

Title of Paper

Is Web 2.0 and SOA a Hacker's Dream? Testing for Security Risks in a Web 2.0, SOA World

Presenter

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Instructional Level

Introductory Intermediate Advanced

Target Group

VP / Directors of Quality Assurance, QA Engineers, Performance Test Engineers & Managers, Security Experts

Keywords

- Security Testing
 - Web 2.0/AJAX
 - Application Modernisation
 - Business Risk Mitigation
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Abstract

Web 2.0 has quickly become an overused buzzword without a clear definition. And web services/ service-oriented architectures (SOAs) are becoming more and more a standard for businesses. Yet at the same time, while many are extolling the virtues of this next generation of Internet technologies, others are warning that it could turn the Internet into a hacker's dream. Web 2.0 promises to make web applications more usable and connect us in ways that we've never imagined. We've just begun to digest a host of exciting technologies such as AJAX, SOAP, RSS, mashups, etc., but are we making a mistake by increasing the complexity of web applications without taking security into account during development and QA? The increased functionality brings with it a multitude of new attack vectors which promise to change the security landscape.

In this talk we'll look at the various technologies that define Web 2.0 and investigate how they are being implemented. We'll also discuss the major security issues that need to be addressed when implementing a SOA architecture and learn techniques for testing a web service application. We'll then learn how poor coding practices can expose security defects in Web 2.0 applications and SOAs and walk through various case studies illustrating real world examples of exploitation of these technologies for financial gain. Most importantly, we'll discuss testing for security defects in a Web 2.0 world to avoid turning these next generation web technologies into a hacker's dream.

Biography

Colin Robb is a 20-year IT industry veteran, the last 9 years spent with Mercury/Hewlett-Packard. In his career he has been involved in the software development lifecycle from requirements definition to implementation and all points in between, as practitioner, manager and consultant. He is currently Director of Product Marketing responsible for HP Software's testing solutions in the EMEA region

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