

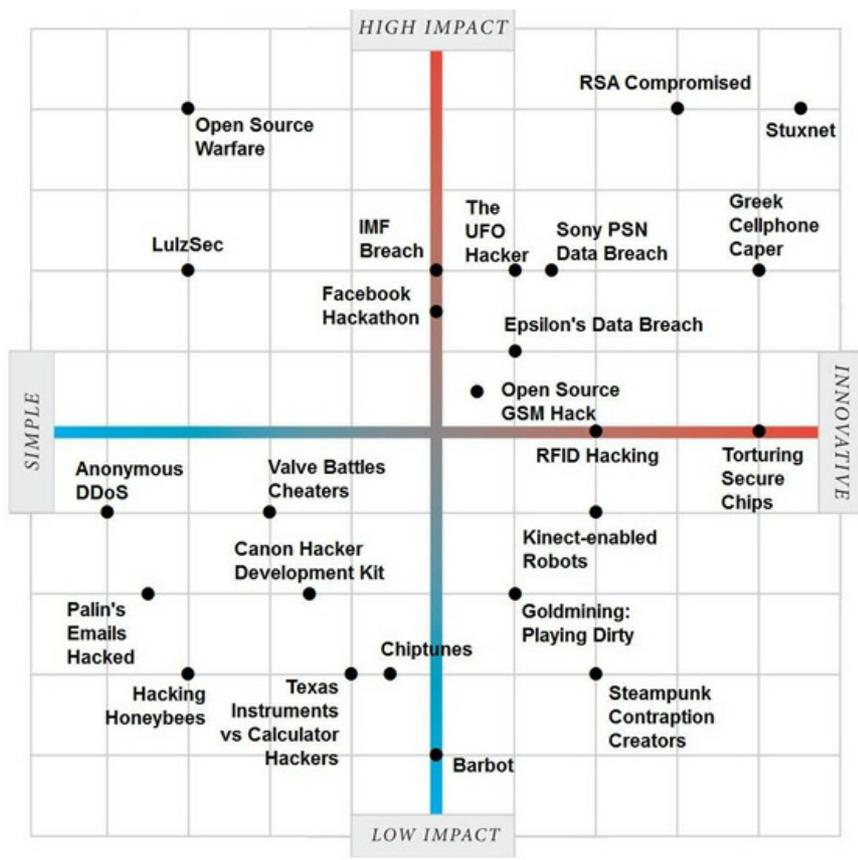
IT Security: Mid-Year Gut Check



Peter Silva, 2011-06-07

Is your stomach turning or does it feel a calm satisfaction halfway through 2011? What seemed like a relatively calm 2011 during the first couple months has turned into a banner year of breaches. The forecast could qualify as: In like a Lamb, out like a Lion as they say. When thinking about this post and even as I started typing a couple sentences ago, I was planning on reviewing the trends of the last 6 months: looking at the [2011 Verizon Data Breach Investigations Report](#) and how the total number of compromised records has decreased even if the [number cybercrime caseloads has increased](#); examining some [recent cloud surveys](#) to see if security is still a top concern; reviewing the latest [Ponemon Institute study](#) which says that cyber attack and potential breach is a statistical certainty with 90% of businesses surveyed reporting at least 1 security incident over the last 12 months; the [2010 Symantec/Ponemon Data Breach Loss Report](#) from this past March which calculated that the average cost to a company was \$214 per compromised record and \$7.2 million over the entire organization; a little on the rise of hacktivism; along with how [human behavior](#) plays an important role in many breaches.

As I was doing a little research gathering up links, stats and other resources for this story, I ran across [this chart](#) from IEEE and I had to share it. It's called [The Two Faces of Hacking](#). It looks at the 25 biggest and best breach stories and maps them based on innovation and impact. I would suggest visiting the [original site](#) since there is some interaction with the chart (good, bad and neutral hacks) and links to each of the stories. Maybe I should have titled this blog, *Hacks: The Good , The Bad, and The Neutral*.



The story links are interesting like the [Torturing the Secret out of a Secure Chip](#) hack, the [The Steampunk Contraptors](#) and of course, [Hands On](#) about the RFID guinea pig but was surprised that the [digital certificate breach](#) didn't make the list. Anyway, this chart seemed like the perfect way to review the past and ponder the future.

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Resources:

- [The Two Faces of Hacking](#)
- [And The Hits Keep Coming](#)

- [Unplug Everything!](#)
- [Technology Can Only Do So Much](#)
- [3 Billion Malware Attacks and Counting](#)
- [The Big Attacks are Back...Not That They Ever Stopped](#)
- [Has The Sky Cleared on Cloud Security?](#)
- [Defense in Depth in Context](#)
- [Where Do You Wear Your Malware?](#)
- [Cure Your Big App Attack](#)
- [F5 Friday: Eliminating the Blind Spot in Your Data Center Security Strategy](#)

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