# 12.4.5 respond to social engineering exploits

12.4.5 respond to social engineering exploits is a critical aspect of modern cybersecurity strategies aimed at protecting organizations and individuals from manipulative tactics used by attackers. Social engineering exploits leverage psychological manipulation to trick victims into divulging confidential information or performing actions that compromise security. Effective response to such exploits requires a combination of awareness, detection, immediate action, and long-term mitigation strategies. This article delves into the key components of responding to social engineering attacks, including recognizing common exploit techniques, implementing incident response protocols, and establishing preventive measures. Understanding these elements is essential for cybersecurity professionals tasked with safeguarding sensitive data and maintaining organizational integrity. The following sections provide a comprehensive overview of how to identify, respond to, and mitigate the risks posed by social engineering exploits.

- Understanding Social Engineering Exploits
- Detection and Identification of Social Engineering Attacks
- Immediate Response Strategies
- Incident Reporting and Documentation
- Mitigation and Recovery Measures
- Training and Awareness Programs

# **Understanding Social Engineering Exploits**

Social engineering exploits are deceptive techniques used by attackers to manipulate individuals into compromising security. These exploits often bypass technical defenses by targeting the human element, exploiting trust, fear, urgency, or curiosity. Common forms of social engineering include phishing, pretexting, baiting, tailgating, and quid pro quo attacks. Each method involves convincing a targeted individual to reveal sensitive information, such as passwords or financial details, or to perform actions like installing malware or granting unauthorized access.

Recognizing the psychological basis of social engineering is vital for effective response. Attackers frequently use impersonation, urgency, or authority to create a sense of legitimacy. Understanding these tactics helps organizations develop robust defenses and ensures that employees remain vigilant against manipulation attempts.

#### **Common Types of Social Engineering Exploits**

Several social engineering techniques are prevalent in cybersecurity incidents. Some of the most frequently encountered exploits include:

- **Phishing:** Sending fraudulent emails or messages to trick recipients into revealing credentials or clicking malicious links.
- **Pretexting:** Creating a fabricated scenario to obtain information or access, often by impersonating a trusted entity.
- **Baiting:** Offering something enticing, such as free software or media, to lure victims into compromising actions.
- **Tailgating:** Gaining physical access by following authorized personnel into restricted areas without proper credentials.
- **Quid Pro Quo:** Offering a service or benefit in exchange for information or access, exploiting willingness to cooperate.

# **Detection and Identification of Social Engineering Attacks**

Early detection of social engineering exploits is crucial to minimize potential damage. Organizations must establish monitoring mechanisms and educate employees to recognize suspicious behavior and communication. Indicators of social engineering attacks include unexpected requests for sensitive information, unsolicited emails with urgent demands, inconsistencies in communication styles, and attempts to bypass standard security procedures.

Technological tools can assist in identifying potential social engineering attempts. Email filtering systems, anomaly detection software, and behavioral analytics help flag unusual activities that may indicate an exploit in progress. However, human vigilance remains an indispensable component of detection.

### Signs of a Social Engineering Exploit

Employees and security teams should be alert to several telltale signs that may indicate an ongoing social engineering attack:

- Unsolicited communications requesting confidential information.
- Messages that create a sense of urgency or pressure to act immediately.
- Requests for credentials or access outside normal protocols.
- Spelling or grammatical errors in official-looking correspondence.
- Unusual sender addresses or phone numbers that do not match known contacts.

### **Immediate Response Strategies**

Responding promptly and effectively to detected social engineering exploits is essential to limit impact. Immediate actions include isolating affected systems, suspending compromised accounts, and halting any ongoing malicious activities. Communication protocols should be activated to inform relevant personnel and stakeholders without causing unnecessary alarm.

Establishing a predefined incident response plan tailored to social engineering scenarios enhances rapid containment and recovery. This plan should outline clear roles, responsibilities, and escalation pathways to ensure coordinated and efficient response efforts.

#### Steps to Take After Identifying an Exploit

The following steps form the core of an immediate response to social engineering incidents:

- 1. **Containment:** Limit the scope of the exploit by disconnecting affected devices or accounts from the network.
- 2. **Verification:** Confirm the legitimacy of suspicious requests or communications through independent channels.
- 3. **Notification:** Alert the incident response team and management about the potential breach.
- 4. **Investigation:** Gather evidence and analyze the exploit vector to understand the attack methodology.
- 5. **Remediation:** Implement corrective actions to neutralize the threat and prevent recurrence.

### **Incident Reporting and Documentation**

Accurate and comprehensive documentation of social engineering exploits is fundamental for post-incident analysis and future prevention. Incident reports should detail the nature of the attack, affected systems or data, response actions taken, and lessons learned. This information supports legal compliance, forensic investigations, and continuous improvement of security policies.

Standardized reporting procedures ensure consistency and facilitate effective communication among internal teams and external authorities when necessary. Maintaining a secure and accessible repository of incident records aids in trend analysis and threat intelligence sharing.

#### **Essential Elements of Incident Reports**

An effective incident report for social engineering exploits typically includes:

- Description of the exploit type and attack vector.
- Date and time of detection and response activities.

- Systems, data, or personnel affected by the exploit.
- Actions taken to contain and remediate the threat.
- Recommendations for preventing similar incidents in the future.

### **Mitigation and Recovery Measures**

Mitigating the impact of social engineering exploits involves both technical and organizational strategies. Strengthening authentication mechanisms, such as implementing multi-factor authentication (MFA), reduces the risk of credential compromise. Regular software updates and patches limit vulnerabilities that attackers might exploit alongside social engineering tactics.

Recovery efforts focus on restoring normal operations, validating system integrity, and addressing any data breaches. This process may include resetting passwords, reissuing access credentials, and conducting thorough security audits. Continuous monitoring post-incident helps detect any lingering threats or secondary attacks.

#### **Preventative Technologies and Policies**

Organizations can employ several tools and policies to mitigate social engineering risks:

- Multi-Factor Authentication: Adds layers of verification beyond passwords.
- Access Controls: Limit user privileges to necessary functions only.
- **Regular Security Assessments:** Identify and address potential weaknesses.
- Email and Web Filtering: Block malicious content and phishing attempts.
- Data Encryption: Protect sensitive information from unauthorized access.

## **Training and Awareness Programs**

Human factors remain the most significant vulnerability in social engineering exploits. Comprehensive training and awareness programs equip employees with the knowledge to recognize and resist manipulation attempts. Regular simulated phishing exercises and security workshops reinforce best practices and promote a security-conscious culture.

Effective programs also emphasize reporting mechanisms, encouraging personnel to promptly report suspicious activities without fear of reprisal. Ongoing education ensures that the workforce adapts to evolving social engineering tactics and contributes proactively to organizational defense.

## **Key Components of Effective Training**

Successful social engineering training programs typically include:

- Identification of common social engineering methods and indicators.
- Guidance on verifying requests and communications.
- Procedures for reporting suspected exploits.
- Regular updates reflecting the latest threat landscape.
- Engagement through interactive simulations and real-world scenarios.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What is social engineering in the context of cybersecurity?

Social engineering is a manipulation technique that exploits human error to gain private information, access, or valuables by tricking individuals into breaking normal security procedures.

#### What are common types of social engineering attacks?

Common types include phishing, pretexting, baiting, tailgating, and impersonation, all designed to deceive individuals into divulging confidential information or granting unauthorized access.

# How can organizations effectively respond to social engineering exploits?

Organizations can respond by implementing comprehensive security awareness training, enforcing strict access controls, conducting regular security assessments, and establishing clear reporting procedures for suspected social engineering attempts.

# Why is employee training crucial in mitigating social engineering exploits?

Because social engineering targets human vulnerabilities, educating employees to recognize and respond appropriately to such tactics significantly reduces the risk of successful exploits.

# What role does incident response play in handling social engineering attacks?

Incident response involves promptly identifying, containing, and mitigating social engineering incidents to minimize damage, recover compromised systems, and prevent future attacks.

## How can multi-factor authentication (MFA) help in responding to social engineering exploits?

MFA adds an extra layer of security by requiring additional verification beyond passwords, making it harder for attackers to gain unauthorized access even if they obtain credentials through social engineering.

# What steps should an individual take if they suspect they are targeted by a social engineering attack?

They should avoid sharing sensitive information, verify the identity of the requester through independent means, report the incident to their organization's security team, and follow established security protocols.

#### How do organizations detect social engineering attempts?

Detection involves monitoring for unusual behaviors, analyzing logs for suspicious activities, encouraging employees to report suspicious communications, and using security tools that flag potential phishing or impersonation attempts.

# What is the significance of having a clear policy on responding to social engineering exploits?

A clear policy ensures that all employees understand their roles and responsibilities, standardizes response procedures, and helps organizations react swiftly and effectively to minimize impact.

# How can simulated social engineering attacks improve an organization's response capabilities?

Simulated attacks, such as phishing tests, help assess employee awareness, identify vulnerabilities, and provide practical training, thereby strengthening the overall defense against real social engineering exploits.

#### **Additional Resources**

- $1. \, Social \, Engineering: The \, Science \, of \, Human \, Hacking$
- This book explores the psychological manipulation techniques used by social engineers to exploit human vulnerabilities. It provides readers with real-world examples and case studies, helping security professionals understand how to recognize and respond to social engineering attacks. The author also offers practical advice on building awareness and defenses against such exploits.
- 2. *Unmasking the Social Engineer: The Human Element of Security*Focusing on the human factors behind social engineering, this book delves into the methods attackers use to manipulate individuals and organizations. It outlines strategies for detecting, mitigating, and responding to social engineering exploits effectively. The content is valuable for both cybersecurity experts and general users aiming to strengthen their security posture.

3. Cybersecurity Awareness and Social Engineering Defense

A comprehensive guide to educating employees and organizations about social engineering threats, this book emphasizes the importance of awareness and training. It covers various attack vectors such as phishing, pretexting, and baiting, and provides actionable steps to respond promptly and effectively to incidents. The book also includes templates for incident response plans tailored to social engineering.

- 4. Phishing Exposed: The Art of Deception and Response
- This title focuses specifically on phishing attacks, one of the most common social engineering exploits. It offers insights into how phishing campaigns are crafted and how victims can be deceived. The book also discusses detection techniques, response protocols, and recovery measures to minimize damage from phishing incidents.
- 5. Human Hacking: Win Friends, Influence People, and Leave Them Vulnerable
  This book takes a deep dive into the tactics used by social engineers to build trust and manipulate targets. It combines psychological theories with practical examples to explain why social engineering works so well. The author provides guidance on how to recognize manipulation attempts and respond appropriately to protect sensitive information.
- 6. Incident Response to Social Engineering Attacks

Focusing on the response aspect of social engineering, this book outlines step-by-step procedures for handling incidents involving human manipulation. It covers identification, containment, eradication, and recovery phases, tailored to social engineering scenarios. The book also highlights the importance of communication and coordination among security teams during an attack.

- 7. The Social Engineer's Playbook: Strategies for Defense and Response
  This book offers a tactical approach to understanding and combating social engineering threats. It
  includes detailed scenarios and playbooks for organizations to prepare and respond to various social
  engineering exploits. Readers will find practical tools for assessment, detection, and incident
  management.
- 8. *Inside the Mind of a Social Engineer: Psychological Insights and Countermeasures*By analyzing the mindset and motives of social engineers, this book provides valuable perspective on why attacks occur. It discusses psychological triggers and vulnerabilities exploited in social engineering exploits. The author suggests countermeasures and response techniques that incorporate behavioral science principles.
- 9. Defending Against Social Engineering: Policies, Procedures, and Response Plans
  This book emphasizes the organizational framework needed to combat social engineering attacks effectively. It guides readers through developing policies, training programs, and incident response plans focused on social engineering threats. The content is designed to help companies build resilience and respond quickly to minimize impact.

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12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Hacking the Human Mr Ian Mann, 2012-09-28 Ian Mann's Hacking the Human highlights the main sources of risk from social engineering and draws on psychological models to explain the basis for human vulnerabilities. Offering more than a simple checklist to follow, the book provides a rich mix of examples, applied research and practical solutions for security and IT professionals that enable you to create and develop a security solution that is most appropriate for your organization.

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the digital age.

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Responding Faithfully to Generation X Rev. Dr. Christopher Doyle, 2022-07-12 The research, writing and analysis in the pages of this work show the story of how Generation X grew-up during one of the greatest periods of technological, social, political, economic and educational change in US history. Included in that story is how the greater percentage of them grew-up in the church, but then walked away en masse. Today, Generation X is the smallest percentage of Main Line and Catholic Church membership, while the overwhelming majority of church membership is made up of an aging population of Baby Boomers and Silent Generation folk. In ten year's time, what will be the state of the church when many of the current membership has passed on to eternal life, or are no longer able to do what it is that they're doing today? Generation X could well be the answer to much of the solution. Generation X is generally at a more comfortable place in their lives and are asking the questions about the meaning of their lives while considering issues of mortality. Yet at the same time, they're having now to care for parents, grandchildren, and for many Gen Xers, their own children still. They're busy and committed, but they're also spiritually hungry. Having had a relationship at one point in their lives, they're not completely foreign to what the church can be, but the ball is really in the church's court. How the church chooses to respond to Generation X could mean life, or church closure. It's a conversation that needs to take place, and that conversation begins here.

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: An Overview Of E-Market And Cyber Threats Dr. Vivek Rastogi, Dr. Monika Rastogi, 2025-04-02 This book offers a comprehensive overview of the dynamic landscape where e-markets intersect with cyber threats. It delves into the evolution of digital commerce, exploring the opportunities and challenges presented by online markets. From the proliferation of e-commerce platforms to the rise of digital currencies, it examines the transformative impact of technology on business transactions. Concurrently, it scrutinizes the ever-present risks posed by cyber threats, ranging from data breaches to online fraud. Through insightful analysis and real-world examples, the book navigates the intricate relationship between e-markets and cyber threats, providing valuable insights for individuals and organizations seeking to navigate this complex digital terrain.

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Web Penetration Testing with Kali Linux Juned Ahmed Ansari, 2015-11-26 Build your defense against web attacks with Kali Linux 2.0 About This Book Gain a deep understanding of the flaws in web applications and exploit them in a practical manner Get hands-on web application hacking experience with a range of tools in Kali Linux 2.0 Develop the practical skills required to master multiple tools in the Kali Linux 2.0 toolkit Who This Book Is For If you are already working as a network penetration tester and want to expand your knowledge of web application hacking, then this book tailored for you. Those who are interested in learning more about the Kali Sana tools that are used to test web applications will find this book a thoroughly useful and interesting guide. What You Will Learn Set up your lab with Kali Linux 2.0 Identify the difference between hacking a web application and network hacking Understand the different techniques used to identify the flavor of web applications Expose vulnerabilities present in web servers and their applications using server-side attacks Use SQL and cross-site scripting (XSS) attacks Check for XSS flaws using the burp suite proxy Find out about the mitigation techniques used to negate the effects of the Injection and Blind SQL attacks In Detail Kali Linux 2.0 is the new generation of the industry-leading BackTrack Linux penetration testing and security auditing Linux distribution. It contains several hundred tools aimed at various information security tasks such as penetration testing, forensics, and reverse engineering. At the beginning of the book, you will be introduced to the concepts of hacking and penetration testing and will get to know about the tools used in Kali Linux 2.0 that relate to web application hacking. Then, you will gain a deep understanding of SQL and command injection flaws and ways to exploit the flaws. Moving on, you will get to know more about scripting and input validation flaws, AJAX, and the security issues related to AJAX. At the end of the book, you will use an automated technique called fuzzing to be able to identify flaws in a web application. Finally, you will understand the web application

vulnerabilities and the ways in which they can be exploited using the tools in Kali Linux 2.0. Style and approach This step-by-step guide covers each topic with detailed practical examples. Every concept is explained with the help of illustrations using the tools available in Kali Linux 2.0.

- 12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Cybercrime in Social Media Pradeep Kumar Roy, Asis Kumar Tripathy, 2023-06-16 This reference text presents the important components for grasping the potential of social computing with an emphasis on concerns, challenges, and benefits of the social platform in depth. Features: Detailed discussion on social-cyber issues, including hate speech, cyberbullying, and others Discusses usefulness of social platforms for societal needs Includes framework to address the social issues with their implementations Covers fake news and rumor detection models Describes sentimental analysis of social posts with advanced learning techniques The book is ideal for undergraduate, postgraduate, and research students who want to learn about the issues, challenges, and solutions of social platforms in depth.
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12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Cyber Security Awareness, Challenges And Issues Mr. Sanjay Vaid, 2023-09-27 The book titled Cybersecurity Awareness, Challenges, and Issues delves into the critical and ever-evolving realm of cybersecurity, focusing on the importance of awareness, the persistent challenges faced by individuals and organizations, and the complex issues shaping the cybersecurity landscape. This comprehensive work serves as a valuable resource for cybersecurity professionals, educators, policymakers, and anyone seeking a deeper understanding of the digital threats and defenses that define our modern world. The book begins by emphasizing the paramount significance of cybersecurity awareness. It elucidates how a lack of awareness can make individuals and organizations vulnerable to an array of cyber threats. Through real-world examples and case studies, readers gain insights into the consequences of falling victim to cyberattacks, such as data breaches, identity theft, and financial losses. The book highlights the role of awareness campaigns and educational programs in equipping people with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and mitigate these threats. It underscores the need for fostering a cybersecurity-conscious culture that permeates every level of society, from schools and workplaces to government institutions. As it delves deeper, the book explores the multifaceted challenges in the cybersecurity landscape. It elucidates the human factor, illustrating how human error, such as clicking on malicious links or falling prey to social engineering tactics, continues to be a prevalent challenge. It discusses the ever-evolving threat landscape, characterized by increasingly sophisticated cyberattacks and emerging technologies like IoT and artificial intelligence, which introduce new vulnerabilities. The book addresses the resource constraints faced by smaller organizations and individuals, highlighting the need for accessible and cost-effective cybersecurity solutions. Furthermore, the book navigates through the complex issues shaping the field of cybersecurity. It grapples with the delicate balance between cybersecurity and individual privacy, shedding light on the challenges of data collection and surveillance in a digital age. It delves into the intricacies of regulatory compliance, offering insights into the complexities of adhering to data protection laws and cybersecurity standards.

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: IT Convergence and Security 2017 Kuinam J. Kim, Hyuncheol Kim, Nakhoon Baek, 2017-09-03 This is the second volume of proceedings including selected papers from the International Conference on IT Convergence and Security (ICITCS) 2017, presenting a snapshot of the latest issues encountered in the field. It explores how IT convergence and security issues are core to most current research, industrial and commercial activities and consists of contributions covering topics including machine learning & deep learning, communication and signal processing, computer vision and applications, future network technology, artificial intelligence and robotics. ICITCS 2017 is the latest in a series of highly successful International Conferences on IT Convergence and Security, previously held in Prague, Czech Republic (2016), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2015), Beijing, China (2014), Macau, China (2013), Pyeong Chang, Korea (2012), and Suwon, Korea (2011).

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Cybersecurity Threats and Incident Response: Real-World Case Studies on Network Security, Data Breaches, and Risk Mitigation Athira C M, Joel John, Ritam Maity, Ashvita Koli, Anina Abraham, Vivek S, Lobo Elvis Elias, Jithu Varghese, Gokul S Unnikrishnan, Eileen Maria Tom, Glory Reji, Joel Abhishek, Gebin George, 2025-08-07 Digital globalization changes our world vastly, but it also brings more cyber threats. Businesses and institutions including banks, hospitals, governments, and schools grapple

with threats ranging from data breaches and ransomware to network intrusions. In the current changing landscape, the analytical ability to identify threats, take assertive action, and develop resilience are not optional but are in fact necessary. This book, Cybersecurity Threats and Incident Response: Real-World Case Studies on Network Security and Incident Response, helps to fill the void of information in the field of cybersecurity by health systems. Unlike other textbooks, which generally reflect specific theoretical points of view, this book offers a balanced approach between theory and practice. Each case offers technical background and context, as well as organizational impact and lessons learned. Readers should be able to get past precedent aspects and to the core of what a cyber incident looks like in practice as opposed to in textbook. The book is divided into three major sections. The first covers network security, highlighting vulnerabilities and attacks that threaten the core of digital communication. The second looks at data breaches, where sensitive information is stolen, leaked, or misused, often resulting in long-term effects. The third focuses on risk mitigation and incident response, presenting examples of strategies organizations have successfully or unsuccessfully used to contain threats and recover from crises. This resource is intended for students, professionals, and decision-makers alike. By studying real-world cases, readers can understand attack sequences, evaluate response measures, and develop actionable strategies to improve security. More broadly, the book stresses that cybersecurity is not solely technical; it also involves human judgment, organizational readiness, and strategic foresight. Ultimately, this book serves both as a guide and a learning tool, encouraging readers to learn from past incidents and apply those lessons to create a safer digital future.

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12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Decision and Game Theory for Security Linda Bushnell, Radha Poovendran, Tamer Başar, 2018-10-22 The 28 revised full papers presented together with 8 short papers were carefully reviewed and selected from 44 submissions. Among the topical areas covered were: use of game theory; control theory; and mechanism design for security and privacy; decision making for cybersecurity and security requirements engineering; security and privacy for the Internet-of-Things; cyber-physical systems; cloud computing; resilient control systems, and critical infrastructure; pricing; economic incentives; security investments, and cyber insurance for dependable and secure systems; risk assessment and security risk management; security and privacy of wireless and mobile communications, including user location privacy; sociotechnological and behavioral approaches to security; deceptive technologies in cybersecurity and privacy; empirical and experimental studies with game, control, or optimization theory-based analysis for security and privacy; and adversarial machine learning and crowdsourcing, and the role of artificial intelligence in system security.

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Counterintelligence in a Cyber World Paul

A. Watters, 2023-06-26 This book provides an outline of the major challenges and methodologies for applying classic counterintelligence theory into the cybersecurity domain. This book also covers operational security approaches to cyber, alongside detailed descriptions of contemporary cybersecurity threats, in the context of psychological and criminal profiling of cybercriminals. Following an analysis of the plethora of counterespionage techniques that can be mapped to the cyber realm, the mechanics of undertaking technical surveillance are reviewed. A range of approaches to web and forum surveillance are outlined as a virtual addition to traditional video and audio surveillance captured regarding targets. This includes a description of the advances in Artificial Intelligence, predictive analysis, support for the disciplines of digital forensics, behavioural analysis and Open Source Intelligence (OSINT). The rise of disinformation and misinformation and the veracity of widespread false flag claims are discussed at length, within the broader context of legal and ethical issues in cyber counterintelligence. This book is designed for professionals working in the intelligence, law enforcement or cybersecurity domains to further explore and examine the contemporary intersection of these disciplines. Students studying cybersecurity, justice, law, intelligence, criminology or related fields may also find the book useful as a reference volume, while instructors could utilise the whole volume or individual chapters as a secondary textbook or required reading.

12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits: Decision and Game Theory for Security Branislav Bošanský, Cleotilde Gonzalez, Stefan Rass, Arunesh Sinha, 2021-10-30 This book constitutes the refereed proceedings of the 12th International Conference on Decision and Game Theory for Security, GameSec 2021, held in October 2021. Due to COVID-19 pandemic the conference was held virtually. The 20 full papers presented were carefully reviewed and selected from 37 submissions. The papers focus on Theoretical Foundations in Equilibrium Computation; Machine Learning and Game Theory; Ransomware; Cyber-Physical Systems Security; Innovations in Attacks and Defenses.

**12 4 5 respond to social engineering exploits:** Responses to Cyber Terrorism . Centre of Excellence - Defence Against Terrorism, Ankara, Turkey, 2008-02-28 The one issue touched on repeatedly by the contributors of this publication is the difficulty of arriving at a definition of cyber terrorism. A NATO Office of Security document cautiously defines it as "a cyber attack using or exploiting computer or communication networks to cause sufficient destruction or disruption to generate fear or to intimidate a society into an ideological goal." But the cyber world is surely remote from what is recognized as terrorism: the bloody attacks and ethnic conflicts, or, more precisely, the politically-motivated "intention to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or non-combatants with the purpose of intimidating a population or compelling a government ..." (UN report, Freedom from Fear, 2005). It is hard to think of an instance when computer code has physically harmed anyone. Yet a number of contributors show that exactly such events, potentially on a huge scale, can be expected. For example attacks on critical infrastructure, in particular on SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems which control physical processes in places like chemical factories, dams and power stations. A part of the publication examines cyber terrorism in the proper sense of the term and how to respond in terms of technology, awareness, and legal/political measures. However, there is also the related question of responding to the terrorist presence on the Internet (so-called 'terrorist contents'). Here the Internet is not a weapon, but an important tool for terrorists' communications (coordination, training, recruiting), and information gathering on the targets of planned attacks.

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