

ECE Highlights - News of Note



Company Founded by ECE's John Copeland Partners with Defense Agencies to Aid against Network Intrusions

Project Therminator Brings Together Best-of-Breed Information Security Technology from Government Research and Private Sectors

Lancope, Inc., the provider of the award-winning StealthWatch™ for behavior-based intrusion detection, has announced a technology transfer licensing and cooperative research and development agreement for a joint initiative with the National Security Agency (NSA) and multiple defense department research entities to build Therminator, an appliance for advanced information security, for both government and private deployment.



John Copeland, Steven Huntsman (Institute for Defense Analysis), and David Ford (National Security Agency) work on integrating the government-developed Therminator Technology (left screen) with the Lancope StealthWatch system (right screen). Photo courtesy of Lancope

Lancope will work with the NSA and joint Department of Defense (DoD) research teams to pursue an aggressive development schedule that integrates Lancope's high-speed data flow architecture in StealthWatch with NSA's complex data reduction and data visualization technology.

Bringing together best-of-breed technologies across government and private sectors, Project Therminator will produce a graphical representation of network traffic that allows information security specialists and network administrators to recognize and

understand the impact of incoming and outgoing network attacks in real-time. Armed with this enhanced network security technology, government agencies and private organizations can provide more proactive protection of sensitive and classified data.

"The threat to computerized networks is growing—in sophistication, capability, and activity levels. Script-based intrusion detection systems [IDSs] do exactly what they are scripted to do and we must and will continue to employ them," said Major General Dave Bryan, U.S. Army, Commanding Officer of the Joint Task Force for Computer Network Operations. "The problem is that we must also expect the threat to know this and to do the unexpected. In other words, the sophisticated threat I am most concerned with is not going to behave in an expected way. Therefore, we must carefully script our systems to look for the unexpected because they are going to camouflage their malicious activity as otherwise normal activity."

According to John Copeland, founder, chairman, and chief scientist with Lancope and the John H. Weintraub Technology Transfer Chair in the School of ECE at Georgia Tech, "Therminator will identify sophisticated cyber-war attacks that are launched by renegade or terrorist organizations that cannot be detected using traditional signature-based intrusion detection systems." He adds, "By integrating Lancope's proven behavior-based IDS with the NSA and DoD's data visualization technology, we are developing superior, proactive

information security technology that helps public agencies combat cyber war and gives private organizations the additional ability to recognize sophisticated denial of service attacks in real-time."

"The government's collaboratively developed defense technology is very much in line with Lancope's information security strategy and integrates seamlessly with StealthWatch for advanced, proactive behavior-based intrusion detection," Dr. Copeland continued. "This type of partnership bridges the best elements of GOTS [Government Off The Shelf] with COTS [Commercial Off The Shelf] to bear on the very latest information assurance challenges."

Lancope

Founded in September 2000, Lancope is the provider of Advanced Threat Management solutions designed to combat today's advanced hacking exploits and corporate network misuse on

enterprise networks. The company's flagship product, StealthWatch, is a behavior-based Intrusion Detection System that enables intelligent alarming, provides advanced network surveillance, operates at gigabit speeds, recognizes unknown threats, and creates a forensic trail of network activity. StealthWatch recently received the Innovation In Infrastructure Award (i3) in the security category from the editors of *eWeek Magazine* and *PC Magazine* at Spring NetWorld+Interop 2002 and was named "Most Impressive" by *eWeek* in 2001.

This article was excerpted from a press release written by Jody Ma of Lancope. To read the entire release, please click [here](#).

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