

In the Boxing Ring

MAR 2024



Network Box Technical News

from **Mark Webb-Johnson**

Chief Technology Officer, Network Box

Welcome to the March 2024 edition of In the **Boxing Ring**

This month, Network Box Red Team's Managing Consultant, Richard Stagg, introduces **Network Box Red Team Services**. Businesses understand the need for "defensive security" very well. They will spend wisely on firewalls, endpoint protection, SIEM, MDM, and whatever else they need to deter attacks, detect breaches, respond and recover. However, it is far less common for an organization to actively hunt for weaknesses that a skilled threat actor could exploit. This is why Network Box is now offering "offensive security" services. On pages 2 to 3, we discuss this in greater detail.

In other news, Network Box Germany has been awarded the TeleTrusT **IT Security made in Germany** trust seal. Additionally, Network Box's **ISO/IEC 27001** certification has been audited and upgraded to the latest standard. And finally, starting this month, Network Box is introducing a new feature titled **Technology Focus**. This monthly feature will highlight a different aspect of Network Box services. For this month, we will be turning the spotlight on **External View Security Scans**.



Mark Webb-Johnson
CTO, Network Box Corporation Ltd.
March 2024

Stay Connected

You can contact us here at Network Box HQ by email: **nbhq@network-box.com**, or drop by our office next time you are in town. You can also keep in touch with us by several social networks:



<https://twitter.com/networkbox>



<https://www.facebook.com/networkbox>
<https://www.facebook.com/networkboxresponse>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/network-box-corporation-limited/>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/NetworkBox>

In this month's issue:

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Seeing Red... Network Box Red Team Services

You may have heard of penetration testing or red teaming, and these terms mean exposing your office or cloud infrastructure or your e-commerce or mobile apps to a well-designed, thorough, safe and controlled attack by our team of skilled, ethical and certified hackers. In our featured article, we discuss this concept of "offensive security" and introduce the new Network Box Red Team Services.

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Network Box Highlights:

- **Network Box Germany:**
TeleTrusT *IT Security made in Germany* trust seal
- **Network Box ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Upgrade**
- **Network Box Technology Focus:**
External View Security Scans



Seeing RED... Network Box Red Team Services

by Richard Stagg
Managing Consultant
Network Box Red Team

My cat just turned sixteen. The day after her traditional birthday sashimi dinner, I took her to see the vet. The checkup was not because of anything wrong; she seemed in excellent health - active, hungry, and playful. We went for a “senior checkup”, and her blood tests revealed a slight but significant – and silent – dip in kidney functions, so now she has a new diet and some supplements.

We do this ourselves, too.

We go for “**executive health checkups**” even when we feel great. It’s reassuring to know that your blood pressure and cholesterol are normal, and you can adjust your behaviour or seek an intervention to fix any hidden problems that might emerge.

This aspect of information security governance, however, is often overlooked. Businesses understand the need for “**defensive security**” very well. They will spend wisely on firewalls, endpoint protection, SIEM, MDM, and whatever else they need to deter attacks, detect breaches, respond and recover. Having arrayed these defences, they can hunker down and await the coming of the unlucky attackers.



Offensive Security

It is far less common for an organisation to actively hunt for weaknesses that a skilled threat actor could exploit. The old cliché that prevention is better than cure is especially true in information security. This is why Network Box is now offering “**offensive security**” services. You may have heard of **penetration testing** or **red teaming**, and these terms simply mean exposing your office or cloud infrastructure or your e-commerce or mobile apps to a well-designed, thorough, safe and controlled attack by our team of skilled, ethical and certified hackers.



**RED
TEAM**



We propose this for the same reason that everyone endorses regular health checks for cats and people: if you go looking for problems, you will find some, and you can quantify and understand your risks and make informed decisions about how to allocate your resources to manage those risks most effectively – before the bad guys turn up and exploit them.

This is not just conjecture. Every ransomware incident response that I have worked on – every single one – showed that the attack vector could have been detected and remediated by offensive security techniques. The unfortunate victims did not plan for such an activity or, in some cases, delayed it, and suddenly it was too late. They were exploited because they did not assess their own weaknesses, and the cost of this failure is always an order of magnitude higher than the cost of the assessment itself.

Consider the impact to your business if your information resources are abruptly encrypted beyond use. Consider the impact to your reputation if your data were to be exfiltrated. With a threat of disclosure hanging over you unless you pay an extortionate ransom. The stress, sleepless nights, news headlines, wasted time, and – above all – the costs arising from these incidents are not inevitable. Offensive security offers the alternative scenario of a deep understanding of your attack surface, and reassurance that your risks are controlled.

If you would like to know more about assessing your “ransomware readiness” or performing a full security work-up on an application, don’t hesitate to contact us for a meeting.

Network Box HIGHLIGHTS



Network Box Germany IT Security Association Germany (TeleTrust)

Network Box Germany has been awarded the TeleTrust **IT Security made in Germany** trust seal by the *German IT Security Association*. The award is a declaration of compliance, in which providers with company headquarters in Germany declare that they offer trustworthy IT security solutions - with no hidden access. Providers further commit that their IT security research and development will take place in Germany and that their solutions meet the requirements of German data protection law.



Trust Seal
www.teletrust.de/itsmig

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Network Box ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Upgrade

Network Box is pleased to announce that the company's **ISO/IEC 27001** (Information security, cybersecurity, and privacy protection) certification has been audited and upgraded to the latest standard by SGS of Switzerland.



Network Box Technology Focus

Did you know...

Network Box provides **Weekly External View Security Scan** reports?

The External View Security Scan helps customers understand their security posture by identifying what hosts and services are exposed to the Internet. Periodically, Network Box performs External View Scans. This includes:

- **Scanning for open UDP or TCP ports** and retrieving welcome banner messages from these reachable services.
- **Service Identification**, based on banner analysis and other fingerprinting technologies.
- **HTTP/HTTPS Identification**, specifically looking for web services.
- **Basic Common Vulnerability Identification**, highlighting Best Practices findings.



For more details, please refer to the *In the Boxing Ring* article:

<https://mcdn.network-box.com/itBR/2023/ITBR-202307.pdf>