

Re: hosting a secure website accessible from only a few IP addresses and users

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.misc/2003-06/0399.html>

From: 2pac (cal_2pac_at_yahoo.com)

Date: 06/24/03

Date: 23 Jun 2003 19:09:48 -0700

yosponge@yahoo.com (sponge) wrote in message
news:<8d76ec03.0306231448.4a8f3d85@posting.google.com>...
> On 22 Jun 2003 15:37:24 -0700, cal_2pac@yahoo.com (2pac) wrote:
>
> >Hi
> >I need to create a website for my family (spread across different
> >countries) to share their calendar and personal journal. Since some
> >info may be confidential, I was wondering if I can establish a secure
> >website that is accessible by only a few IP addresses and user.
> >To date I do not know of any webserver that can restrict access from
> >some IP addresses (haven't checked in IIS - but I am scared of using
> >it anyway).
> >
> >one way would be to host the web site using apache with a software
> >daemon listening on port 80. This daemon will accept only connections
> >from certain preconfigured IP addresses and will then forward the
> >data to apache.
> >The web server will then do its own user level authentication.
> >Is this technique secure?
> >
> >Are there any websites that will host my website and will also let me
> >configure IP address and user level auth for free?
> >Thanks for any suggestions
> >
> >If you're talking about running your own server you can simply
> >firewall the thing with something like Kerio and configure it to
> >permit only the IP addresses you want and block all else. Of course,
> >that presumes that all your family is on static IPs; if not, you'll
> >have to allow the entire network of those who are not static, but it
> >will cut down on the possibilities. Take things a step further and
> >require access on a non-standard port. I don't know of any specific
> >hosting service that will do this for you as it would require a
> >dedicated server, but you could look into some collocated hosts.
> >
> >Why not just require a secure login? Many sites do that, and
> >presumably your family has browsers capable of SSL.

comp.security.misc: Re: hosting a secure website accessible from only a few IP addresses and users

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> *Sponge*

> *Sponge's Anti-Spyware Source*

> *www.geocities.com/yosponge*

Thanks for the suggestions

a) family has got static IPs

b) authenticated user logins (OR logins over SSL) may be useful – but am wondering how good against hacker brute force or dictionary attacks.

If popular websites can get hacked – the moment I let someone know that there is a port open (and the identity of the web server software) – I may be susceptible to attack

to begin with is tripod a good place to host – not sure if I can do an authentication in it.