

Adversarial Cyber Developmental Test & Evaluation



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Topics

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- Levels of Cyber Testing
- DT&E Requirement
- Value of Adversarial Cyber DT&E
- MCTSSA Cyber Testing
- System of Systems Adversarial Cyber Testing at MCTSSA (A Use Case)
- Cyber Testing Approach
- Major Findings
- Mission Impacts



Background

- Historically, programmatic cybersecurity actions have been centered on IA scans (IV&V process)
 - IV&V has significant limitations
- No consistent application of host protection software across systems
 - Functionality is given priority over security
- Penetration testing has predominantly been an OT and operational activity and does not involve all programs/systems



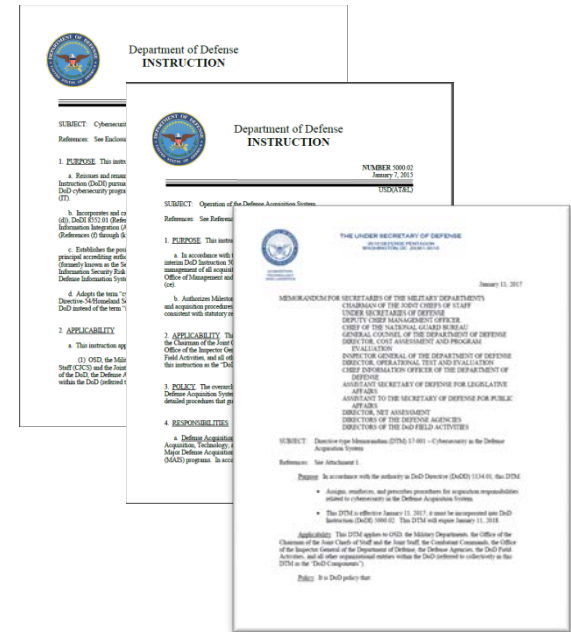
Levels of Cyber Testing

- IV&V
 - Non-destructive evaluation of a single system at a time
 - Common software and operating systems only
 - Focuses on design and functional requirements for individual systems
 - Verify STIGs, policies, and patch compliance
- DT&E (Developmental Test and Evaluation) Adversarial Cyber Assessment
 - Destructive and non-destructive exploitation
 - Single system or system of systems in Mission Context
 - Assesses custom software along with operating systems and hardware
 - Focuses on exploiting vulnerabilities
- OT&E Adversarial Cyber Assessment
 - Non-destructive exploitation
 - System of systems in mission context
 - Conducted in an operational environment with certified red teams
 - Applies social engineering
 - Focuses on identifying vulnerabilities



DT&E Requirement

- **DoDI 8500.01, Cybersecurity, March 14, 2014;** establishes that cybersecurity must be fully integrated into the system lifecycle.
- **DoDI 5000.02, Operation of the Defense Acquisition System, January 7, 2015;** includes regulatory cybersecurity requirements for SE and DT&E; establishes that cybersecurity RMF steps and activities should be initiated as early as possible and fully integrated into the DoD acquisition process.



- **DTM 17-001, Cybersecurity in the Defense Acquisition System, January 11, 2017;** directs Adversarial Cybersecurity DT&E to “*Conduct a cybersecurity DT&E event using realistic threat exploitation techniques in representative operating environments and scenarios to exercise critical missions within a cyber-contested environment to identify any vulnerabilities.*”



Value of Adversarial Cyber DT&E

- Adversarial cyber DT&E provides destructive and non-destructive penetration testing prior to OT and system fielding
 - Adversarial cyber DT&E can be tailored to the systems under test (SUT) to accommodate assessment of custom software and hardware, as well as evaluation through layers of defense.
 - Reduced risk to the program and the operational commanders
- The developmental test environment is not restricted to simply identifying vulnerabilities
 - Allows for full exploitation of vulnerabilities
 - Highlights true impact to operational mission environment
- Adversarial cyber DT&E provides program decision makers critical information for risk management and vulnerability mitigation



MCTSSA Adversarial Cyber Testing

- MCTSSA conducts DT for USMC C4 programs of record
 - Adversarial cyber testing was added to existing DT events beginning in 2014
- MCTSSA test environments are configurable, scalable, and operationally relevant
 - Operationally relevant environments require a System of Systems approach
- Mission funded - no cost to USMC programs of record (PORs)
- Focus is on the equipment, not the operators
 - Addresses areas that PORs can control

MCTSSA MISSION

MCTSSA provides test and evaluation, engineering, and operating forces technical support for USMC and Joint Service command, control, computer, communications (C4) systems throughout all acquisition life-cycle phases



System of Systems

Adversarial Cyber Testing at MCTSSA

(A Use Case)

- USMC initiative to evaluate changes to the Marine Corps Enterprise Network (MCEN) prior to implementation (both garrison and tactical)
- In 4th quarter FY16, we conducted a System of Systems (SoS) test to evaluate enterprise performance for USMC tactical network
 - Fires and common operational picture (COP) missions
- This was the initial SoS adversarial cyber event
 - Previous events were individual system level



Cyber Test Approach

- Constructed an Adversarial Cyber Framework
 - Methodical and repeatable approach
 - Emulated a near sider threat
 - Used common tools
 - Cyber team capable of presenting an advanced (nation-state) threat
 - Scored vulnerabilities using Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS) 3.0
- Focus on impacting the tactical missions
 - Via identification and exploitation of network and system vulnerabilities
 - The goal was to Deny, Degrade, and/or Corrupt mission threads
- Cyber attack team had knowledge of the systems under test and network architecture
 - Facilitated shorter test execution timeframe



Major Findings

- New vulnerabilities were identified on systems with current ATOs, including zero-day vulnerabilities
 - This shows that ATO risk is underestimated
- Custom software cyber hygiene issues (passwords, usernames, # of login attempts) controls not enforced or implemented
- Implementations of HBSS are inconsistent across various programs



Mission Impacts

- Fire Missions
 - Significant delay in fire mission processing (>10 min) – *Degrade*
 - Delays were repeatable and led to complete denial of service – *Deny*
 - Ability to crash/shutdown system – *Deny*
- Common Operational Picture
 - Track injection and blocking – *Corrupt*
 - Communication interruption – *Deny and Degrade*
- Network
 - Ability to take control of local domain – *Corrupt*



Questions?

