



Your Partner For Success

Securing Your Business for the Future

APPLICATION PENETRATION SUSCEPTIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Client's Challenge

Organizations today have increased their customer satisfaction by making themselves readily accessible and constantly connected. When one of the premier certified public accounting and advisory firms in the country turned its attention to determining how to assess the protective controls around their Internet-based information and customer portal, they turned to TBG Security for help in meeting industry and regulatory compliance requirements.

The company had become in-scope for PCI DSS compliance and needed expertise in assessing the attack susceptibility of the platform as well as validation of their infrastructure architecture. There were several challenges imposed by the client including:

- The test was to be performed using only information gleaned from publicly accessible sources.
- All efforts were performed under the charter of driving toward PCI Requirement 11 compliance.
- Uncover as many flaws in as many layers as time and technology allows with minimal or no disruption to operations.
- Reports had to comply with PCI standards, yet still had to be disseminated in such a way that remediation could be carried out in a cohesive, expeditious and actionable manner.

Impact on client's business

TBG's methodology for application penetration susceptibility testing in a mission critical environment has yielded not only compliance with mandates but also more manageable systems, policies and procedures which have eased the burden of the individuals in charge of defending corporate assets. This cooperative approach fits nicely into the client's broader corporate governance initiatives. TBG Security was able to produce actionable assets which met the requirements of both internal and external consumers. While the goal was to meet PCI DSS requirements, the customer is now in a much better position to guard the information entrusted to them by their customers. Commodity services labeled as meeting PCI requirements are not able to provide the level of service necessary to directly ease the customers and stakeholders' minds.

TBG Security Solution

TBG's proven application penetration assessment methods met the challenge head on. We first tested for known issues as best practices dictate. We then delved into the underlying technologies that were discovered during the initial phase. The flexible assessment approach was molded to the client's environment and yielded:

- Applying best practices assessment techniques for each device and application based on the specific technology discovered.
- Once all scanning had been performed, PCI reports were generated to depict the environment from an external audit perspective.
- Permutation of techniques not performed by automated tools.
- Overlaying of vulnerabilities in order to escalate and maximize the effectiveness of a flaw against an asset or trusted system.
- Identification of all direct and compensatory controls for all off the identified assets and their respective vulnerabilities.
- Working with management and IT to develop IT/Security remediation policies and procedures, as well as communication strategies for implementing the necessary application and environmental changes.