

WARNING: STRESS INDUCING PRESENTATION

New Spam Filtering and Phishing Protection Approach called DMARC

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About Ben Serebin

- Working in the IT field since 1996 (over 20 years)
- Specialty is Exchange/Email Environments, Spam Filtering, DNS, & complex wireless deployments.
- Recent/Upcoming Fun Tech Projects: Upgrading Core Switching Infrastructure to L3 Stacked, In Private Cloud Datacenter upgraded to 220v power & forced to deploy step down transformer due to 256v, automatic transfer switches for 110v single PSU equipment.
- Current Environment: iPhone 7 Plus, Hyper-V 2012 R2/2016, Kemp Virtual LBs in HA, DAGed Exchange 2013. Clustered Barracuda Spam Filters and Mail Gateway (IceWarp). Lots of SSD DAS, RAID 5 (4-6 drive Samsung 840/850) based Dell R410/610, iSCSI Storage, and 10Gb SFP+.

Planned Agenda – Will Go Off-Roading

1. DMARC via 30 Seconds Elevator Pitch
2. Example & D+M+A+R+C
3. Prerequisites Overall
4. Implementation Requirements
5. Office 365 Requirements
6. Example & Recommendations
7. DMARC DNS
8. Recommendations
9. Top 4 Challenges
10. Final Thoughts

Elevator Pitch for DMARC

- **Does your organization** (*especially hospitals, financial firms, regulatory agencies/organizations, etc*). **value your customers** having trust that your emails are not fake?
- **DMARC is a superhero for the job!** It offers receiving servers a feedback loop for improving the awesome job they're doing!
- **DMARC might be your favorite email validation mechanism built on top of 2 anti-spam approaches: SPF + DKIM.**

[Note to Self: we're on the honeymoon phase of the presentation]

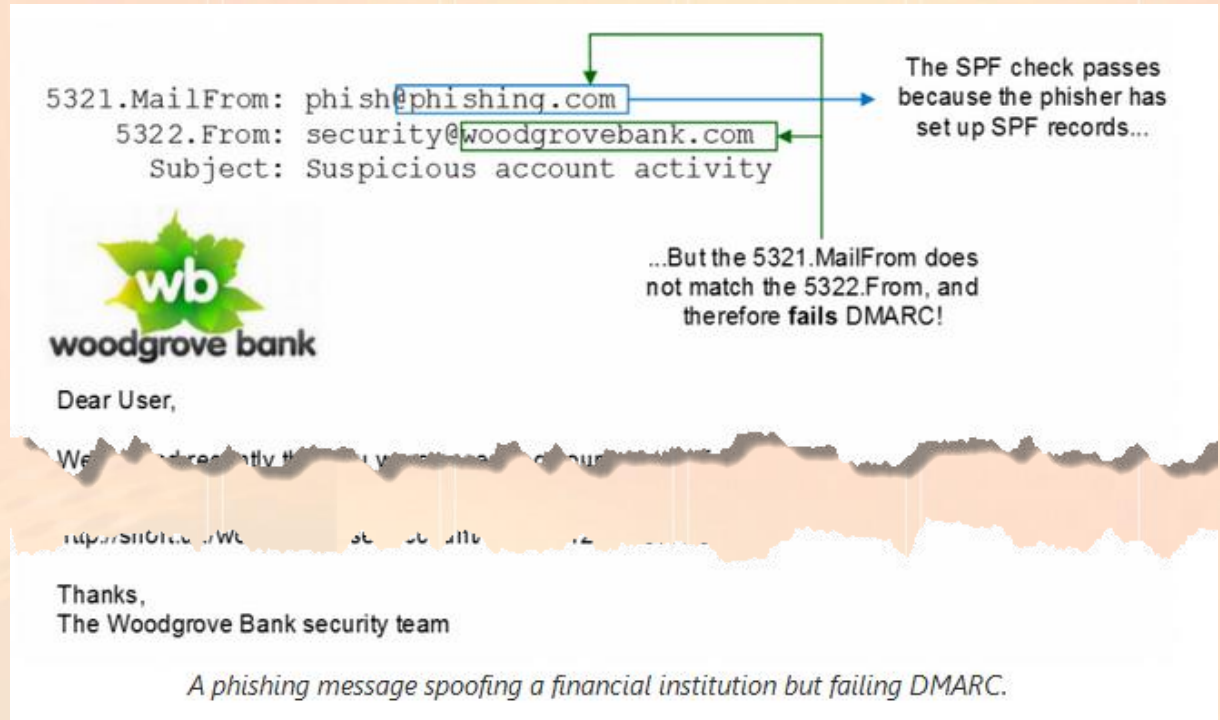
[no comment]

Example & DMARC Acronym

Outlook vs Gateway Filtering

5321.MailFrom = SMTP

5322.From = Outlook Display



DMARC

Domain = email sender's

Message = relates to

Authentication = headers modified

Reporting = DNS based reporting addresses

Conformance = how in compliance are you

above image from <https://blogs.office.com/en-us/2015/01/20/enhanced-email-protection-dkim-dmarc-office-365/>

Prerequisites

1) Working Email Sending Server (e.g. Exchange, Office 365)

2) SPF (Sender Policy Framework) Setup

- Uses DNS records to validate the authenticity of email messages.
- No 3rd party software is required.

3) DKIM (DomainKeys Identified Mail) Setup

- Signing software is required on all sending mail servers.
- Signing is based on public (in DNS) and private (on sending server) keys

Implementation Requirements (Private Cloud)

DKIM Signer from Stefan Profanter & Alexandre Laroche (open-source \$0) – OUTBOUND ONLY

- .NET 3.5 (Exchange 2007 & 2010). 2007 SP3+, 2010 RTM+, SP1+, SP2+, SP3+,
- .NET 4.0 (Exchange 2013 & 2016) 2013 CU1-CU19 (not CU20), 2016 RTM-CU8 (not CU9)
- Latest March 2018 CU's for 2013 & 2016 are not officially supported yet as of 4/8/18. Last 48 hrs, developer commits are in place for release for 2013 CU20 and 2016 CU9.

DKIM for Exchange from Email Architect (commercial \$300/\$800) – INBOUND & OUTBOUND

- Edge or Hub Transport for Exchange 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016 (2000 and later)
- Enabled Default is OUTBOUND
- INBOUND filtering is Disabled. Config file for enabling.
- INBOUND quarantine filtering leverages Transport Rules

Recommended Solutions

DKIM Signer - <https://github.com/Pro/dkim-exchange/blob/master/README.md>

Email Architect - https://www.emailarchitect.net/domainkeys/kb/dkim_exchange_2007_2010_2013.aspx

How To Implement in Office 365

Congrats, it's easy! No Action Required - Office 365 enables DKIM Signing by default.

- Verify by going to Office 365 – Exchange admin center – dashboard – dkim (under protection section) – confirm it's enabled for your domains.
- Outbound requires DNS record like Private Cloud

IMPORTANT POINTS

Office 365 is currently ignore “reject” settings. It will only quarantine.

Primary MX must be Exchange Online Protection, otherwise DMARC will not work.

Excellent Resources

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/tzink/2014/12/03/using-dmarc-in-office-365/>

[https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/mt734386\(v=exchg.150\).aspx](https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/mt734386(v=exchg.150).aspx)

Example & Recommendations for DMARC Record

Email Sender -> ben@to-dmarc-or-not.com

v=DMARC1;p=quarantine;pct=100;rua=mailto:dmarc@to-dmarc-or-not.com,fo=1

Tags [recommendation]

v = version [DMARC1]

p = policy for org domain (none, quarantine or reject) [quarantine]

sp = policy for subdomains of org domain (none, quarantine or reject) [quarantine]

pct = % of messages that are filtered [100]

rua = reporting URI or address for aggregate reports XML (can be 3rd party)

ruf = reporting URI or address for forensic reports (can be 3rd party) [dedicated email account]

fo= reporting for pass failures, 1 = any fails to pass, 0 = everything fails to pass [1]

adkim = alignment mode for DKIM (relaxed or strict, “s” or “r” which is default) [r]

aspf = alignment mode for SPF (relaxed or strict, “s” or “r” which is default) [r]

Show & Tell: Hotmail.com Example

<https://dmarcian-eu.com/dmarc-inspector/hotmail.com>

Creating the DMARC DNS Record

- 1) Determine your DMARC configuration
- 2) Create a DNS TXT Record in your email domain using “_dmarc”.
- 3) TXT value per previous example
“v=DMARC1;p=quarantine;pct=100;rua=mailto:dmarc@to-dmarc-or-not.com,fo=1”
- 4) TXT value minimum requirements: “v=DMARC1;p=quarantine”

Recommendations

If you manage large environments – 3rd Party Reporting Solutions

Agari <http://agari.com> – Microsoft, AOL, etc use for aggregated reporting

DMARCIAN, <https://dmarcian.com> – Google, LinkedIn, Yahoo, etc use for aggregated reporting

ReturnPath, <http://www.returnpath.com> – aggregated DMARC reporting tools for senders and receivers

Tools for Checking DMARC

DMARCIAN, <https://dmarcian.com>

Top 4 Challenges of DMARC

1. **DMARC only is for FROM address. Ignores the MESSAGE BODY and ATTACHMENTS.** Example: Fails to detect URLs in body not matching MailFrom / From.
2. **Ridiculously Complicated to Implement.** Take the 3 hardest approaches for spam filtering and then there's no guarantee you'll see any reduction in spam.
3. **Camouflaging domain names.** Worse when you have o/0 or L/i/1 in your domain name.

accounting@woodgrovebank.COM

ACC0UNTING@W00DGR0VEBANK.COM

ACCOUNTING@WOODGR0VEBANK.COM

accounting@CITI.COM

accounting@IDBNY.COM

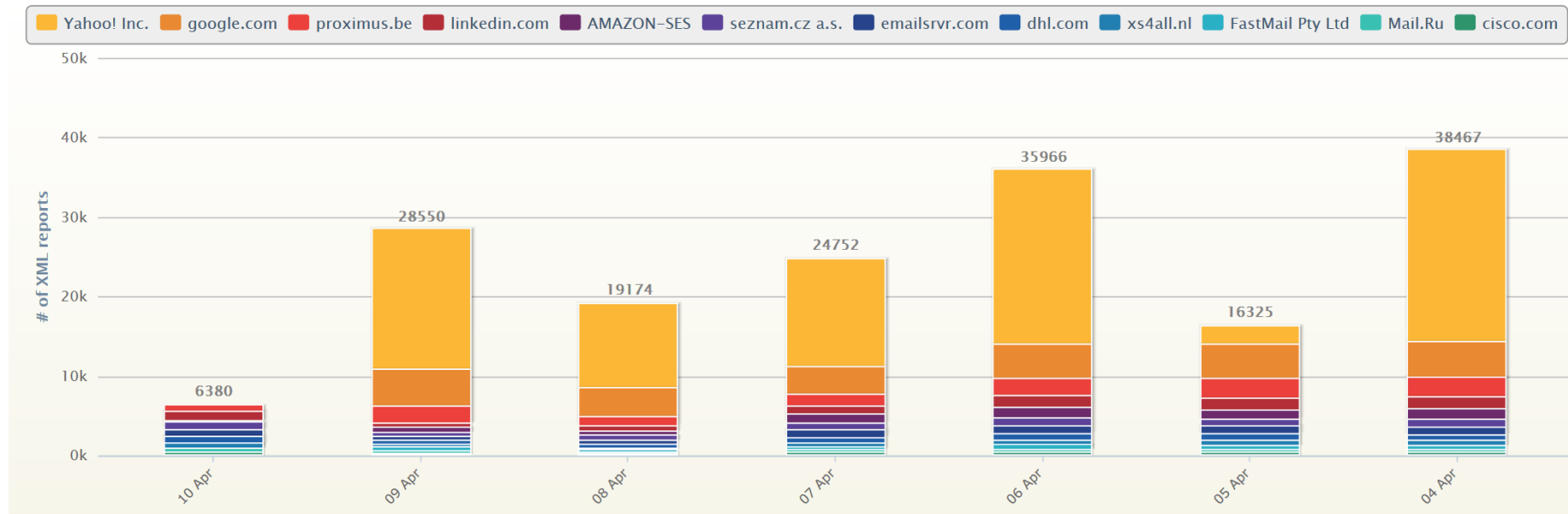
4. **Failure of Adoption: Sender ID, DomainKeys (DK), etc.**

Examples of Compliance

<https://www.phishingscorecard.com/ScoreCard/International/Internet/Mailproviders/MTAtoS0zNw%3d%3d>

Final Thoughts in DMARC WHERE, WHEN, WHY Or a Better Solution in 5 Letters (S/MIME)?

This graph shows dmarcian-eu's top 12 DMARC XML data providers for the past week (dates in UTC):



The following is an exhaustive list of all providers that have sent us data over the past week (UTC). Counts indicate the number of XML reports received.

| Search: <input type="text"/> | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Provider | Total | 2018/04/10 | 2018/04/09 | 2018/04/08 | 2018/04/07 | 2018/04/06 | 2018/04/05 | 2018/04/04 |
| Yahoo! Inc. | 90263 | 0 | 17705 | 10612 | 13585 | 21979 | 2280 | 24102 |
| google.com | 25018 | 0 | 4577 | 3703 | 3428 | 4267 | 4442 | 4601 |
| proximus.be | 12572 | 792 | 2238 | 1129 | 1501 | 2211 | 2342 | 2359 |