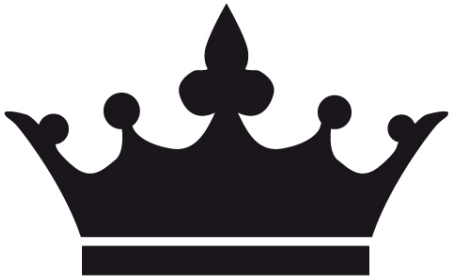
Cash is King
Who's Wearing Your Crown?

Accounting Systems Fraud in the Digital Age

Tom Eston and Brett Kimmell

Agenda

- Introduction to Accounting Fraud
- Microsoft Dynamics Great Plains
  - Vulnerabilities and Attack Vectors
- Attacking the Users of Dynamics GP
- Fraud with Custom Malware (Mayhem)
- The Attacks: How to Commit Fraud
- Accounting Controls to Prevent Fraud
- Conclusions



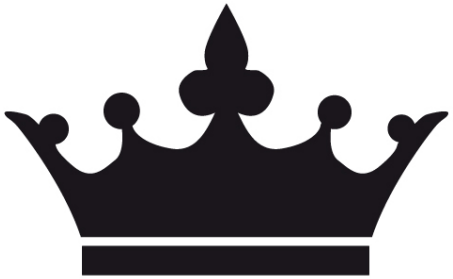
About Your Presenters

Tom Eston

- Manager of the SecureState Profiling & Penetration Team
- OWASP Contributor
  - Mobile Threat Modeling Project Lead
  - OWASP Testing Guide v4
- SANS Mentor
- Security Blogger/Researcher: Spylogic.net
- Podcast Co-host: Social Media Security Podcast
- Speaker: Black Hat USA, DEFCON, ShmooCon, DerbyCon, SANS, MSI, OWASP AppSec

Brett Kimmell

- Manager of the Risk Management Practice at SecureState
- CISSP, CISA, CISM, CPA, CITP, PCI QSA
- Previously the Director of Information Systems and CFO for United Way of Summit County



Introduction to Accounting Fraud

When We Break In

- Penetration Testers and Attackers do this every day!
- Low hanging fruit
  (Apache Tomcat, JBoss, MS08-067)
- Easy to evade technical security controls
- Find the most sensitive data
  - Passwords, SSNs, PCI data, PHI, Proprietary
- Screenshot, Report, Profit, Repeat
- Nothing new here…

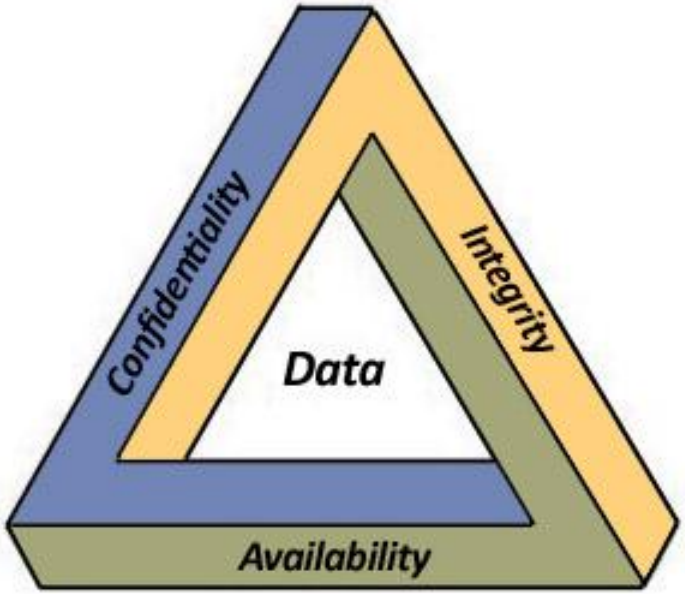
Photo Credit: http://cosine-security.blogspot.com/2011/10/derbycon-retrospective.html

What If?

- We could demonstrate ***real*** business risk?
- Typically this is financial risk and hits the bottom line of an organization
- Attack the accounting and financial systems
- We could test the non-technical accounting controls (not like an “audit”)

Technical Controls 101

- **Confidentiality**
- **Integrity**
- **Availability**



Technical controls can only go so far.
When they fail (and they will) what do you rely on?

Accounting Controls 101

- Accuracy
- Timeliness
- Relevancy
- Reliability
- Consistency
- Comparability

The Problem?

- Accounting controls may not be in place
  - Or properly implemented
- Limited resources
- Limited skill set
- Limited time

It's very unlikely that accounting departments are reconciling every account each month!

Traditional Accounting Fraud

- Insider Embezzlement
- Overstating Profits
- External Check Fraud
- Insider Fraud
  - Kickback schemes, skimming, sales fraud, etc.

Primary Control: Reconciling Bank Accounts!

Accounting Fraud Examples

Akron woman accused of stealing more than $1.78 million from her boss

Published: Thursday, July 30, 2009, 3:30 PM Updated: Thursday, July 30, 2009, 4:11 PM

By Michael Sangiacomo, The Plain Dealer

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AKRON, Ohio — A 43-year-old executive assistant a development company stole more than $1.78 million checking account over eight years, police said.

Karin Goeldi was charged with aggravated theft. Sh **Cedarwood Companies**. Police declined to identify worked for, honoring his request for anonymity.

"She was given access to her boss' personal checki able to write checks on it," said police spokesman L "From 2001 until July 13, she repeatedly wrote chec to cash. The amount taken is more than $1,780,00(

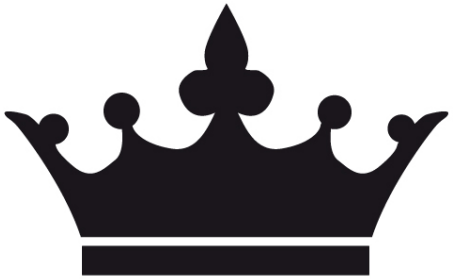
Police and company officials would not say how the discovered.

Dalton Police Seek Man In Check Fraud Case

Tuesday, October 30, 2012

The Dalton Police Department is asking for the public's help with identifying a man who used a counterfeit check to purchase more than $3,300 worth of merchandise from Lowe's on Cleveland Highway in Dalton and then had the merchandise refunded for gift cards.

The incident happened on Sept. 4, and was reported to police later in the month after the victim discovered a bad check had been written on his account for $3,360. Upon investigating with his bank, the victim discovered that a check had been counterfeited with his account number and made to appear to be a business check. The address on the check was the same street as the victim's, but the wrong number.



Microsoft Dynamics Great Plains

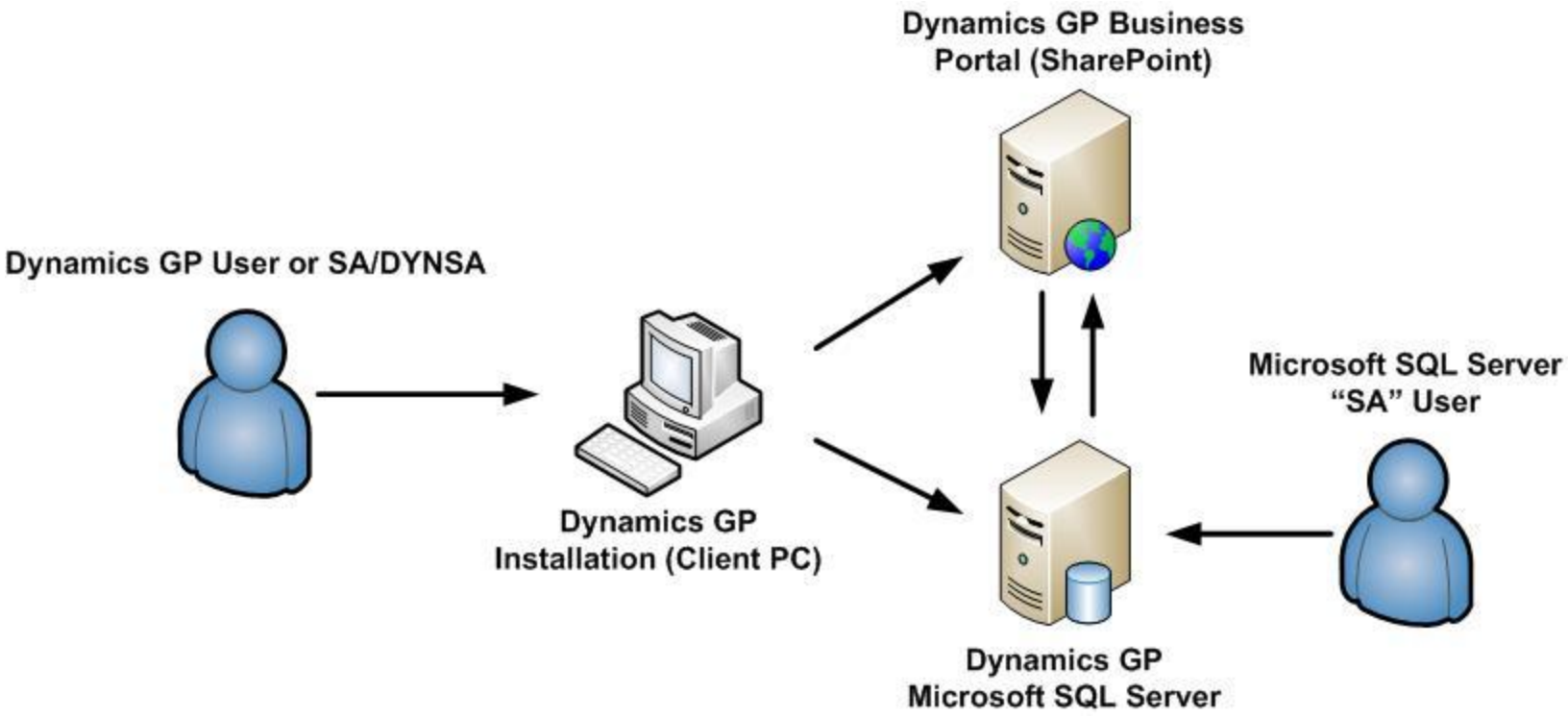
Microsoft Dynamics GP

- One of the most popular accounting systems in the world for medium to large size businesses
- Microsoft purchased GP from Great Plains Software for $1.1 Billion in 2000
- Written in Dexterity specifically for GP
- As of 2010: 41,000 companies use GP

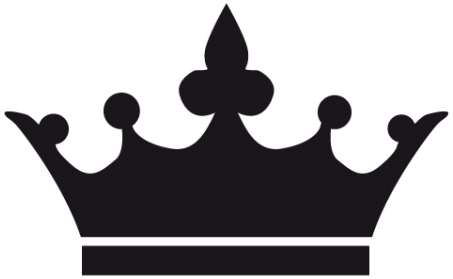
Microsoft Dynamics GP - Users

- No Windows Authentication (Active Directory) integration available (out of the box)
  - User accounts are created, managed and stored by SQL Server
- SQL Server “SA” account is the most powerful
- DYNSA owns all the GP databases. Performs privileged actions without the SA account in GP.
- Regular user accounts perform daily actions

Microsoft Dynamics GP



- Uses “client-server” architecture
- Application runs on the client, not the server



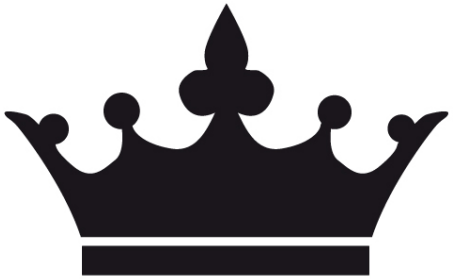
Locating the GP Systems and Database

System Naming Conventions

- Conduct DNS or NETBIOS queries
- Network shares with GP client installation
- Typical names we've found on networks:
  - GP
  - GP-PORTAL
  - DYNAMICS
  - DYNAMICS_DB
  - GREAT PLAINS
  - ACCOUNTING
  - FINANCE

Additional Recon

- Most Critical: GP SQL Server
- Others systems include:
  - The GP client applications (user workstations)
  - GP Business Portal (SharePoint)
- Company Intranet
  - Usually reveals GP and/or accounting system documentation
- Network Shares
  - Sometimes the GP application is shared on the SQL server!



Attack Vectors in GP

Vulnerabilities in GP

- DoS and remote overflow vulnerabilities in GP version 9 and lower
- Weak cipher for the system password (2010)
  - Debunked by Microsoft as a real issue
- Typical SQL Server vulnerabilities and misconfigurations
  - Example: Local Administrator group added to the “sysadmin” role on the SQL Server

Attacks We Like for Fraud

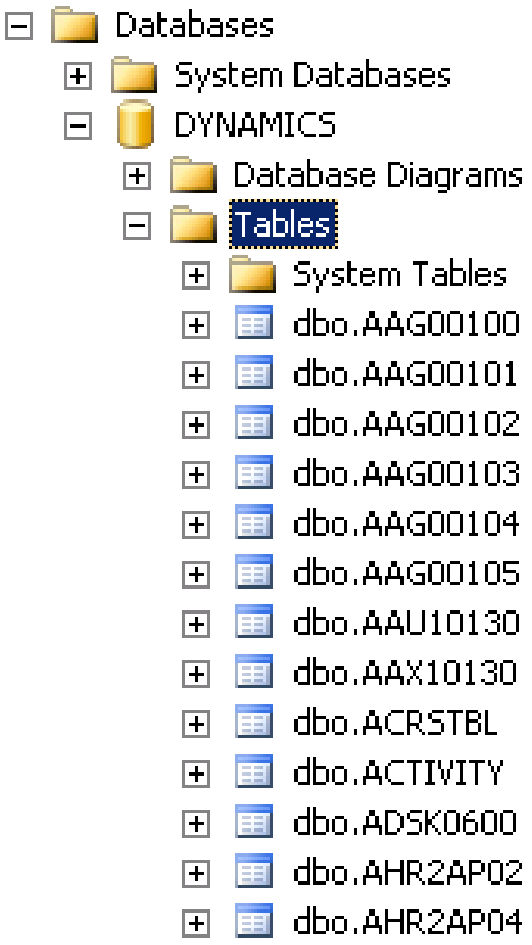
- Gain access to the GP SQL database directly
- GP user account hijack from the client
- Process injection via custom malware on the client

Attacking the Database

- Goal: Modify and create GP database entries to commit fraud
- Easy with direct access to the SQL server
- One problem…
- How do we know what to modify to commit the fraud?

GP Table Naming Conventions

- GP Tables are not named with good descriptions…
- There is good news though!



GP Table Prefix Identification

Prefix	Module	Prefix	Module
GL	General Ledger	AA	Analytical Accounting
AF	Advanced Financial Analysis	DTA	Multi-dimensional Analysis
PM	Payables Management	SY	System or Company
RM	Receivables Management	AHR	Advanced HR
SOP	Sales Order Processing	HR	Human Resources
POP	Purchase Order Processing	BM	Bill of Materials
IV	Inventory	DD	Direct Deposit
IVC	Invoicing (NOT SOP)	EXT	Extender
UPR	US Payroll	MC	Multicurrency
CM	Cash Management (Bank Rec)	SVC	Field Service
LK	Linked Transactions	ASI	SmartList Favorites
ME	EFT	ERB	Excel Report Builder
PA	Project Accounting	EXT	Extender
FA	Fixed Assets	SLB	SmartList Builder
PDK	Personal Data Keeper	CPY	Canadian Payroll

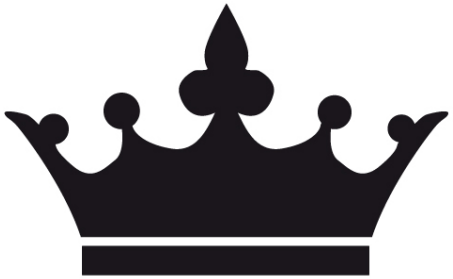
Credit: Leslie Vail

http://dynamicsconfessions.blogspot.com/2012/05/data-flow-and-table-names.html

GP Table Identifiers

Table Number	Table Type
0	Master Tables
10000	Work Tables
20000	Open Tables
30000	History Tables
40000	Setup Tables
50000	Temp Tables
60000	Relation Tables
70000	Report Options Tables
80000	Posting Journal Reprint Tables
90000	Mixed bag – no standard type

- Put the prefix with the identifier to determine the table function
- PM1000 = Payables Management Work Table



Attacking the GP User

Who to Target?

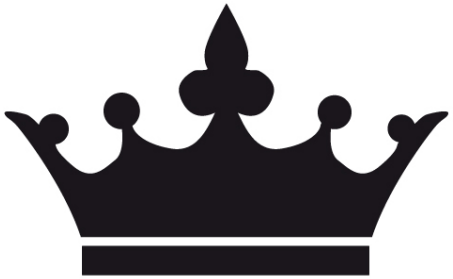
- Accounting Department Users
- Controller
- Bookkeeper
- CFO
- The Accountant

The Goal

- Compromise the user's workstation
  - GP application is installed there!
- GP login and password
- Compromise other workstations, pivot to the accounting users
- Create backdoor into the user's workstation(s)

Example Scenario

- Harvest accounting department usernames and emails via LinkedIn
- Create targeted phishing email
- Link to download malicious attachment
  - “Click here to install the latest GP patch!”
- Mayhem ensues…or installs (more on this in a minute)



Creating the Perfect Fraud via Custom Malware

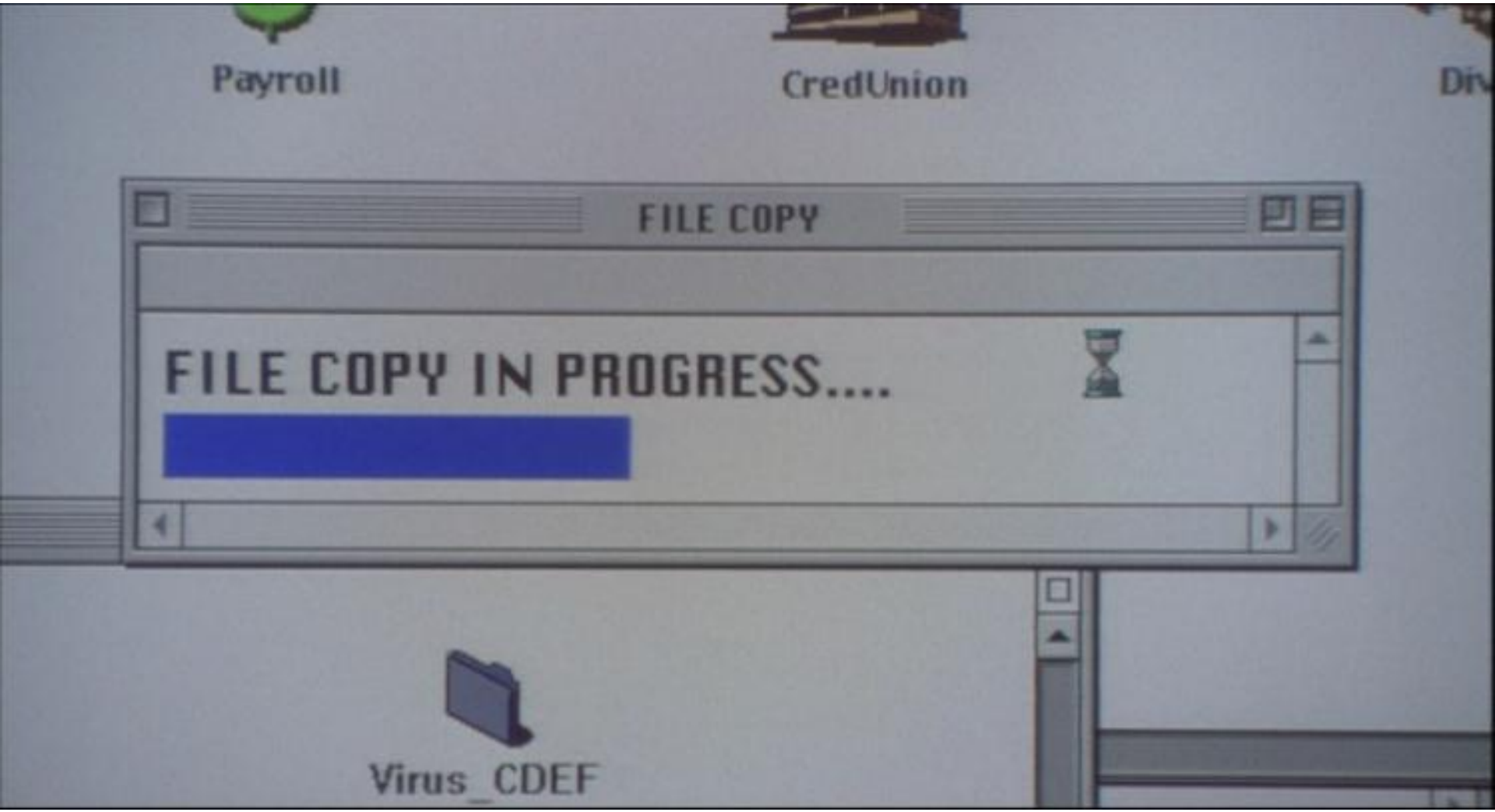
Who Wants to Create Mayhem!

- Who's seen the "Office Space" Movie?
- Considered a "cult classic" from a Hollywood perspective
- Install virus (via floppy disk), infect accounting system, shave off a fraction of a penny of each transaction, check account balance, profit!

Office Space ©1999 Twentieth Century Fox

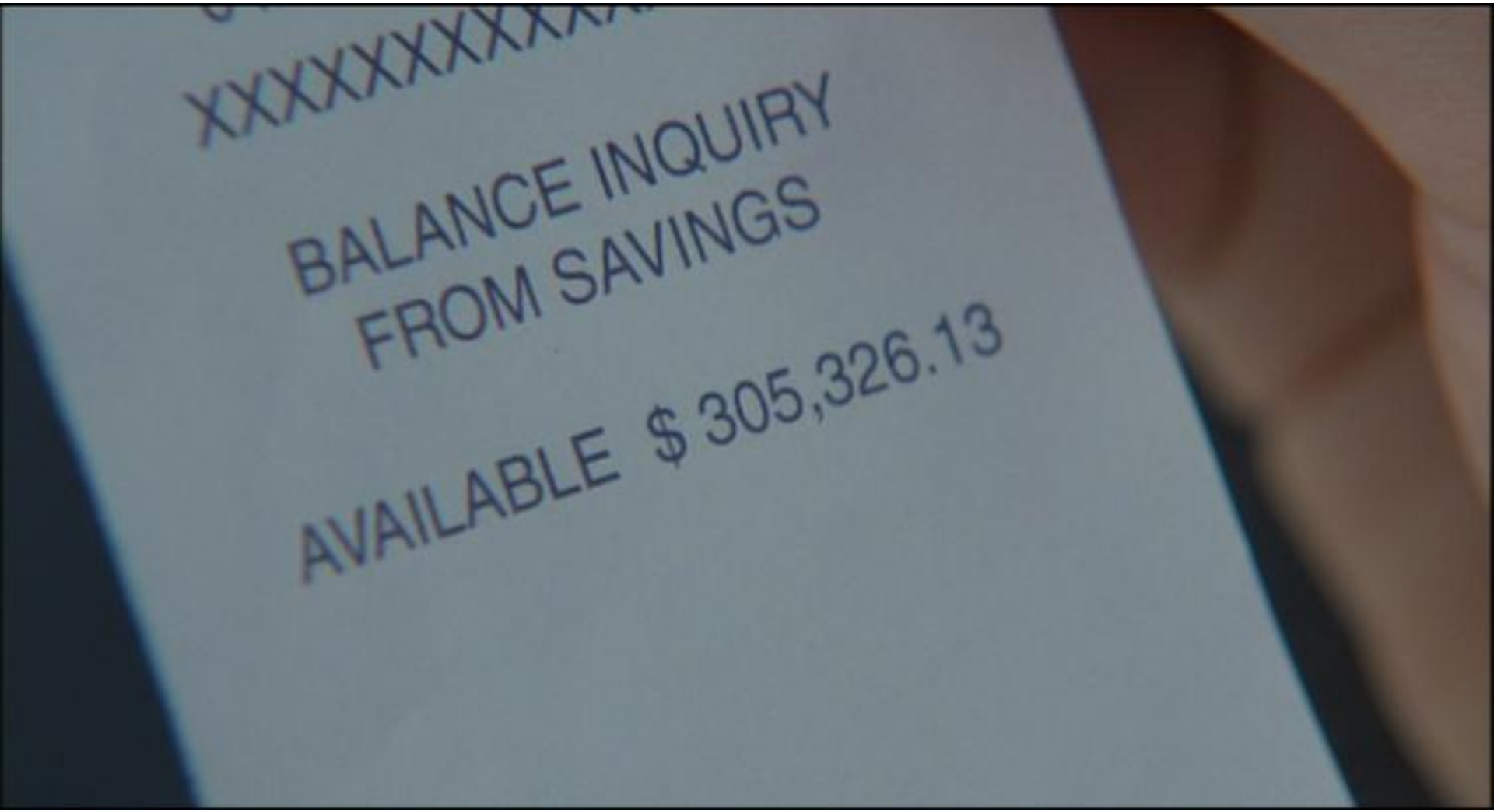
Office Space ©1999 Twentieth Century Fox

Office Space ©1999 Twentieth Century Fox



Office Space ©1999 Twentieth Century Fox

$ PROFIT $



Office Space ©1999 Twentieth Century Fox

Introducing: Mayhem Malware

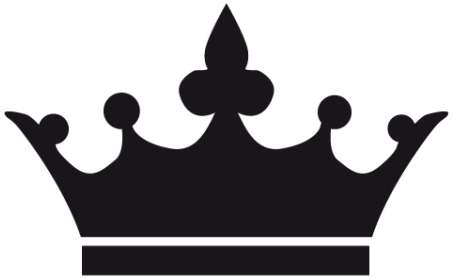
- Proof of Concept code created by Spencer McIntyre of the SecureState Research & Innovation Team

How Mayhem Works

- Uses function hooking and library injection to execute within the context of the GP frontend
- Goal: Open a channel back to the attacker so commands can be made via the GP frontend
- Mayhem is injected at runtime and can use patching techniques

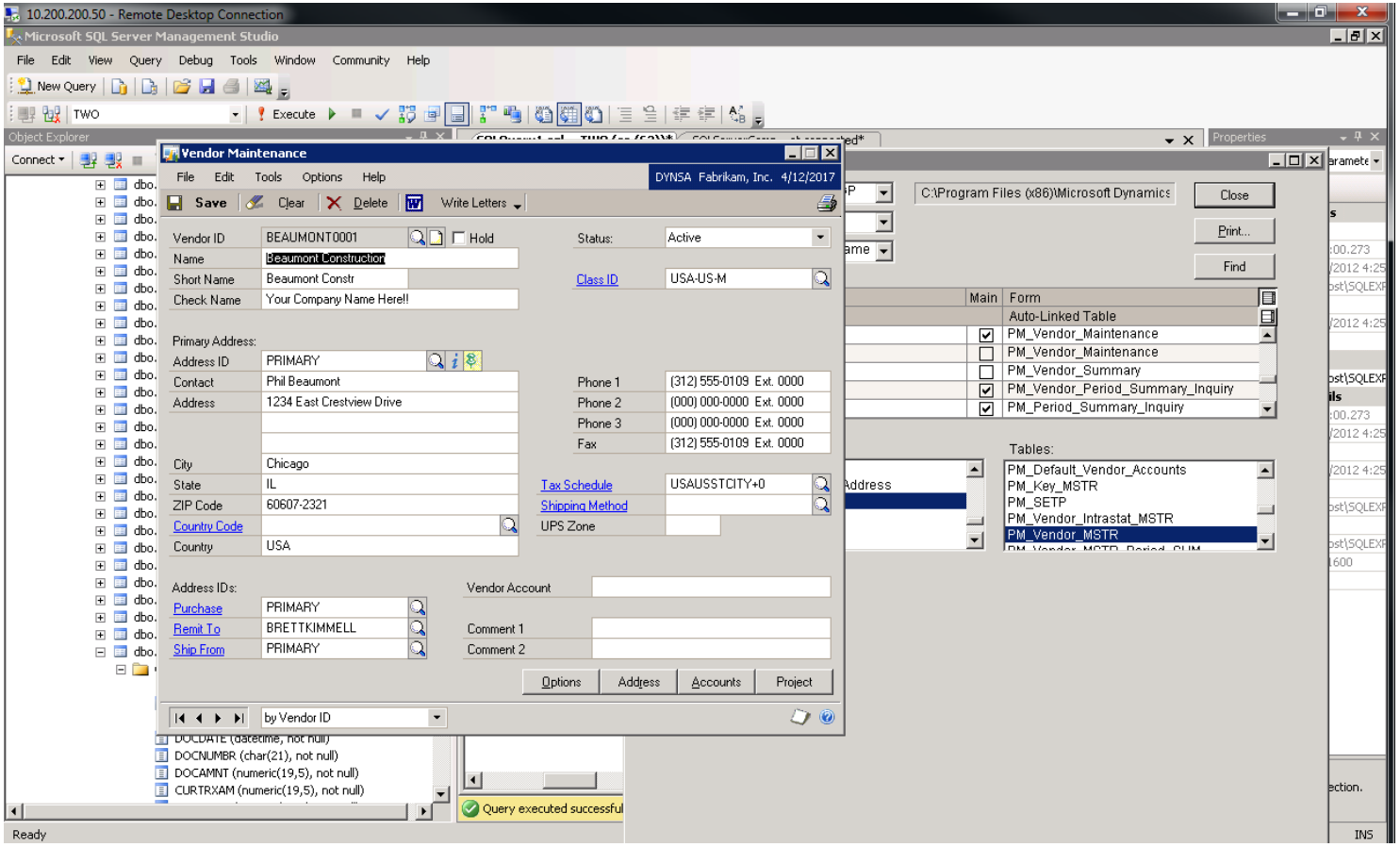
How Mayhem Works

- Mayhem creates hooks in key locations
  - Most important: calls to ODBC32 library
- Mayhem monitors this and then allows injection of SQL commands into the database as the *authenticated user*
- A HTTP backdoor is created which allows on the fly modification of SQL commands by the attacker
- More details on Mayhem in our whitepaper



The Attacks:
How Fraud Can be Committed

Manipulating Existing Vendor Records' Remit-To Address



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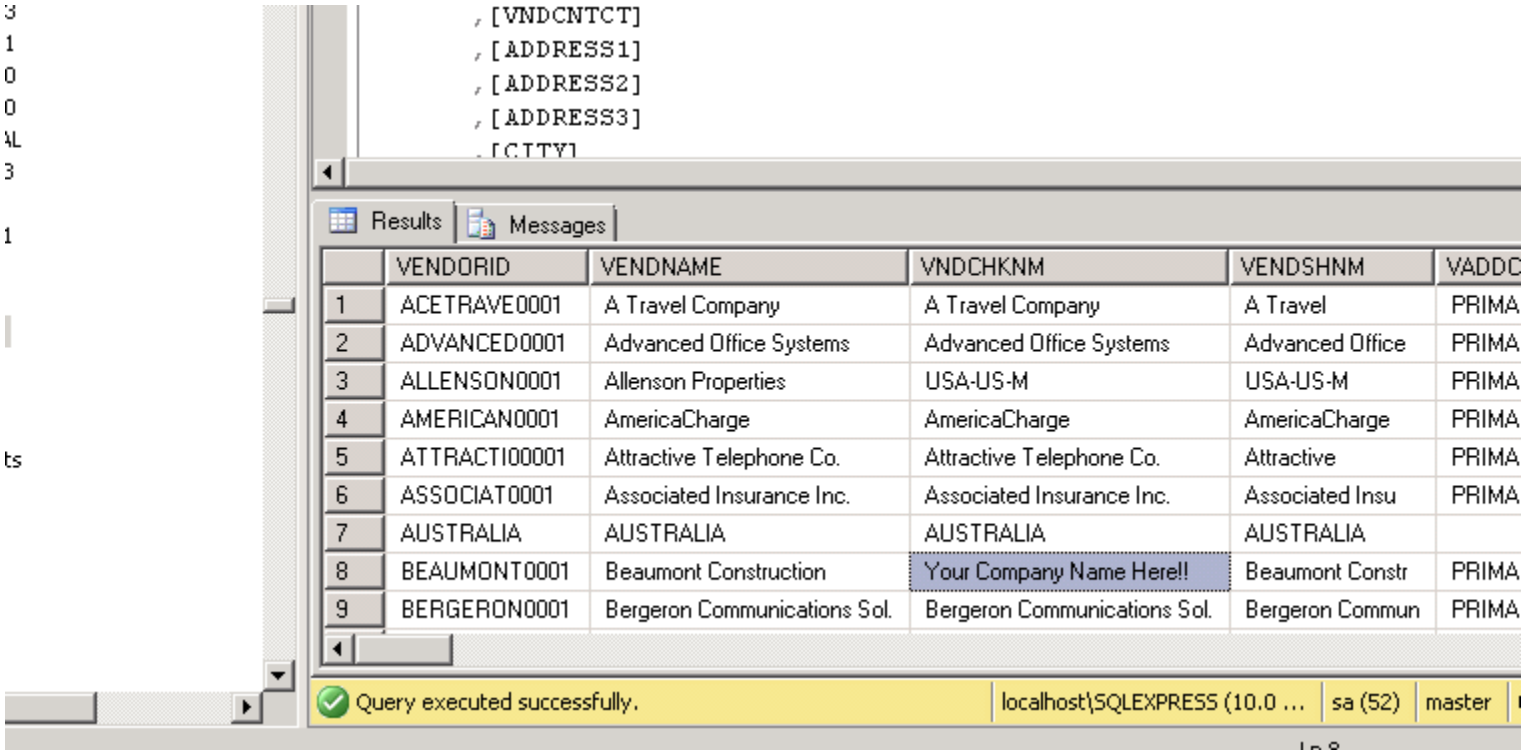

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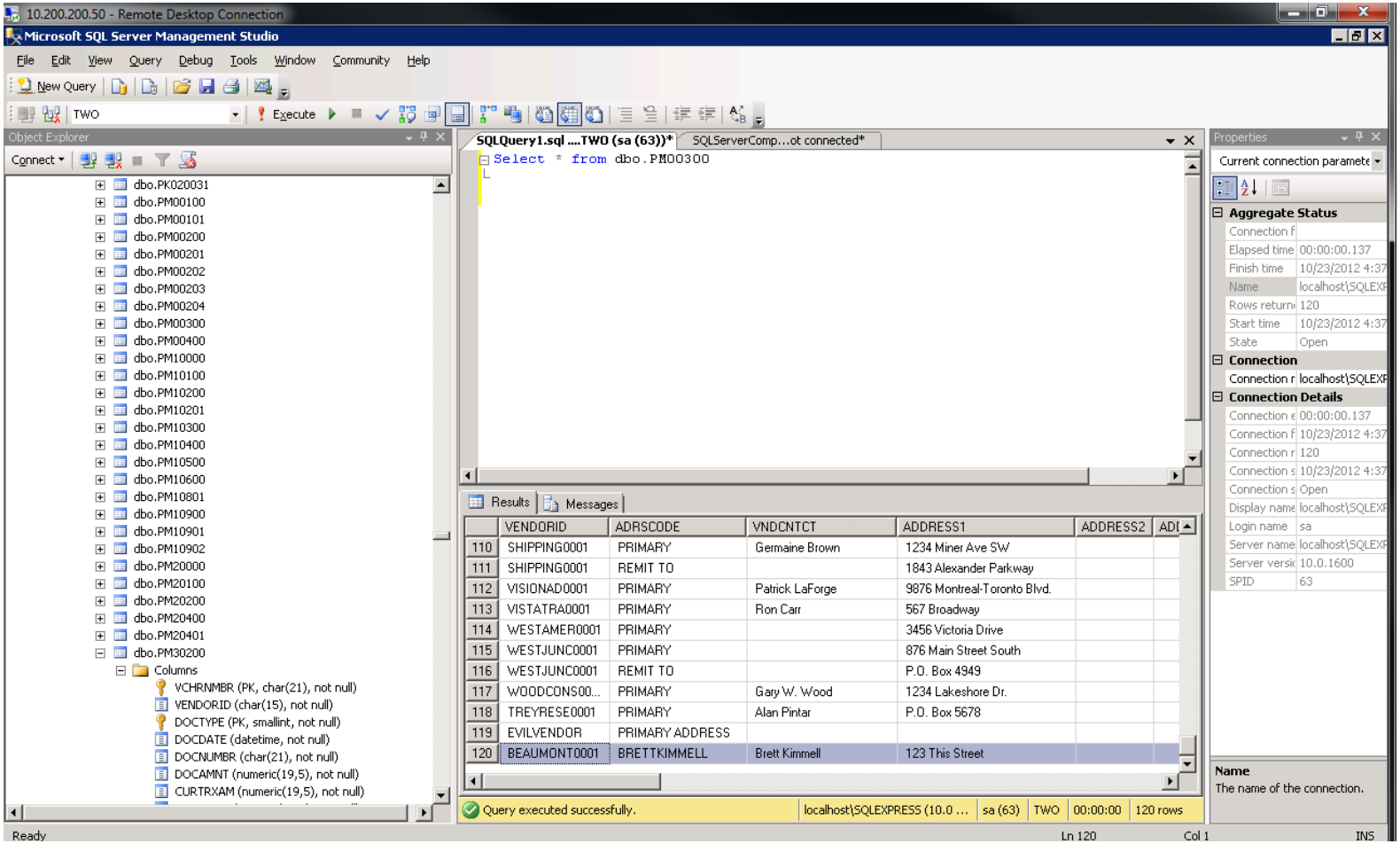
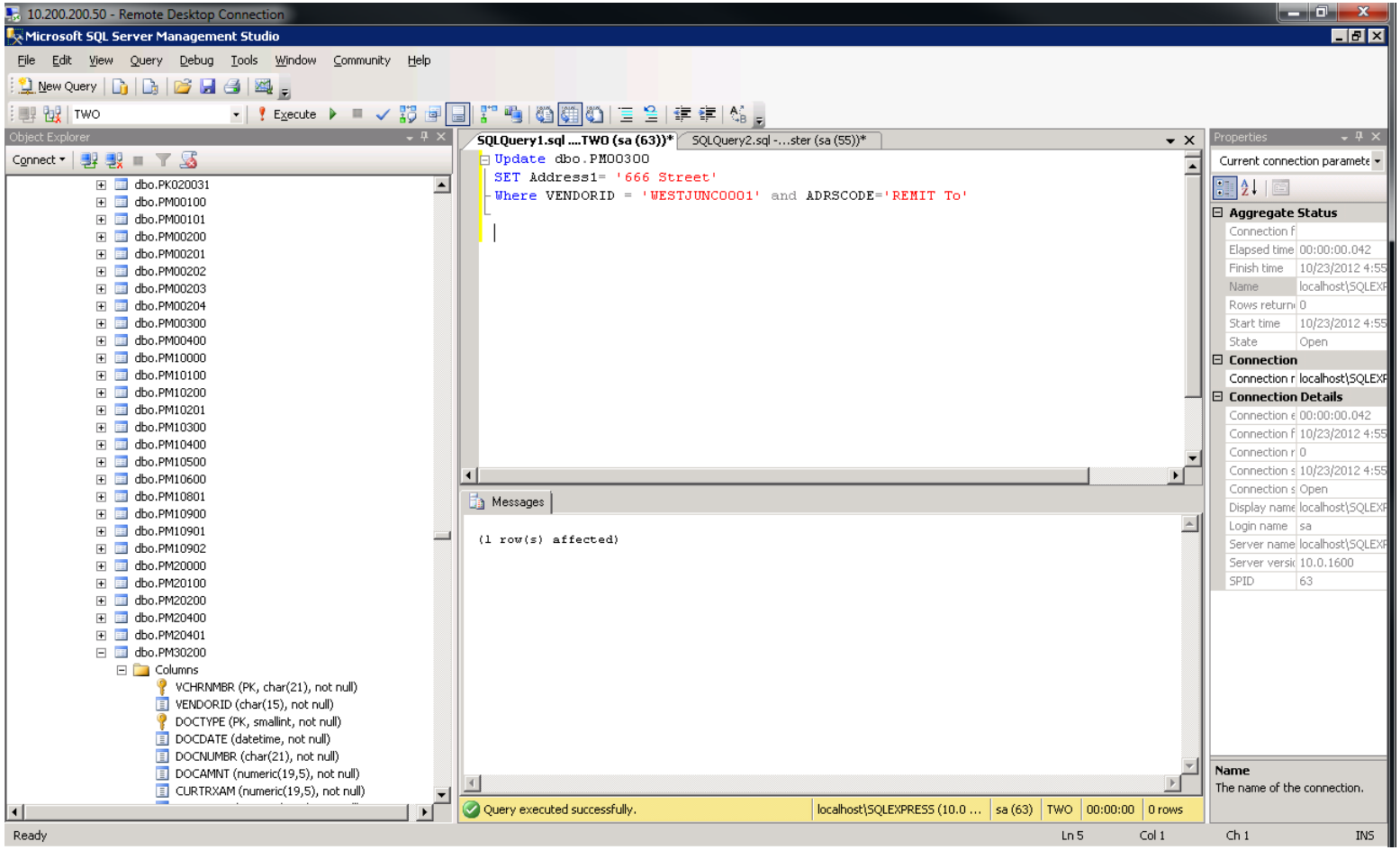
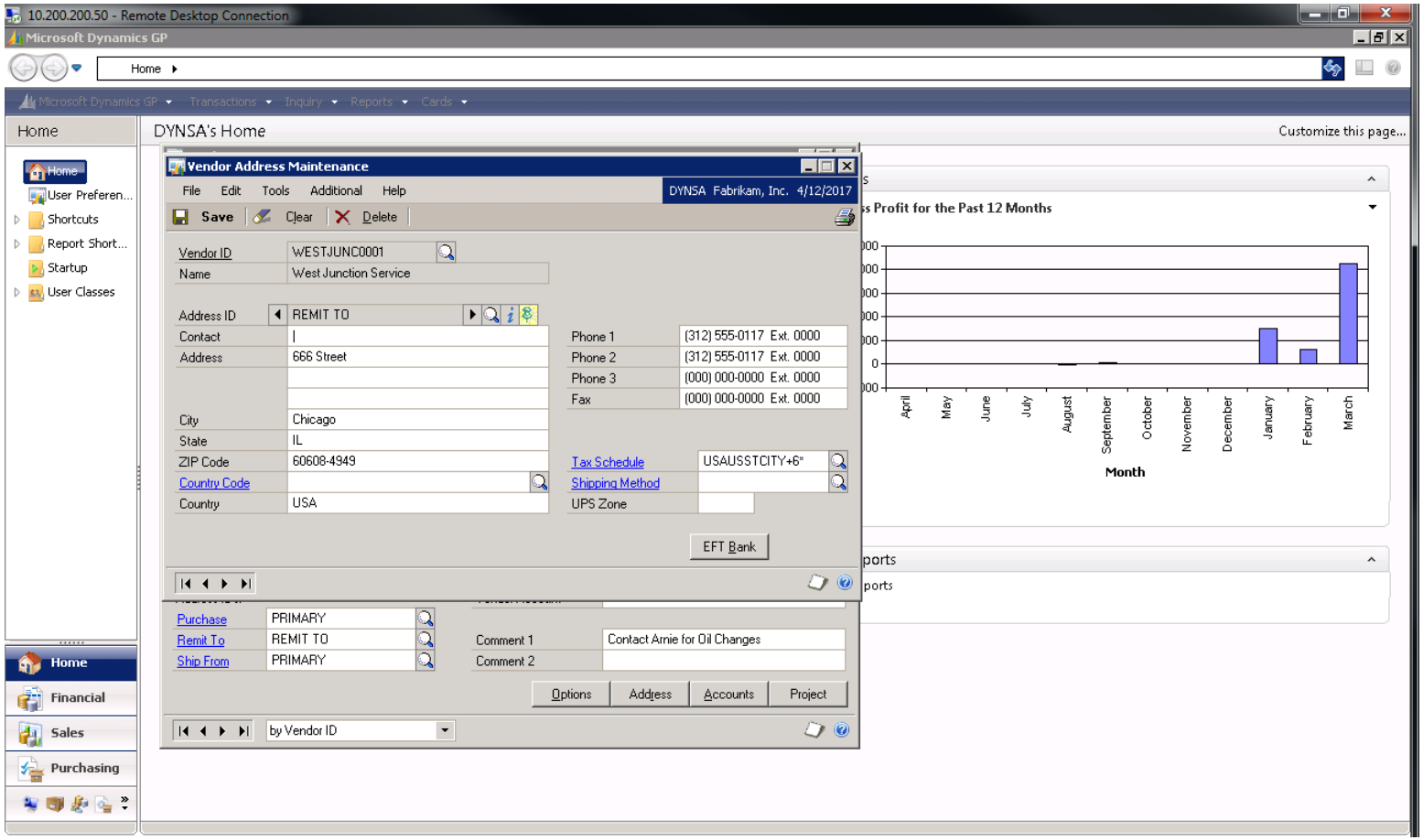


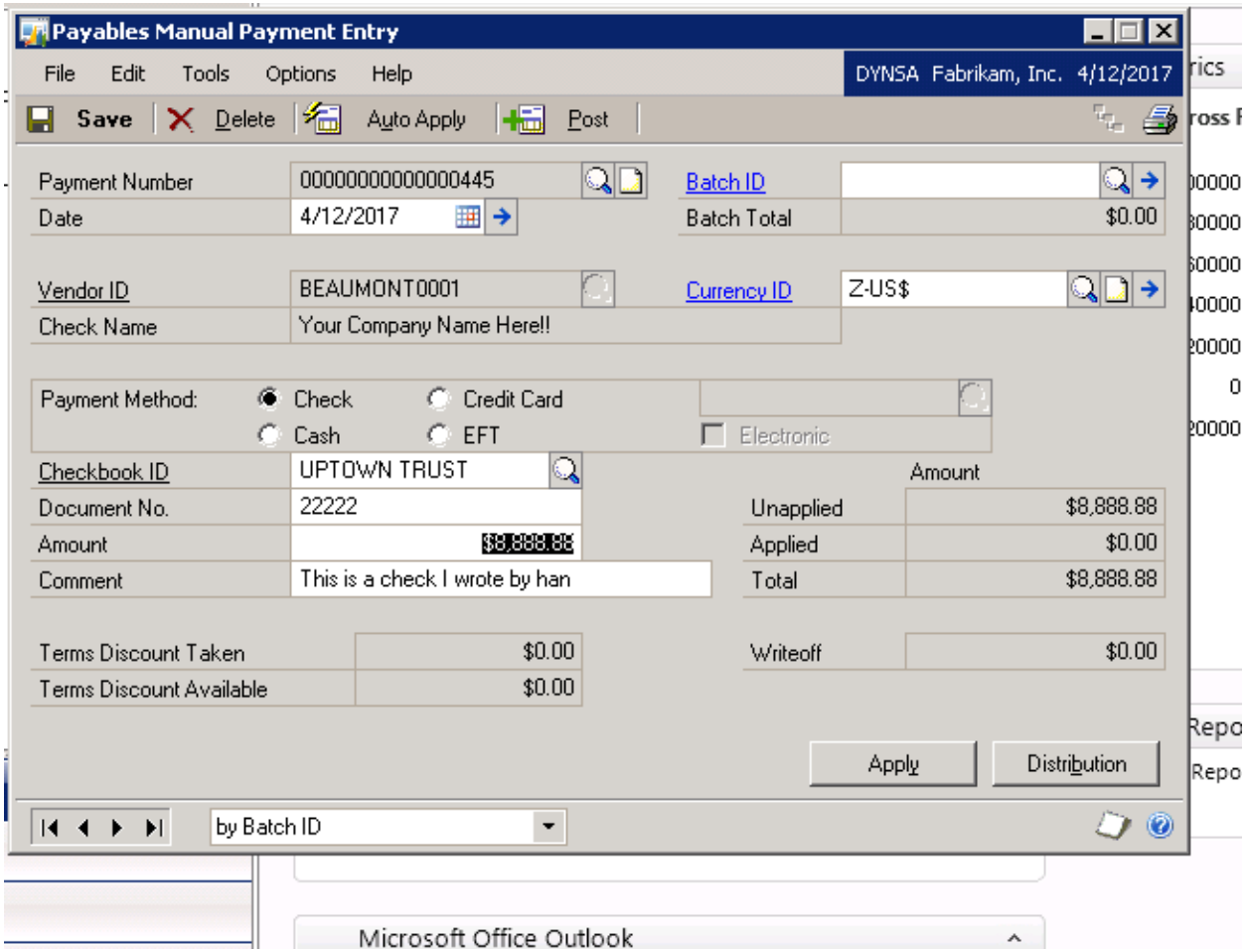
Remit-To cont……



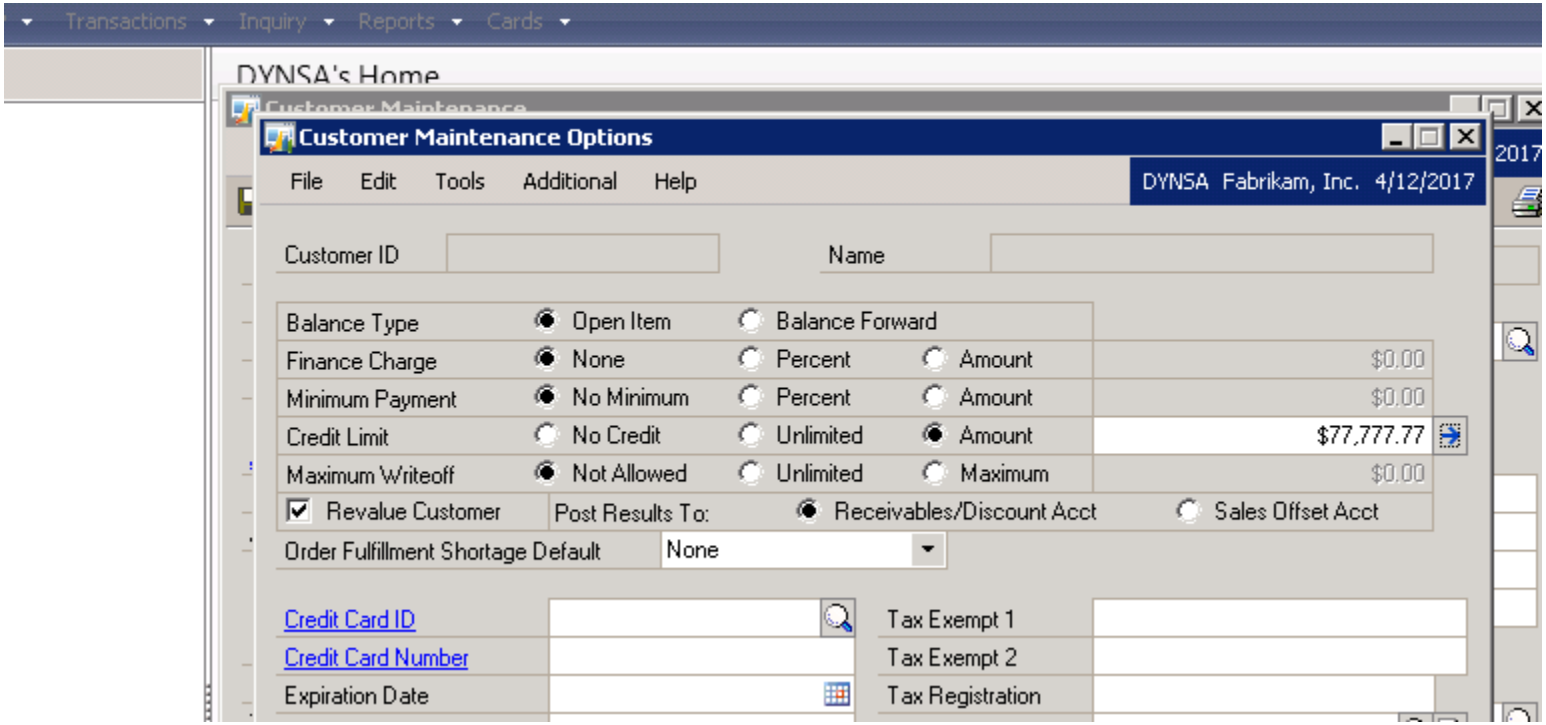
Remit-To cont……



Create a New Vendor and Manual Check Entry (Mayhem PoC)

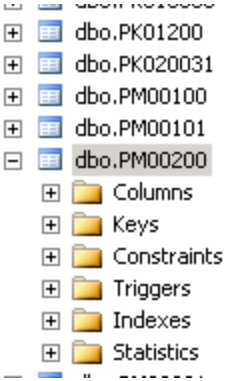


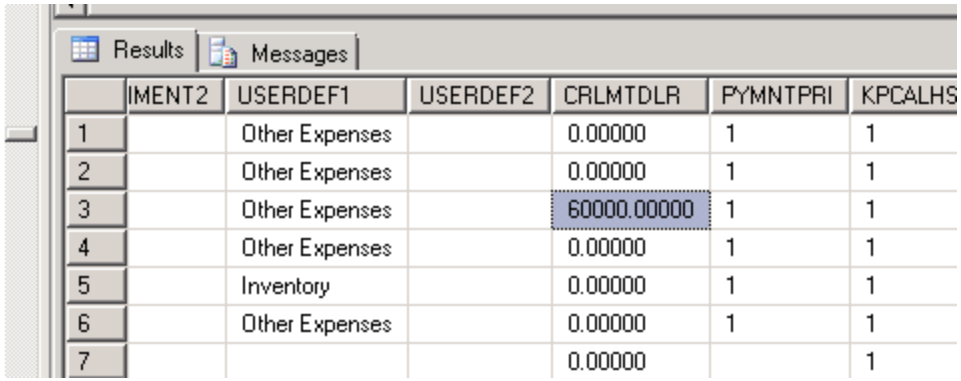
Increase Customer Credit Limit



Increase Customer Credit Limit

CREDTLMT (Credit Limit) in PM00200: (Thanks to Bud Cool, a frequent contributor to the Microsoft GP Newsgroup, for this information!) 0 – No Credit, 1 – Unlimited, 2 – Amount. Note: If CREDTLMT = 2 then CRLMTDLR contains the amount of the credit limit, otherwise CRLMTDLR is zero.





	IMENT2	USERDEF1	USERDEF2	CRLMTDLR	PYMNTPRI	KPCALHS
1		Other Expenses		0.00000	1	1
2		Other Expenses		0.00000	1	1
3		Other Expenses		60000.00000	1	1
4		Other Expenses		0.00000	1	1
5		Inventory		0.00000	1	1
6		Other Expenses		0.00000	1	1
7				0.00000		1

Credit Balance in Customer Account, Get a Refund

General Ledger Distributions

Account Number	Account Description	Account Type	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
000-1100-00	Cash - Operating Account	CASH	77,777.77	0.00
000-1200-00	Accounts Receivable	RECV	0.00	77,777.77
			77,777.77	77,777.77

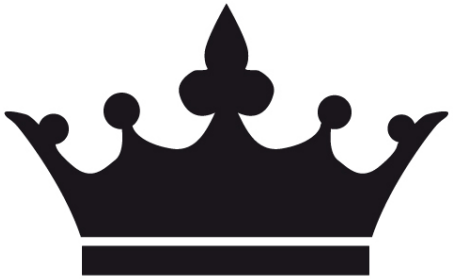
Applied Distributions

Type	Document Number	Apply Date	Discount	Write off	Amount Applied
SLS	INVS3008	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	938.93
SLS	SLS11012	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	2,243.70
SLS	SLS11015	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	833.33
SLS	SLS11016	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
SLS	SLS20000	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	2,461.00
SLS	STDINV2227	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	171.10
SLS	STDINV2228	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	128.30
SLS	STDINV2252	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	5,702.69
DR	DM20005	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
FIN	FC20010	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	20.00
SVC	SVC1000	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	468.70
SVC	SVC1001	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	2,155.79
SVC	SVC11004	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	1,859.63
SVC	SVC11013	4/12/2017	0.00	0.00	2,356.89
			0.00	0.00	26,840.06

Totals:	$77,777.77	$0.00	$0.00	$50,937.71

Other Fraud Attacks

- Mass Steal Banking Information
- Mass Steal Credit Card Data
- Private Financial Records



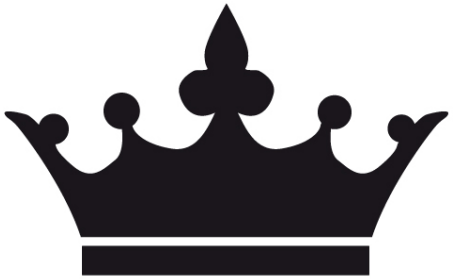
Accounting Controls to Prevent Fraud

Bank Reconciliation

- Timing is everything
- Bank reconciliation compares the bank balance with the book balance monthly

Accounting Controls

- Matching Checks Cut to Invoices
- Matching Address on Check to Address on Invoice
- Process for Adding Vendors to System
- Customer On-Boarding Process
- Confirmation of Vendor Banking Information
- Account Reconciliations



Conclusions

What about Technical Controls?

- Never discount “Defense-in-Depth”
- All it takes is for one control to fail!
  - GP, SQL server, user permissions/roles, security awareness, antivirus, IDS, incident response
- This is why the accounting controls are more important to implement

Final Thoughts

- It is possible to perpetrate fraud against the accounting system from the outside
- Fraud is much easier for an insider
- Combine malware with legitimate entries = perfect crime
- Combination of technical and accounting controls are required to combat modern fraud

Questions?

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  Twitter: agent0x0
  Blog: Spylogic.net

- **Brett Kimmell**
  bkimmell@securestate.com
  Twitter: kimmellbrett

- More details on attacks included in our whitepaper