



Compulsory Data Retention: Issues for CSIRTs

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Why Now?









- Who wants data retention and why
 - Council of Ministers crime and security (terrorism)
 - Commission distort markets equally
 - Parliament wants to be consulted
- Who doesn't
 - European Data Protection Supervisor
 - EC Article 29 Working Party
 - General data retention not clearly justified
 - Retention periods not convincing
 - Safeguards not adequate
- Draft agreed Dec.2005 (not yet published)



Likely Content of Directive









- Concerns traffic data, i.e.
 - Users' (real-world) identities and addresses
 - Login times, DHCP logs, etc.
 - Time, source, destination, etc. of communications
 - But NOT content of them
- Compulsory collection
 - By specified types of networks
 - Of data about specified services (see next slide)
 - Whether you need the data yourself or not
- Compulsory retention: 6 months to 2 years
 - Must disclose to competent authorities "without undue delay"
- Need to log and report access requests



Which Records?









- Internet e-mail
 - Source IP, userID and subscriber details
 - Destination userID and subscriber details
- Internet telephony
 - Source IP, userID, (number if passed to PTTY) and subscriber details
 - Destination userID, number and subscriber details
- All
 - Logon and logoff times to Internet and service
 - "Internet service used"
 - Calling phone number or DSL endpoint



Definition Problems







- What is/isn't "Internet e-mail"?
- What is/isn't "Internet telephony"?
- What if you only move the packets?
 - Must retain data you "generate or process"
- What about IM? IRC? Webmail? VoIP? Skype? ...
- Wording relates to domestic ISP connection
 - Not clear how it applies to business or NREN



Lost in Translation?









- Directive must be transposed into national laws
- Lots of flexibility/ambiguity for individual governments
 - Duration of retention (6 months to 2 years)
 - Which networks are included ("public" ones)
 - Whether new logs must be created
 - Which (if any) costs can be recovered
 - Purpose/process for authorised access
 - Just "serious crime" or any crime? And how to control this?
- Likely to be much uncertainty in short term
- And significant differences in long term



How are CSIRTs affected?









- Good news: should be more logfiles out there
 - But may not be lawful for you to use them
 - Use only permitted for serious crime investigations
 - Some countries restrict use of any data about crimes
 - How to separate it from routine logging?
- Bad news: logfiles are interesting
 - To good guys (so expect more requests)
 - To bad guys (so expect more attacks, and fake requests)
 - To interested parties (can MPAA demand them?)
- Bad news: now they do know you are a dog!



What should CSIRTs do?









Minimum

- Work out whether your organisation will be covered
- Advise on secure/safe ways to store/search/access data
- Ensure requests for disclosure are verified

Recommended

- Work with legislators to produce practical/effective law
- Work with enforcers to ensure enforcement doesn't make a network we can't or don't want to use
- Security of storage and access processes are critical