Security Lessons Learned From Our FSI Customers

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FSI is a business like any other

- ... except they are a high profile target
- Most security problems are not specific to FSI
- The Large Enterprise Problem
 - Hundreds of thousands of user machines
 - Tens of thousands of servers
 - Thousands of network devices
 - Petabytes of storage
 - 20 TB/day transaction data
 - "an order of magnitude more network log data"
 - Complex, labor-intensive processes
 - Not static, constantly changing
 - Multi-national organizations dealing with local regulations
 - Even basic questions such as, "What is on my network?" are exceedingly difficult to answer in practice.



Major initiatives at our FSI customers

- Extended enterprise
 - How do you validate the security of your partners, suppliers, customers?
- Identity and entitlement management (SSO, role management, provisioning/deprovisioning)
 - Extremely difficult to deploy and maintain
- Data protection
 - Portable media
 - Laptop encryption
- Risk Management
- Rationalizing alphabet soup of standards & regulations
 - CoBIT, COSO, ISO2700x, ISO17799, SOX, Basel II, GLBA, PCI, ...



Business Drivers

• FSI is fundamentally an information business

- They don't manufacture anything
- They aren't primarily a services business
- Their business is information
- Growth is primarily inorganic
 - Desperately seeking ways to innovate



The problem with regulatory driven security



- There is a tension between what the regulators want and what the business is trying to achieve
- Strong trend to move from being regulatory driven, to being risk driven
- CRA grand challenge of "development of quantitative informationsystems risk management that is at least as good as quantitative financial risk management within the next decade" is more relevant than ever.



IT Security Risk Management Best Practices



Different methodologies advocate different approaches: by threat, vulnerability, asset, etc.

 How do you know you have the right decomposition? Estimates are more qualitative than quantitative

- Typically bucketed into low, medium, high.
- Many-to-many relationship between controls/ mitigants and potential risks
- Residual risk is typically done on a "line item" basis.
- Poor ability to account for composite controls
- Difficult to optimize over entire security portfolio



Based on

Octave, FAIR, NIST, FRAAP

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Best Practices Typical Heat Map Approach



			Likelihood		
Impact	immediate	imminent	occasional	sporadic	rare
level 4	critical	high	high	medium	medium
level 3	high	high	medium	medium	low
level 2	high	medium	medium	low	low
level 1	medium	medium	low	low	low



