IPv6 Distributed Security problem statement
<draft-vives-v6ops-ipv6-security-ps-03.txt>

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Motivation

• How would the deployment of IPv6 affect the security of a network?
• IPv6 enabled devices and networks bring some issues to be taken into account by security administrators:
  – End-2-end communications
  – IPsec in all IPv6 stacks
  – Increase in the number and type of IP devices
  – Increased number of “nomadic” devices
• Identify IPv6 Issues that may justify the need of a new security model
Concepts

• **Attack/Threat**: Either passive or active
• **Security (S)**: Protection against attacks + IPsec
• **Policy Management Tool (PMT)**: Used by the network administrator to edit the policies
• **Policy Decision Points (PDP)**: Entity which distribute S policies
• **Security Policy (SP)**: Information used by PDP to provide S
• **Policy Enforcement Points (PEP)**: Apply SP (Clients)
Network-based Security Scheme (I)
Network-based Security Scheme (II)

• **Main Assumptions:**
  – Threats come from “outside”
  – Protected nodes won’t go “outside”
  – No backdoors (ADSL, WLAN, etc.)

• **Main Drawbacks:**
  – Centralized model
  – Do not address threats coming from inside
  – FW usually acts as NAT/Proxy
  – Special solutions are needed for Transport Mode Secured Communications
Host-based Security Scheme

ALERT
DEFAULT
TRUST ON SEC. POLICY
THREAT + Security Policy 1 C Security Policy 2 PDP

INTERNET

PDP

CLIENTS
(PEP)

SERVERS
(PEP)
Host-based Security Example
Host-based Security Model (I)

- **BASIC IDEA**: Security Policy centrally defined and distributed to PEPs. The network entities will authenticate themselves in order to be trusted.

- **THREE elements:**
  - Policy Specification Language
  - Policy Exchange Protocol
  - Authentication of Entities
Host-based Security Model (IV)

• **Main Assumptions:**
  – Threats come from anywhere in the network
  – Each host can be uniquely and securely identified
  – Security could be applied in one or more of the following layers: network, transport and application

• **Main Drawbacks:**
  – Complexity
  – Uniqueness and secured identification of hosts is not trivial
  – Policy updates have to be accomplished in an efficient manner
  – A compromised host still is a problem
  – Is PDP dependant: more complexity to address this
Host-based Security Model (V)

• **Main Advantages:**
  – Protects against internal attacks
  – Don’t depend on where the host is connected
  – Still maintain the centralized control
  – Enables the end-2-end communication model, both secured or not
  – Better decision could be taken based on host-specific info.
  – Enables a better collection of audit info
IPv6 Issues (I)

1. **end-2-end**
   - Any host must be reachable from anywhere. NAT/Proxy is not desired.

2. **Encrypted Traffic**
   - For example IPsec ESP Transport Mode Traffic

3. **Mobility**
   - Both Mobile IP and the increase of “portable” IP devices will mean they will be in “out-of-control” networks

4. **Neighbor Discovery**
   - RA, RS, NA, NS and Redirect Messages could be used in a malicious way -> SEND
IPv6 Issues (II)

5. Addresses
   - Much more addresses -> hosts with more than one, difficult brute force scans
   - More human error prone
   - Randomly generated addresses
   - Link-local and Multicast Addresses
   - Multihoming

6. Embedded Devices
   - Big amount of devices with almost no resources to perform security tasks -> should be taken into account in a possible solution

7. Routing Header

8. Home Address Option
Open Issues

• Need Feedback on:
  – Should transition mechanisms be addressed? (already done in Pekka Savola’s draft)
  – The distributed Security (DS) model is the best to address the future needs?
  – Could IPv6 and DS be separated?

• Current Discussion about:
  – Good to go for an IPv6 issues checklist document for the security people?
  – Go for a deeper DS analysis
Thanks!

- Questions?