

Re: e-mail address mining tool?

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/securityfocus/pen-test/2005-11/0117.html>

From: Justin (justinvinn_at_gmail.com)

Date: 11/08/05

Date: Tue, 8 Nov 2005 10:39:00 -0500
To: Tomasz Nidecki <tonid@hakin9.org>

Hugo,

There is no tool that directly queries the SMTP server, because like was said previously, VRFY is not support much these days.

However, there are programs that use google to mine for email addresses. you should be able to find one at <http://www.sensepost.com>. To use it, you may need a google API key.

peace,
--Justin

On 11/7/05, Tomasz Nidecki <tonid@hakin9.org> wrote:

> -----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
> Hash: MD5
>
> Sunday, November 6, 2005, 6:36:48 PM, Eyal wrote:
>
>> *I'm not aware of any tool which can test emails against an address file.*
>> *The most efficient approach to achieve this functionality is to write a*
>> *simple script which sends the SMTP VRFY command for each entry in an address*
>> *file.*
>
>> *Note that some mail servers do not support this command in order to thwart*
>> *spammers.*
>
> *Hi, everyone.*
>
> *Well, to be exact, almost no servers support this command nowadays.*
> *gmail definitely doesn't. AFAIK, Postfix doesn't either, at least it*
> *didn't the last time I checked. Neither did Exim. Only Sendmail, in*
> *its standard config, responds to the VRFY command. I don't know about*
> *commercial, Windows mailservers, but I found the VRFY command*
> *supported in very few cases. Therefore I would not base anything on*
> *its output.*
>
> *Also, testing the existence of the user is rarely done on the level of*

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- > *mail envelope. Therefore, you cannot expect the mailservers to either*
- > *reply right after sending the RCPT TO command that the user doesn't*
- > *exist or reply in such way after DATA is sent. The only thing you can*
- > *expect, is that if the user address is invalid, you will receive a*
- > *mailer daemon reply to the MAIL FROM address.*
- >
- > *But... This is also not certain. Some mailservers use a default*
- > *account for a given domain, eg. gmail, which I specialise in. If such*
- > *a setup is made, all mail to inexistant users in a given domain is*
- > *directed to a chosen existant account. Therefore you will not receive*
- > *any answer from the mailserver, if a bad e-mail address is given in*
- > *RCPT TO, since mail will be delivered to an existing user.*
- >
- > *Therefore, there is no tool and there will be no such tool. Which is*
- > *good, because if there was, spammers would have a much easier life*
- > *making databases of existing users, so they can sell them later on.*
- >
- > *Cheers,*
- >
- > ---
- > *Tomasz Nidecki, Sekr. Redakcji / Managing Editor*
- > *hakin9 magazine <http://www.hakin9.org>*
- > *mailto:tonid@hakin9.org jid:tonid@tonid.net*
- >
- > *Do you know what "hacker" means?*
- > *<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/hacker-howto.html>*
- >
- > *Czy wiesz, co znaczy slowo "haker"?*
- > *<http://www.jtz.org.pl/Inne/hacker-howto-pl.html>*
- >
- > -----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
- > *Version: 2.6*
- >
- > *iQCVAwUAQ28M6ER7PdagQ735AQE90gP9EXVRDGUNNQdWgSCHDeYItm7AuZzj0JYF*
- > *ExOhwTC/863ATjCC18b3lGD+qCKvC3ud4q213HqFOUkEGEraWboxVziQluwbnWqz.*
- > *zjdlxfdj0JHPEP5aqTwS2JE34CvCXqMoN+tVVALD/RvcqqCYQr8jzNn+Q9uzePc2*
- > *x2FsceCmFSs=*
- > *=m5Ng*
- > -----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
- >
- >
- >
- >
- >
-
- > *Audit your website security with Acunetix Web Vulnerability Scanner:*
- >
- > *Hackers are concentrating their efforts on attacking applications on your*
- > *website. Up to 75% of cyber attacks are launched on shopping carts, forms,*
- > *login pages, dynamic content etc. Firewalls, SSL and locked-down servers are*
- > *futile against web application hacking. Check your website for vulnerabilities*
- > *to SQL injection, Cross site scripting and other web attacks before hackers do!*

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