Cybersecurity & Management Challenges Symposium Lugano - Sept. 21st 2017

> ASUT Lunch Forum Zürich - Sept. 22nd 2017

Mobile Interception

Risks and Countermeasures for Corporate and Government









Brief presentation of Tmanco – what we do

Tmanco provides tools to unlock enterprise mobility

- Mobility has Strenghts: by enabling people to work anywhere, anytime, it can reduce the reaction time, speed-up processes and increase productivity
- Mobile also offers Opportunities for the future: by enabling people to work from home, you can reduce the traffic and this contributes to sustainability (green. But this also contributes to business continuity: imagine a situation of transportation strike, epidemic or terror alert where citizen can't reach the office: if this happens then companies equipped with enterprise mobility will be able to continue doing business and will get a competitive advantage over other companies.
- But mobility also has some **Weaknesses**: companies usually limit the deployment of mobiles because they are worried about increasing costs and more workload.
- And mobility also present serious Threats for the security and the privacy of the

communications.

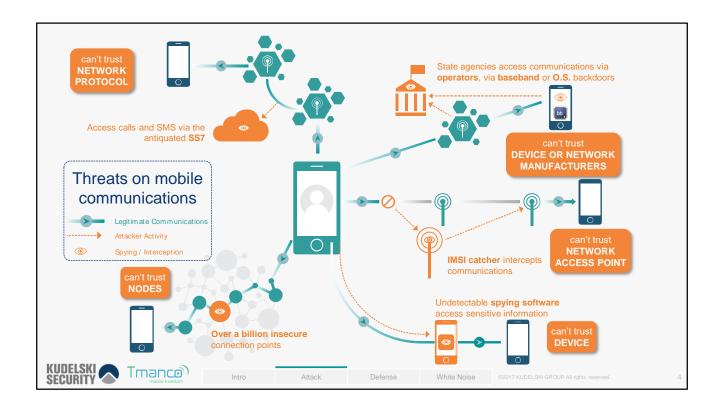
- To address these Weaknesses of Costs & Workload, Tmanco provides consulting for cost optimisations and also has a partnership with Tangoe to offer a TEM solution.
- To address the Threats to Security and Privacy: Tmanco has a partnership with Kudelski Security to offer the product White Noise. This is the topic of this presentation.



Kudelski Group: 3'800 employees across 3 businesses

- Content Security. This business is focused on helping content providers in securing the delivery of digital media content. At home, many of us have cable TV and associated with that we have a set-top box we received from our cable operator. Within that set-top box is a secure element of hardware and software that prevent people from illegally re-distributing the content to other homes that did not pay the cable operator. We provide all this technology as well as the monitoring services to detect illegal activity. Today, within Kudelski we monitor over 400M devices throughout the world and we have number#1 global market share, our next closest competitor is Cisco.
- Public Access Security. Where we protect facilities, parking, ski resorts, and events
 throughout the world. In this business, think of us as the arm that goes up in the
 parking lot that controls who gets in or the turn style at the ski resort that let's you
 up on the hills. Again, in this business we hold number#1 global market share
- Cybersecurity Solutions. This business was launched in 2012 and until recently was
 a business focused on the EMEA market place. Today we have operations
 throughout EMEA, the US, and have begun expansion into Latin America.

Bottom line, Kudeksli Group has over 25 years experience in crypto, and it is this experience that was leveraged to build the product **White Noise** and address the challenges of mobile communication privacy.



When we establish a communication between 2 mobile devices, the chain is constituted by many components and each one has vulnerabilities.

- Can't trust NODES: the worldwide mobile infrastructure consists of over a billion connection points (Wifi, GSM, 3G, 4G). We such a high number of nodes under the control of many players, we can't assume that none has been compromised.
- Can't trust NETWORK PROTOCOL: the SS7 signaling protocol used in the network
 has known vulnerabilities which haven't been patched yet. These vulnerabilities can
 be used to intercept calls and sms or to perform spoofing. You can even find that asa-service on the internet.
- Can't trust DEVICE OR NETWORK MANUFACTURERS: some state agencies record
 every single call (e.g. Echelon), they can even wake-up or shut-down phones by
 acting on the baseband or OS layer, and record everything.
- Can't trust NETWORK ACCESS POINT: an IMSI catcher is a fake antenna, you phone connects to it thinking it is the legitimate antenna, then all communication transit

through it and enable you to listen to phone calls, read sms, send fake sms, etc.

Can't trust DEVICE: malwares can be present on the device, recording the
microphone signal, reading sms or stealing other information. Malwares can be very
smart and difficult to detect, installation can be as easy as opening a compromised
PDF document.



And all this is not just theory or fiction.

By doing some research on the internet, here are some examples of services or tools you can find.

- The presentation from Gamma Group shows services and devices presented to a state police organisation. If you follow the link, you can access the full presentation in PDF. The picture shows a portable IMSI catcher, meaning somebody can be near you and act as a fake antenna, your phone connects to it and all your communications are intercepted.
- The website SMS-Gang is a free on-line Spoof SMS service. With few clicks you can send an SMS to somebody and indicate the "From" number that will appear as the person who sent the SMS.
- FlexiSpy is a small spying client you install on somebody's phone in a couple of minutes. Once done, you can do things like listen into a conversation, activate the microphone, read sms, access pictures, contacts, and much more.
- Ability: spying as a service, just watch this short 1'30" video

- **SC Media**: the SS7 vulnerability is still active, the threat is so serious that it is getting attention at the political level
- IMSI catcher: buy cheap, 1'800\$ directly from Alibaba.com



More tools available (easier, cheaper) + more information carried over mobile network = more people are tempted to use those tools.

Here are few examples of situations

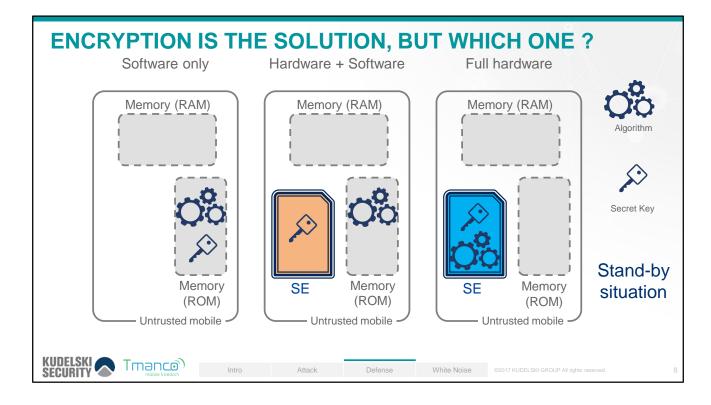
- The New York Times: a state intercepting the communication of a layer who represents the families of the students who disappeard in 2014 in Mexico
- Popular Science: a map showing the GSM interceptors identified. This was in 2014, we can reasonably guess that it would look much worse today.
- The Guadian: and this well known case of Angela Merkel being intercepted by the NSA.
- **US-CERT:** already in 2011 a report warned about the increasing risk for mobile and the attractiveness for hackers. Recent reports confirm these risks, the situation doesn't seem to be much better today.

• WIRED: quite ambarassing when a reserved conversation is intercepted and put on youtube. For a business, it means the risk is not only to be intercepted by a competitor who is interested in the strategy / future products / trade secrets, but the risk can also be to have a critical position exposed to the public and affecting the image of the company (with the subsequent impact on the stock value).

Of course we know all this is happening, but are we really aware how easy it can be and therefore how more probable it can be? Especially if our business can be of interest for some state agency, competitor or criminal organization!



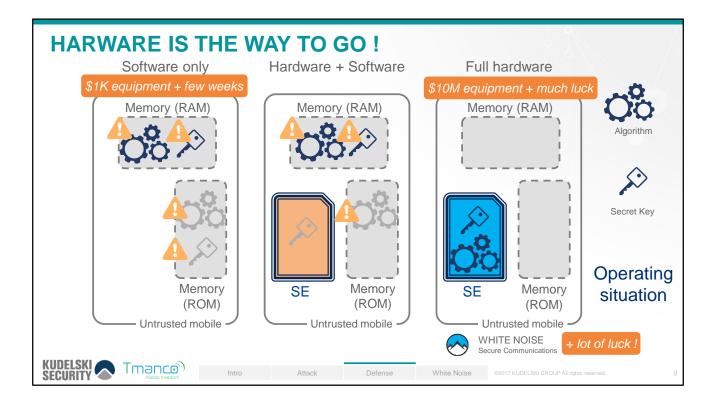
Despite all that, a survey from Dimensional Research reveals that most businesses are totally unprepared. It seems like companies are waiting for the catastrophes to happen.



How can we protect against all these vulnerabilities? Encryption is the way to go but which kind of encryption?

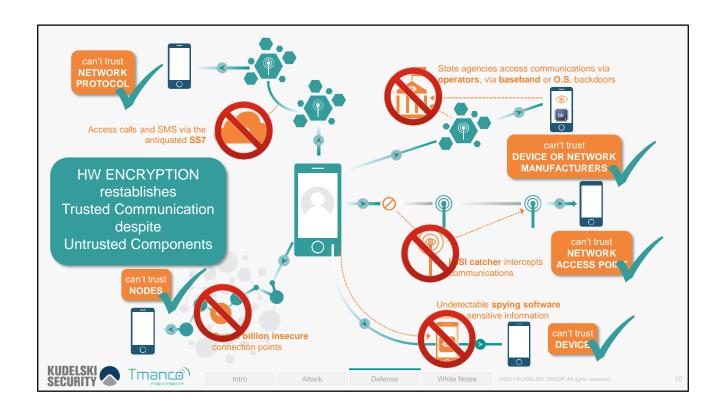
Let's look at the difference between Software & Hardware encryption.

- In a **Software only** solutions: security keys and crypto algorithms are stored in ROM and then loaded into RAM at run time. But because RAM is shared area, accessible by other applications, therefore the key and the algorithm are exposed to malware.
- In a mixed Hardware + Software solution, the key is stored in a Hardware secure element and the algorithm is stored in ROM. This is safer than the Software only solution, however the problem occurs at run time because both the key and the algorithm are then loaded into RAM and become exposed to malware.
- In a **Full Hardware** solution, both the key and the algorithm are stored in a Hardware secure element and are never loaded into RAM. The encryption happens in the hardware where no other application or malware is allowed to run. This is the safest mechanism.



The level of security can be measured by the amount of resources it would require to decipher the mechanism.

- To decipher a **Software only** solution, some basic equipment and few weeks could be enough.
- To decipher a Full Hardware solution requires a large amount of resources with complex and expensive equipment. Even so, it is not sure you can manage to decipher the mechanism and you may need some luck.
- White Noise uses a sophisticated Full Hardware encryption (4 layers, 768 bits)
 providing a high level of security. Even with sophisticated expensive equipment and
 with lot of time, it is highly improbable you could manage to decipher the
 mechanism, unless you have lot of luck as well.



By using **White Noise with Hardware Encryption**, the many vulnerabilities of the network don't matter anymore because even if the communication was intercepted, it would be meaningless to a third party.

We have now restored privacy, with a trusted communication channel despite the fact that we are using a network and a device that can't be trusted.

WHITE NOISE IN A NUTSHELL

100% SWISS 🛨 SOLUTION

Base components

- App











Accessories

· Bluetooth headset with built-in security chip

 Silent box to isolate microphone Protects against spyware







Highly secure

Voice

- · HW in-chip encryption, 4 layers, 768 bits
- Security level up to classified
- Customer sovereignty, no backdoor

IM (one2one, group-chat, pictures)

Closed user group, cross-organisation

25 years crypto expertise

Rich feature set

For off-the-shelf devices

· Supports iOS, Android, PC

At reasonable cost

Security for all (not just VIP)



White Noise is a multi-platform solution for unified communication (voice + messaging).

The base components consist of:

- An app, available for Android, iOS, Windows desktop
- A security chip that can be either inserted in the MicroSD slot, or in a special cover (for iPhone) or in a USB slot for desktop.

Some accessories provide extra features

- In partnership with Sennheiser, we provide a **Bluetooth headset** which has the security chip built-in. Therefore it can be used in combination with any mobile (Android, iPhone) or desktop without needing extra hardware or special cover.
- To make 100% sure the communication can't be intercepted, even in the case the phone would have a spyware intercepting the microphone signal, we also have a silent box. The phone is locked in the box with high acoustic isolation, it receives only the encrypted signal from the Bluetooth headset.

The rich feature set provides

Encrypted **voice** calls

- Encrypted instant messaging with one-to-one or group chat and the possibility to exchange documents or pictures
- The ability to define **closed user groups** where people can only see and communicate within the group.

This solution is highly secure

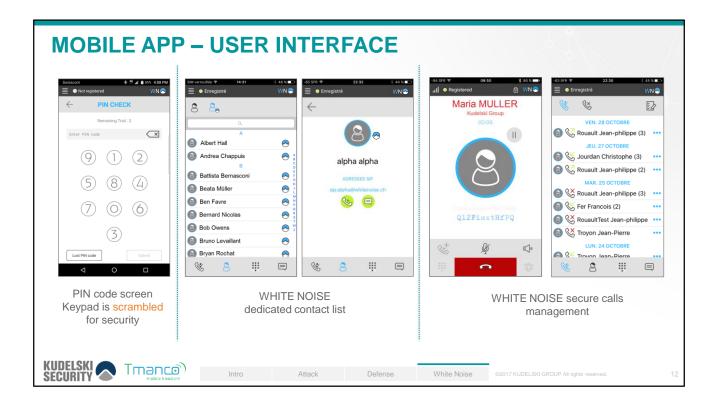
- The very strong encryption is suitable for classified communications
- The key generation is performed by the customer, Kudelski does not posess the key. If
 a judge would request the keys in order to intercept a communication, it is only the
 customer is sovereign and is the only one who could provide them. There is no
 backdoor that could be used either by Kudelski or by a state agency.

Designed for off-the-shelf devices

• Since White Noise works with standard devices (Android, iPhone) it has a better acceptance from the users who can use their preferred phone and don't need to carry a second bulky secure phone.

At reasonable cost

This means security for the mass and not just for the VIP. Because, as we know, a
hacker would probably not target the highly secured top manager but may manage
to obtain the desired information by targeting people like the assistant, the
developer, the marketing, etc.



These screenshots show how the application looks like on a mobile phone.

- Launching the application requires a pin code.
- Once launched, the application shows the directory of all people reachable (can be limited with the closed user group feature).
- A presence status shows if the person is available for call and/or chat
- When two devices establish a call, they negociate a one-time security key



White Noise has been designed for unified communication with the capacity to handle a variety of situations.

- CALL
- INSTAND MESSAGING
- PRIVACY IN BOARDROOM
- CLASSIFIED CALL
- CALL WITH HEADSET
- CALL WITH DESKTOP



White Noise is a very innovative product and has been selected as finalist for the Swiss ICT Award 2017.

