Network Security and the Science DMZ

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Outline

- Intro to Science DMZ
- Network Security Challenges for Science DMZ
- Network Intelligence Sharing for Science DMZ
- Hands-on with Science DMZ security
What is a network DMZ?

- A "demilitarized zone" or perimeter network that is exposed to the internet.
The Science DMZ* in 1 Slide

Consists of key components, all required:

- “Friction free” network path
  - Highly capable network devices (wire-speed, deep queues)
  - Virtual circuit connectivity option
  - Security policy and enforcement specific to science workflows
  - Located at or near site perimeter if possible

- Dedicated, high-performance Data Transfer Nodes (DTNs)
  - Hardware, operating system, libraries all optimized for transfer
  - Includes optimized data transfer tools such as Globus Online and GridFTP

- Performance measurement/test node
  - perfSONAR

- Engagement with end users

  Details at http://fasterdata.es.net/science-dmz/

* Science DMZ is a trademark of The Energy Sciences Network (ESnet)
Monitoring the Science DMZ - perfSONAR

- http://ps.ncsa.xsede.org/
Network Security Challenges for Science DMZ

- International research collaborations = external users
- Sharing BIG DATA - legitimate network requests can look like attacks
  - striped data transfers look like DoS attack
  - data replication to/from many sites
- Need to avoid the "firewall bottleneck"
- Operating an "open network"
  - University: Science DMZ is a dedicated network area
  - Supercomputer Center: most of the LAN is the Science DMZ
- Access to powerful services: remote job submission, large data transfer
Network Intelligence Sharing for Science DMZ

● Research collaborators use Science DMZs at multiple universities
  ○ Common threats to Science DMZs across many universities
● Share intelligence across Science DMZs to enhance threat detection
  ○ Threats seen in multiple location can provide deployments an edge
● Threat intelligence data can also be used for cyber security research
● Visibility into activity at the perimeter and provide the ability to act on it
  ○ Network monitoring equipment (i.e. taps, aggregators) in high throughput networks
● Result: Enhancing the security of the Science DMZ model
Intelligence Sharing Example

SSH brute force attempt:
srcip 1.1.1.1
<login name list>

Site A

Site B

Site C
Intelligence Sharing Example

SSH brute force attempt: srcip 1.1.1.1
<login name list>

Alert other sites

Site A  Site B  Site C
Central Collection

SSH brute force attempt:
srclp 2.2.2.2
<login name list>

SSH brute force attempt:
srclp 1.1.1.1
<login name list>

Site A

Site B

Site C
SSH brute force attempt: srcip 2.2.2.2
<login name list>

login name list identical

SSH brute force attempt: srcip 1.1.1.1
<login name list>

Site A
Site B
Site C
SSH brute force attempt: srcip 2.2.2.2

<login name list>

login name list identical

New event with increased confidence

SSH brute force attempt: srcip 1.1.1.1

<login name list>

Site A

Site B

Site C
Hands-on with Science DMZ security
More info

- Related videos on CTSC's YouTube channel (https://trustedci.org/webinars)
  - The Science DMZ as a Security Architecture
  - Demystifying Threat Intelligence
- https://fasterdata.es.net/science-dmz/