2013 - GCP Implements headers for metadata service
- 2014 - First disclosure of a IMDS attack
- 2017 - Microsoft implements headers for Azure
- 2018 - Scott Piper calls for AWS to improve IMDS security





EC2 Metadata Abuse

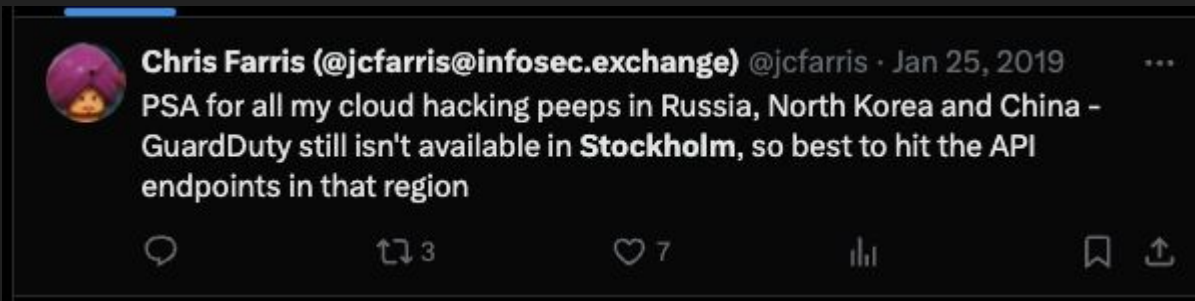
```
[ec2-user@ip-10-XX-XX-234 ~]$ role_name=$( curl -s
http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/security-credentials/ )

[ec2-user@ip-10-XX-XX-234 ~]$ curl -s
http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/security-credentials/${role_name}
}
{
  "Code" : "Success",
  "LastUpdated" : "2018-04-23T13:02:26Z",
  "Type" : "AWS-HMAC",
  "AccessKeyId" : "ASIA5DV6JBZRSJH2ZZA",
  "SecretAccessKey" : "eEuERNfOEDACTED/9Ha0YGZ6bd",
  "Token" : "FQoDYXTHISISNOTAREALSESSIONTOKENTHISISJUSTATRIBUTEL31gU=",
  "Expiration" : "2018-04-23T19:06:48Z"
}
```



Capital One - Timeline

- December 2018 - eu-north-1 region (Stockholm) opened





Capital One - Timeline

March 2019

- The attacker finds “misconfigured WAF” and gains access to credentials.
- Downloads data from S3

- 16 ■ On or about March 12, 2019, IP address 46.246.35.99 attempted to
17 access Capital One’s data. I know, from checking publicly-available
18 records, that this IP address is controlled by IPredator, a company that
19 provides VPN services.
- 20 ■ On or about March 22, 2019, the *****-WAF-Role account was used to
21 execute the List Buckets Command several times. These commands
22 were executed from IP addresses that I believe to be TOR exit nodes.
23 According to Capital One, the *****-WAF-Role account does not, in
24 the ordinary course of business, invoke the List Buckets Command.
- 25 ■ Also on or about March 22, 2019, the *****-WAF-Role account was
26 used to execute the Sync Command a number of times to obtain data
27 from certain of Capital One’s data folders or buckets, including files
28 that contain credit card application data. A number of those commands

THOMPSON COMPLAINT / No. MJ19-344 - 7

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
700 STEWART STREET, SUITE 5220
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101
(206) 553-7970



Capital One - Timeline

- May 2019 - GuardDuty Available in Stockholm Region



- July 2019 - Indictment issued, Capital One disclosed breach

21	<u>COUNT 1</u>
22	(Computer Fraud and Abuse)
23	Between on or about March 12, 2019, and on or about July 17, 2019, at Seattle,
24	within the Western District of Washington, and elsewhere, PAIGE A. THOMPSON
25	intentionally accessed a computer without authorization, to wit, a computer containing
26	information belonging to Capital One Financial Corporation, and thereby obtained
27	information contained in a financial record of a financial institution and of a card issuer



Capital One - Timeline

- August 2019 - Senator Wyden gets involved

<p>RON WYDEN OREGON</p> <hr/> <p>RANKING MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE</p> <hr/> <p>221 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510 (202) 224-5244</p>	<p>United States Senate</p> <p>WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3703</p>	<p>COMMITTEES: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION</p>
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According to a July 31, 2019 tweet from a senior security software engineer at Netflix, a major customer of Amazon’s cloud computing services, the company previously asked Amazon to add a security header to protect Amazon’s metadata service from SSRF attacks. According to that Netflix engineer’s public tweet, which has since been deleted, Netflix did not get “a satisfactory response.” Please confirm whether or not Amazon in-fact received a request from Netflix to add such a security protection and describe what steps, if any, Amazon took after receiving this feature request.



Capital One - Timeline

- August 2019 - AWS places all blame on Capital One



August 13, 2019

The Honorable Ron Wyden
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Senator Wyden,

Thank you for your letter of August 5, 2019. We are happy to answer your questions – as we provide some additional context.

Sincerely,

Stephen Schmidt
Vice President, Chief Information Security Officer
Amazon Web Services



Capital One - Timeline

- August 2019 - AWS places all blame on Capital One



access. As Capital One outlined in their public announcement, the attack occurred due to a misconfiguration error at the application layer of a firewall installed by Capital One, exacerbated by permissions set by Capital One that were likely broader than intended. After gaining access through the misconfigured firewall and having broader permissions to access resources, we believe a SSRF attack was used (which is one of several ways an attacker could have potentially gotten access to data once they got in through the misconfigured firewall).

Your second question asks about the number of AWS customers that have been compromised through SSRF attacks and how many of those attacks involved our metadata service. As discussed above, SSRF was not the primary factor in the attack. We are not aware of any other



Capital One - Timeline

- August 2019 - AWS places all blame on Capital One



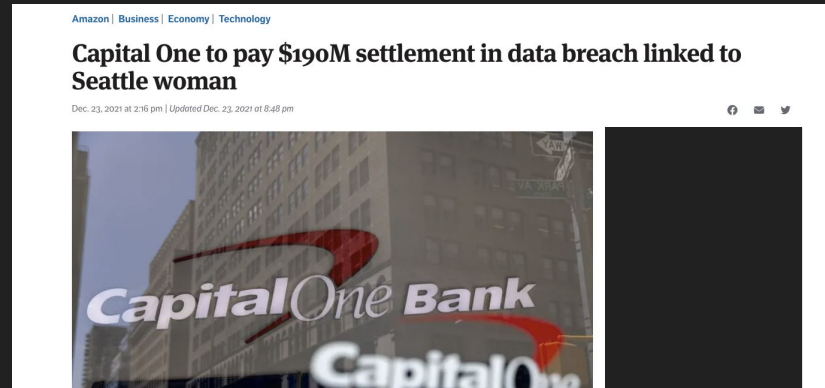
August 13, 2019

Your fourth question asks about a Netflix request to add a header to protect the metadata service from SSRF attacks. Netflix effectively runs all of their applications on AWS, and as such, we have an expansive relationship with Netflix that spans dozens of people, scores of feature requests, and hundreds (maybe thousands) of conversations a year. Our relevant product leaders were not aware of that request from Netflix, and Netflix has said both that this engineer's tweet does not reflect their views and that "Netflix has no technical issues with Amazon."



Capital One - Timeline

- November 19th, 2019 - AWS introduced IMDSv2
 - 113 days after the incident
- September 2022 - Class action lawsuit settled for \$190M





UNC2903

- Public Server with CVE-2021-21311
- Victim unknown
- IMDSv1
- S3FullAccess

54.227.38.167/adminer/?elastic=52.170.213.50%3A1337&username=

Login

```
{ "Code" : "Success", "LastUpdated" : "2022-03-31T0...  
"IQoJb3JpZ2luX2VjEHQaCXvzLWVhc3QtMSJHMEUCIE...  
"Expiration" : "2022-03-31T10:02:53Z" }
```

System	Elasticsearch (beta) ▼
Server	52.170.213.50:1337
Username	
Password	
Database	

Permanent login



Microsoft - Storm-0558

- 2016 Consumer MSA Key
 - still used in 2023
- Failed to validate key purpose
- Failed to detect the intrusion
- Failed to figure out how the 2016 key was compromised



Figure 1: Storm-0558 Token Abuse with Stolen 2016 MSA Key



Microsoft - Storm-0558 - Detection

- Found by US State Department
- They had G5 Licensing
- “Big Yellow Taxi” rule
 - MailItemsAccessed
- State Dept notified Microsoft
- MS discovered access signed by the consumer MSA Key





The Board identified a series of Microsoft operational and strategic decisions that collectively point to a corporate culture that deprioritized both enterprise security investments and rigorous risk management.

– Cyber Safety Review Board
March, 2024



Microsoft - Storm-0558



Meme of unknown origin



Microsoft - Midnight Blizzard

- Russian SVR
- Test User in Test Tenant
- Self Enrollment Abuse
- Cloud-Plane lateral movement
- Most Narcissistic objective ever

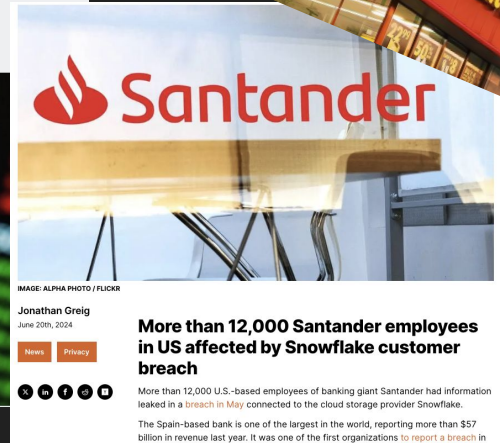
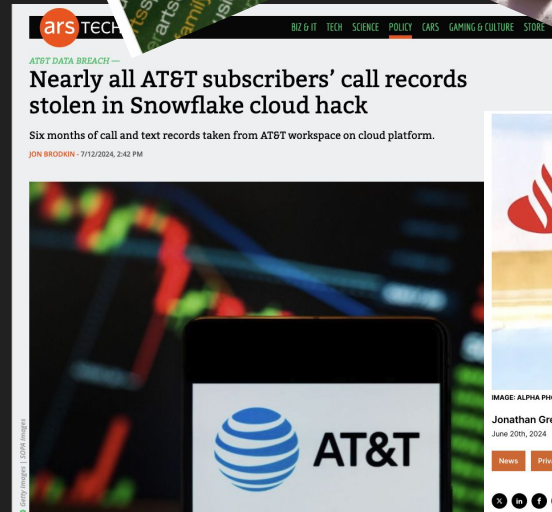
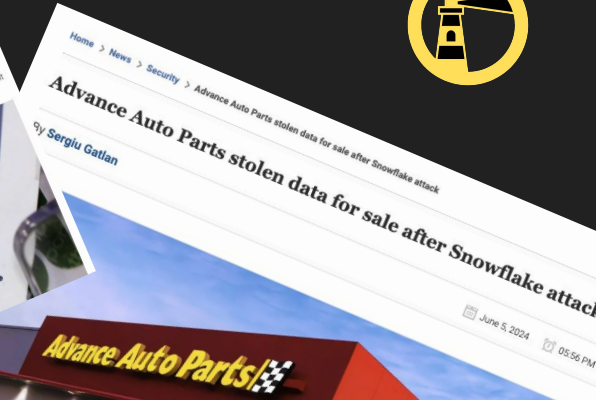


“two cozy bears in a midnight blizzard” (DALL-E 2)

Snowflake

Victims

- TicketMaster
- Santander
- Lending Tree
- AT&T
- Advanced Auto Parts



Snowflake





Themes



***Threat Actors* have *Objectives* against
Targets using *Attack Vectors***



Attack Vectors

1. Lost, stolen, or exposed credentials
2. Publicly exposed resources
3. Credentials exposed via application security flaws
4. Unpatched vulnerabilities and 0-days in exposed systems
5. Denial of Service attacks
6. Subdomain takeover
7. Supply chain compromise



AWS Customer Incident Response Team

Threat actors use which initial access method most often?

Lost/leaked access keys/credentials

#4



66%

valid IAM credentials

↑
1/3

of those are **root credentials**

[20% of all initial access method use]



13%

Public-facing EC2 instance



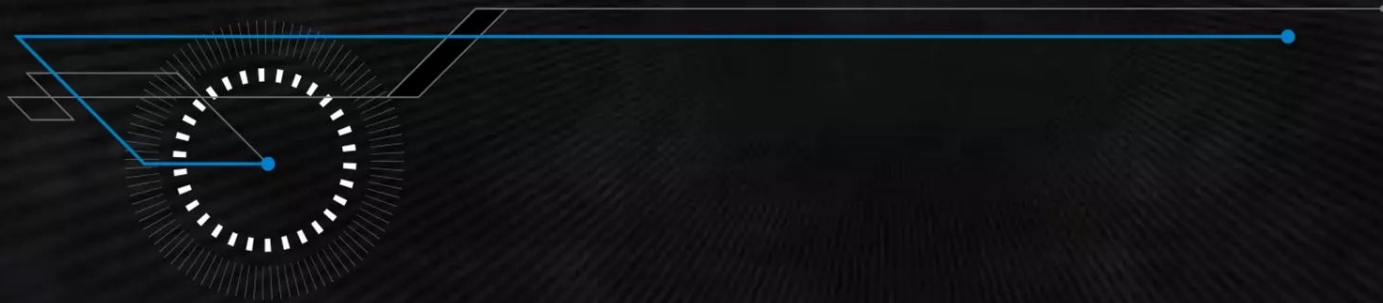


Are the cloud providers to blame?



YES

NOT
SECURITY IS JOB ZERO



Side from SEC201 - re:invent 2014



*It's time to demand
more from the cloud
providers*



*Or it's time for
Governments to
step in*



UNSAFE AT ANY SPEED

**The Designed-In Dangers
of The American Automobile
By Ralph Nader**



 @jcfarris

 <https://github.com/jchrisfarris>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jcfarris>

 <http://www.chrisfarris.com>

<https://chrisfarris.com/sect2024>

<https://breaches.cloud>