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# Hack-proof Your Drupal App

Key Habits of Secure  
Drupal Coding





# Introductions



- CommonPlaces
  - Erich Beyrent, V.P. of Engineering
  - Amanda Giovanni, Director of Enterprise Risk Management





# Introductions

- WhiteHat Security
  - Arian Evans,  
Operations Director





# Introductions

**KATALYST STRATEGIES, LLC**  
*Comprehensive Cyber Security Solutions*

- Katalyst Strategies
  - Matthew J. Nash,  
Director of Cyber Risk  
Management





# Security? Who cares?





Have you ever been hacked?



1337 h3xx0r

Drupal  
d00d

pwnage!



# Web Application Security

- Analysts estimate that 75% of attacks against web servers enter at the application, not the network level
- As many as 15% of these attacks are due to poor coding practices





# Case Study: Greenopolis.com



The screenshot displays the Greenopolis.com website interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for HOME, Media, Marketplace, eGreenU, Games, Partnerships, and MyOpolis. The main header features the Greenopolis logo with the tagline "Learn. Act. Reward. Together." and buttons for JOIN NOW and LOG IN. A sidebar on the left lists categories: Get Started!, Join Now!, Media, Marketplace, eGreenU, Games, Partnerships, and MyOpolis. Below this is a "Make Your Donation Today" section with text about rebuilding lives and communities in hurricane-affected states. The main content area includes a "What's New?" section, a "Greenopolis Welcomes... COOL COMMUNITY" section with a "COOL COMMUNITY" badge, a "Free N Exchange" section for consumer B2B exchange, and a "MyOpolis - The Green Community" section with a "my abode" link. A "GreenMedia Headlines" section at the bottom features a headline about a coal seam gas supply lines award and a "Green Reviews" section with links for PRODUCTS and SERVICES. A large, stylized image of a classical building dome is visible in the bottom right corner of the page.





# Case Study: Greenopolis.com

- Modules
- Theme
- Flash and Flex
- Security Audit Results





# Greenopolis Modules

- Greenopolis currently uses 92 modules





# Greenopolis Modules

- Greenopolis currently uses 92 modules
- 20% of those modules are custom







# Greenopolis Theme

- Greenopolis uses a custom theme
- `template.php`, lots of individual templates





# Flash and Flex

- Greenopolis has Flex widgets that can be embedded on any site, which get data via Services





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# Flash and Flex

- Greenopolis has Flex widgets that can be embedded on any site, which get data via Services
- Greenopolis has an interactive Flash map of the US that gets data from Services
- Greenopolis has a Flex TiltingPane widget that displays partner logos, populated via Services







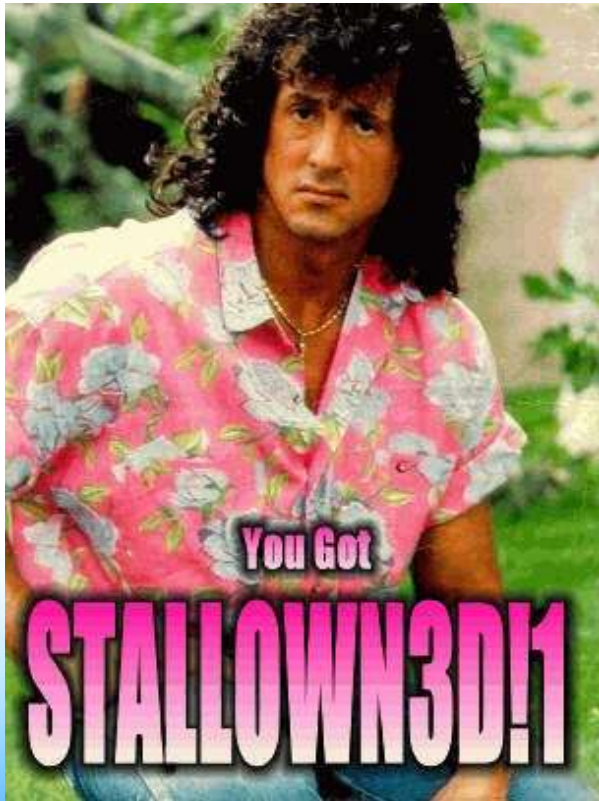
# Security Audit Results

- WhiteHat Security performed an audit of the application layer





# Security Audit Results



- 120 vulnerabilities were discovered in the following categories:
  - XSS
  - CSRF
  - SQL Injection
  - Session fixation
  - Insufficient Authorization





# What We Learned:

- 90% of the vulnerabilities existed in the theme





# Fixing The Problems:

- Completely reviewed the theme, implementing Drupal output filters





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# Fixing The Problems:

- Completely reviewed the theme, implementing Drupal output filters
- Code was audited to ensure sanitization of all user data
- Rewrote the search forms to sanitize user data
- Implemented web services proxy





# Key Habits of Secure Drupal Coding







# We are going to discuss:

- Sanitize Your Output





# We are going to discuss:

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- Protect Your Database





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- User Input





# We are going to discuss:

- Sanitize Your Output
- Protect Your Database
- User Input
- AJAX Risks





# Sanitize Your Output:

- `check_plain()`
- `check_markup()`
- `filter_xss()`
- `filter_xss_admin()`





# Sanitize Your Output:

## Correct Usage:

```
echo check_plain($node->field_fname[0]['value']);  
echo content_format('field_fname', $node->field_fname[0]['value']);  
echo t('%fname', array('%fname' => $node->field_fname[0]['value']));  
echo t('@fname', array('@fname' => $node->field_fname[0]['value']));
```

## Incorrect Usage:

```
echo $node->field_fname[0]['value'];
```





# Protect Your Database:

- `db_query()`
- `db_rewrite_sql()`





# Protect Your Database:

## Correct usage:

```
$result = db_query(“SELECT foo FROM {bar} WHERE foo = ‘%s’, $unsafe_var);
```

## Incorrect usage:

```
$result = db_query(“SELECT foo FROM {bar} WHERE foo = $unsafe_var”);
```







# User Input:

- Use the Form API





# User Input:

- Use the Form API
  - Sanitize \$\_POST (and \$\_GET) data





# Javascript and AJAX:

- Rule #1 – Javascript can be disabled
- Don't assume data to AJAX postback functions are coming from your javascript
- Don't assume AJAX transactions are private and cannot be observed by users
- Re-encode and escape all output





# Don't Trust User Input!





# Things That Will Bite You:



- Outputting raw values
- Modifying data with `$_GET`
- Parameterized queries? WTF?
- Hacking core and killing kittens





# Drupal Security Resources

- Drupal.org
  - <http://drupal.org/writing-secure-code>
  - <http://drupal.org/node/28984>
- Drupal Security Team
  - <http://drupal.org/node/32750>
- Pro Drupal Development book
  - <http://drupalbook.com>





# Drupal Tools

- Update module  
[http://drupal.org/project/update\\_status](http://drupal.org/project/update_status)
- Coder module <http://drupal.org/project/coder>
- Interactive debuggers (Zend, XDebug)





# Participate!

- Subscribe to the Drupal Security RSS feed
- Send vulnerabilities and patches to the Drupal Security Team







# Q & A

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