

# Data Privacy for data in transit and The Semantic Web



**Mike Davies** 

Where it all comes together.

### Data privacy at rest vs in transit

- + Personal data at rest
  - Stored within a company's network
- + Personal data in transit
  - Moved either within a public or private network
- + Industry and regulations has focused on the former
  - Rather than the latter



- + The Semantic web will make it easier to get data on any subject from the internet
- + Data privacy will be impacted as the fog of information becomes clearer
- + Fraudsters will use these tools to steal identities by looking at multiple sources ("Phoraging")
- + Where security needs to be applied to protect privacy



### SSL – SSL Certificates used externally

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### SSL – SSL Certificates used Internally

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### How much value to a fraudster is there in data?

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### So who says where the security line should be?

- + Privacy line position is very clear
  - Name and Address (email or physical) is personal data
- + Position of Security line depends on following
  - 1) Regional or country Data protection laws
    - i.e. UK data protection act of 1998
  - 2) Best practice in standards
    - i.e. BS 7799, ISO 27001
  - 3) Potential or percieved threat
    - Currently "Potential threat vs value of data vs cost of solution"
    - Should be "Potential brand or equity damage vs cost of solution"



# 1) Regional or country based Data Protection laws

- + Current laws in Europe all based on EU Privacy Directive
  - and then interpreted by the member states
- + In UK became "Data Protection Act of 1998"
  - Over 8 years old
- + The "dummies guide to DP law" says...
  - "Personal Data should be protected to an appropriate level of security dependant on the potential for and implications of misuse"
- + In 1998 "the Security Line" was drawn
  - the internet has changed a little since then!



### 1) EU Law based on "Physical world" (Postal Model)

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# 1) Regional or country based Data Protection laws

- + Decisions were made on the "postal model"
  - but one major difference
- + Consumer "feels" like they are "in the store"
  - Not reliant on a trusted third party to deliver (i.e. Royal Mail)
  - Even use the term "domain"
- + At best creates a "duty of care" for Site Owner
  - To ensure that customers are safe
- + At least implies that the Site Owner should be worried
  - Brand and equity issues if there is a compromise



### 2) Best Practice in standards

+ British Standards BS7799

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- Dictates best practice for online security
- + Standards only, no legal requirement
  - However very influential in EMEA



- + EU Safe Harbour Standard
  - EU initiative to ensure security when personal data leaves EU
- + "Packets" of data could travel outside of EU
  - On their route over the internet within EU
- + EU Safe Harbour states
  - "Organizations creating, maintaining, using or disseminating personal information must take reasonable precautions to protect it from loss, misuse and unauthorized access, disclosure, alteration and destruction"
- + This could ALONE give us enough reason to say that best practice states that you should encrypt ANY personal data



### 3) Potential or perceived threat

#### + Percieved threat to low value personal data is changing

- Cost of processing power very different to 1998
- Potential to build illegal "database" of personal data real
- Use geo location software to correlate information?

### + "Packet sniffing"

- Originally used for credit card data
- Searches all data going into a site for known characteristics
- No reason why it can't be used for other data sets

### + Looking for real life examples but could be used for

- Corporate espionage
- Fraud
- Blackmail

Spammers

- Press
- Burglary



### 3) Potential or perceived threat - Privacy Policy

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# 3) Example Threat 1 – Burglary Database



From: mikedavies@heatmail.co.uk

Subject: Brochure request

#### Please help!!!!

We are looking for a **holiday** destine 2006. Can you suggest anywhere?

We would also really like to see a

If .pdf please email to: mikedavies@heatmail.co.uk

If Physical copy please send to 111 Main Street, Chiswick, Lond

Alternatively if you have a repres

Thanks!

**Mike Davies** 

holiday 1st October 2006

111 Main Street, Chiswick, London, W4 1AA, UK



1st October 2006 to 15th October

worse a .pdf we can print out here

an get me on 0208 511 7856.

e

### 3) Example Threat 1 – Similar example in US





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### 3) Example threat 2 – Spammers





### 3) Example threat 3 – Government





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+ Do you feel that companies should protect consumer data in transit?

+ If so, do you think the Data Protection law gives you adequate powers to enforce protecting data in transit?





# Data Privacy for data in transit and The Semantic Web



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