

The recent identity theft on Facebook could have been easily prevented with a Web Application Firewall

Social networks continue to be to the fore but not in a very reassuring way ... Last news : piracy own Facebook of Mark Zuckerberg, the founder of the famous social network ! How a tools reaching over 500 million people around the world can be so vulnerable ? Deny All, through the way of its Technical Director, Renaud Bidou, provides some answers.

Modus operandi of the hacker:

All the hacker has to do is get an attack software by "brute force", available easily on the Web. From the home page of Facebook, the hacker enters the targetted user's login and launches the software. The latter is working alone using the technique called the "dictionary attack" : it tries all the existing words in the dictionary and their derivatives (adding numbers, plurals ...), and finally found the one ! The attacker becomes the user's account and can act as he wants : change of status, adds comments, or injection of "part" of malicious code that infect anyone visiting the profile.

Why this attack could happen? Two possible reasons:

- No protection on the grounds that it could "slow" loading pages;
- Or a non-performing WAF.

Simple solution to be protected from such attack: a Web Application Firewall (WAF):

A Web application, such as a Facebook page, may be protected by a statistical engine (also called Behavioral Analysis engine) designed to detect and block these attacks. This type of engine detects repeated authentication attempts, procedure used by brute force software, and is implemented in some Web application firewall (WAF).

For lighting and expertise on this subject, please contact OXYGEN to be linked with Renaud Bidou, CTO of Deny All.

More informations on Deny All web site : www.denyall.com

About Deny All

Pioneer of WAF (Web Application Firewall), Deny All is now the European leader in the protection and accelerating Web applications, XML and FTP. Deny All provides solutions to large accounts globally, on all sectors. Its products, available as software or appliance, ensure protection, authentication and transaction acceleration on Internet, extranet and intranet. The Deny All solutions are easy to install and guarantee the highest level of protection against known and unknown attacks through a filter of HTTP(S), SOAP / XML and FTP(S). Today, Deny All solutions protect more than 30 000 web applications around the world.

With headquarters in Paris, Deny All is present in most European countries through local teams in Germany, Benelux, Spain and Nordic countries and around the world through its network of partners.

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