

# Hardening pkgsrc

*Securing packages, 17.000 at a time*

**BSDCan 2017**

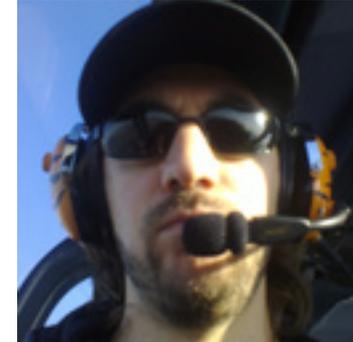
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# About myself

- Pierre Pronchery, planet Earth
- DeforaOS Project since 2004
- IT-Security consultant since 2006
- NetBSD developer since May 2012
- Working on NetBSD with Git through the EdgeBSD community since August 2013
- Co-founder of Defora Networks since July 2016:  
<https://www.defora.net/>



# Introduction

- pkgsrc is a multi-platform:
  - Software distribution
  - Build framework
  - Package manager
- Default source for packaged software on NetBSD, SmartOS, Minix...
- Supports many more!
  - Over 17.000 packages on 17+ platforms



# Motivation

- As illustrated again in the news this week, a “**cyber-war**” is raging *right now*
- We have a responsibility towards our users
- pkgsrc offers a great opportunity for hardening a complete software setup



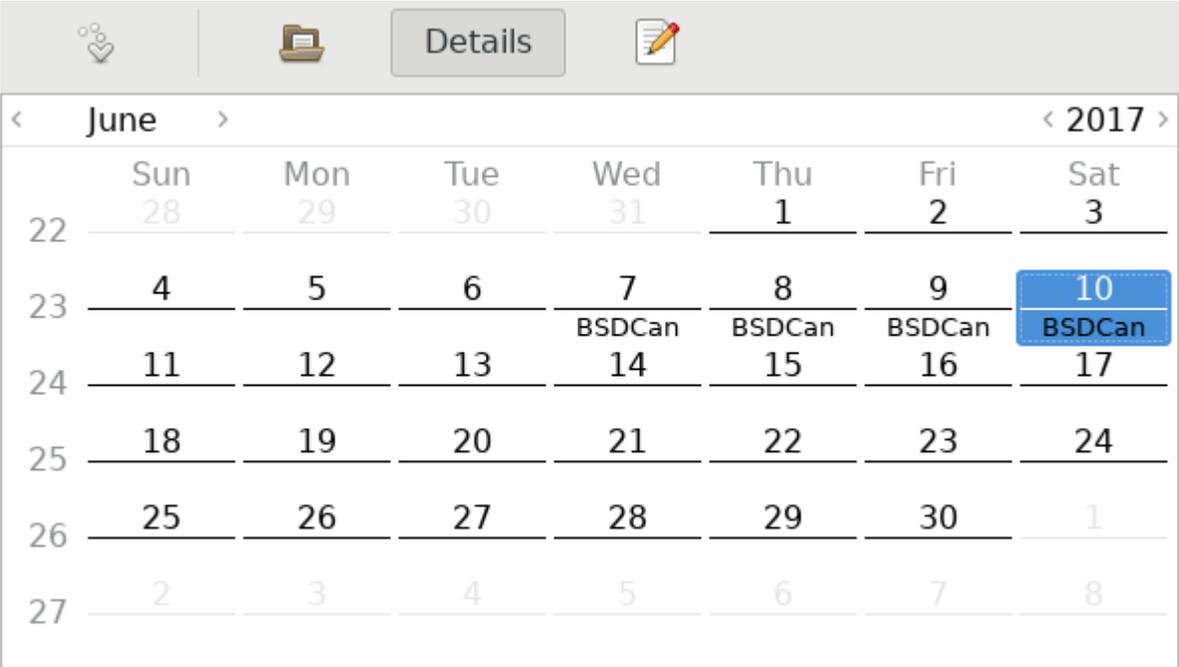
# Agenda

1. Security management  
*Processes in place*

2. Hardening features  
*Technical measures*

3. Future work  
*Perspectives for  
improvement*

Questions & Answers



	Sun 28	Mon 29	Tue 30	Wed 31	Thu 1	Fri 2	Sat 3
22							
23	4	5	6	7 BSDCan	8 BSDCan	9 BSDCan	10 BSDCan
24	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
27	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

# 1. Security management

## 1. Teams in charge

- Security Team
- Release Engineering Group

## 2. Vulnerability assessment database

- Usage from source
- Auditing binary packages

## 3. Maintenance of the stable release

- Security patches
- Long-Term Support (LTS)



# pkgsrc Security Team

- List of duties:
  - Handles security issues relevant to pkgsrc:  
[pkgsrc-security@NetBSD.org](mailto:pkgsrc-security@NetBSD.org)  
[http://pkgsrc.org/pkgsrc-security\\_pgp\\_key.asc](http://pkgsrc.org/pkgsrc-security_pgp_key.asc)
  - Maintains the vulnerability database:  
<http://cdn.netbsd.org/pub/NetBSD/packages/vulns/pkg-vulnerabilities.bz2>



# Vulnerability database

- Assembled from:
  - Release notes from upstream packages
  - Security Advisories from vendors (Secunia...)
  - Announcements on public mailing-lists (OSS-Security...)
  - Erratas or advisories from other distributions, governmental or technical organisations (MITRE, CERT...)
- Cryptographically signed (PGP)



# Vulnerability assessment

- Configure updates in `/etc/daily.conf`:  
`fetch_pkg_vulnerabilities=YES`
- To fetch manually:  
`# pkg_admin fetch-pkg-vulnerabilities -S`
- To audit the packages installed:  
`# pkg_admin audit`

# Vulnerability assessment (from sources)

```
sysutils/xenkernel45$ make install
=> Bootstrap dependency digest>=20010302:
found digest-20160304
==> Checking for vulnerabilities in
xenkernel45-4.5.5nb1
Package xenkernel45-4.5.5nb1 has a information-leak
vulnerability, see
http://xenbits.xen.org/xsa/advisory-200.html
[...]
ERROR: Define ALLOW_VULNERABLE_PACKAGES in
/etc/mk.conf or IGNORE_URL in pkg_install.conf(5) if
this package is absolutely essential.
*** Error code 1
```



# Vulnerability assessment (binary packages)

```
# pkg_add wireshark-2.2.1.tgz
Package wireshark-2.2.1 has a denial-
of-service vulnerability, see
https://www.wireshark.org/security/wn
pa-sec-2016-58.html
[...]
pkg_add: 1 package addition failed
```



# Vulnerability assessment (binary packages)

- In `/etc/pkg_install.conf`:  
`CHECK_VULNERABILITIES=always`
- Alternatively, set to `interactive` to be prompted:  
[...]  
Do you want to proceed with the  
installation of `wireshark-2.2.1` [y/n]?  
n  
Cancelling installation  
pkg\_add: 1 package addition failed



# Security Team members

- Alistair G. Crooks <agc@>
- Daniel Horecki <morr@>
- Sevan Janiyan <sevan@>
- Thomas Klausner <wiz@>
- Tobias Nygren <tnn@>
- Ryo Onodera <ryoon@>
- Fredrik Pettai <pettai@>
- Jörg Sonnenberger <joerg@>
- Tim Zingelman <tez@>



# Release Engineering Group

- List of duties:

- Manage stable branches

<https://releng.netbsd.org/cgi-bin/req-pkgsrc.cgi>

- Process pullup requests

*Including security issues*

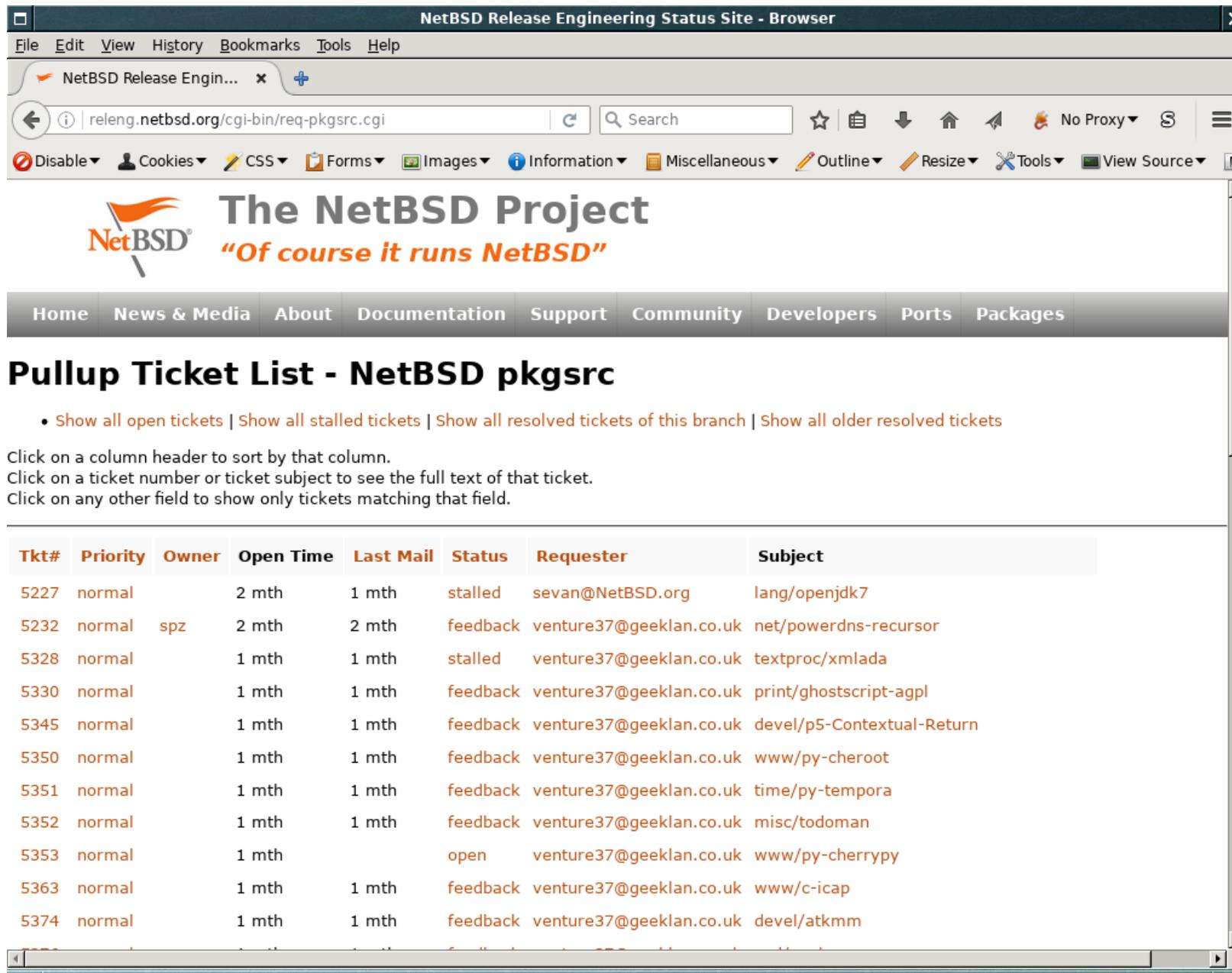
<https://www.netbsd.org/developers/releng/pullups.html#pkgsrc-releng>

- Schedule freeze periods

<https://www.pkgsrc.org/is-a-freeze-on/>



# Release Engineering Group



The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "NetBSD Release Engineering Status Site - Browser". The address bar contains "releng.netbsd.org/cgi-bin/req-pkgsrc.cgi". The page header features the NetBSD logo and the slogan "The NetBSD Project 'Of course it runs NetBSD'". A navigation menu includes links for Home, News & Media, About, Documentation, Support, Community, Developers, Ports, and Packages. The main content area is titled "Pullup Ticket List - NetBSD pkgsrc" and includes a list of links: "Show all open tickets", "Show all stalled tickets", "Show all resolved tickets of this branch", and "Show all older resolved tickets". Below this is a table of tickets with columns for Tkt#, Priority, Owner, Open Time, Last Mail, Status, Requester, and Subject. The table lists 11 tickets, with the last one (5374) partially cut off at the bottom of the screenshot.

Tkt#	Priority	Owner	Open Time	Last Mail	Status	Requester	Subject
5227	normal		2 mth	1 mth	stalled	sevan@NetBSD.org	lang/openjdk7
5232	normal	spz	2 mth	2 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	net/powerdns-recursor
5328	normal		1 mth	1 mth	stalled	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	textproc/xmlada
5330	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	print/ghostscript-agpl
5345	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	devel/p5-Contextual-Return
5350	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	www/py-cheroot
5351	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	time/py-tempora
5352	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	misc/todoman
5353	normal		1 mth		open	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	www/py-cherrypy
5363	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	www/c-icap
5374	normal		1 mth	1 mth	feedback	venture37@geeklan.co.uk	devel/atkmm



# Stable releases

- Stable releases happening every quarter:
  - 2016Q4 no longer maintained
  - 2017Q1 latest stable
  - 2017Q2 in progress (HEAD)
- Joyent provides Long-Term Support (LTS)
  - joyent/feature/backports/20XXQ4  
<https://github.com/joyent/pkgsrc>
  - Focus on SmartOS



# Release Engineering Group members

- Ryo Onodera <ryoon@>
- Fredrik Pettai <pettai@>
- Eric Schnoebelen  
<schnoebe@>
- Benny Siegert  
<bsiegert@>
- S.P. Zeidler <spz@>



## 2. Hardening features

1. Package signatures
2. Stack Smashing Protection (SSP)
3. Fortify
4. PIE (for ASLR)
5. RELRO and BIND\_NOW



# Package signatures

- Support introduced initially in 2001:
  - Based on X.509 certificates or GnuPG
- Ensures authenticity and integrity:
  - Critical when installing binaries over HTTP or FTP
- Used by Joyent on SmartOS since 2014Q4:
  - Patch to use libnetpgpverify instead of GnuPG
- Still using GnuPG to generate packages



# Package signatures

- Chicken and egg problem with GnuPG:
  - Not available in base
  - Needs to be installed as a package to verify itself
- Adding support for netpgp instead:
  - Available in NetBSD's base system
  - Command line wrapper available (gpg2netpgp)
  - Still requires some patches (work in progress)
  - Security issue remaining with detached signatures



# Package signatures (creation)

- Generate a key for the user building packages:  
`$ gpg --gen-key`
- In `/etc/mk.conf`:  
`SIGN_PACKAGES=gpg`
- Optionally, in `/etc/pkg_install.conf`:  
`GPG=/usr/pkg/bin/gpg`  
`#GPG=/usr/local/bin/gpg2netpgp`  
`GPG_SIGN_AS=DEADBEEF`
- Then use `pkgsrc` from source normally



# Package signatures (installation)

- Import the key for the user installing packages:

```
# gpg --import
```

- In `/etc/pkg_install.conf`:

```
VERIFIED_INSTALLATION=always
```

- Then use `pkgsrc` normally:

```
# pkg_add socat
```

```
gpg: Signature made Thu Nov  3 14:44:06 2016 CET  
using RSA key ID CC245448
```

```
gpg: Good signature from "EdgeBSD test packages  
(khorben) <root@edgebsd.org>"
```

```
Primary key fingerprint: 968C 30DE B3C9 C147 203A  
2E6E 5FFC 2014 CC24 5448
```



# Stack Smashing Protection (SSP)

- Mitigation: reduce the impact and exploitation of Buffer Overflow vulnerabilities
- Different memory layout (stack variables)
- Addition of a « canary » value
  - Marker to detect memory corruption
  - Slight performance penalty
  - Controlled crashes instead of Code Execution



# Stack Smashing Protection (SSP)

- Supported in pkgsrc for Linux (x86), FreeBSD (x86), and NetBSD
- Enabled in `/etc/mk.conf`:  
`PKGSRC_USE_SSP=yes`
- Sets a compilation flag, in the case of GCC and clang:  
`-fstack-protector`  
(protects only some functions)
- **Requires the package to support CFLAGS**  
Some packages still do not 😞



# Stack Smashing Protection (challenges)

- Only protects C/C++ programs and interpreters
  - JIT compilation is not protected
- Supporting more flags:
  - `fstack-protector-all`  
(protects every function, now supported)
  - `fstack-protector-strong`  
(balanced, requires patch from Google)
- Add support for more compilers and platforms



# Stack Smashing Protection (validation)

- To confirm a binary was successfully compiled with SSP:

```
$ nm hello
```

```
[...]
```

```
U __stack_chk_fail
```

```
00600f00 B __stack_chk_guard
```

*This is specific to GCC on NetBSD*

- Enabled by default in OpenBSD (2003), Fedora and Ubuntu Linux (2006), DragonFlyBSD (2013)



# Fortify

- Automatically adds boundary checks:  
`sprintf()`, `strncat()`, `memmove()`...
- Completely mitigates some Buffer Overflows
- Involves support from the libc (system headers)
  - Negligible performance impact
  - Controlled crashes instead of memory corruption



# Fortify

- Supported in pkgsrc for Linux and NetBSD (GCC)
- Enabled in `/etc/mk.conf`:  
`PKGSRC_USE_FORTIFY=yes`
- Sets a pre-processing flag, in the case of GCC:  
`-D_FORTIFY_SOURCE=2`
- **Requires the package to support CFLAGS**  
Just like SSP ☹️



# Fortify (challenges)

- Only protects C/C++ programs and interpreters
  - Again JIT compilation is not protected
  - Requires an optimization level of 1 or more (e.g. -O2)
- Supporting more levels now possible in pkgsrc:
  - D\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE=1  
(protects fewer cases)
  - D\_FORTIFY\_SOURCE=2  
(some conforming programs might fail)
- Add support for more compilers and platforms



# Fortify (validation)

- To confirm a binary was successfully compiled with Fortify:

```
$ nm hello
```

```
[...]
```

```
U __sprintf_chk
```

*This is specific to GCC on NetBSD*

- Enabled by default in Ubuntu Linux and Android



# Position-Independent Executables (PIE)

- Necessary companion to PaX ASLR (Address Space Layout Randomization)
- PaX ASLR enabled by default in NetBSD 8 (incoming!)
- Allow compiled binaries to be re-positioned dynamically in memory
- Makes exploitation more difficult (requires a memory leak including pointer values)
- Involves compilation **and linking** phases



# Position-Independent Executables

- Supported in pkgsrc for NetBSD and GCC
- Enabled in `/etc/mk.conf`:  
`PKGSRC_MKPIE=yes`
- Sets a compilation flag, in the case of GCC:  
- `fPIC`
- Requires the package to support both **CFLAGS** and **LDFLAGS** as well (with a caveat)  
Even stricter than SSP and Fortify ☹



# Position-Independent Executables (challenges)

- The compilation flag should really be `-fPIE` for executables
- The linking phase must be completed with `-pie` but **only for executables so not directly through LDFLAGS**
- Currently implemented in the GCC wrapper
- **Not supported in cwrappers yet (patch in review)**



# Position-Independent Executables (advantages)

- Packages linked but not compiled correctly will **fail to build**
- Great way to know which packages do not implement flags as they should
- Program crashes usually reveal silent bugs
- Can be combined with `paxctl` otherwise:  
NOT\_PAX\_ASLR\_SAFE  
NOT\_PAX\_MPROTECT\_SAFE  
(see `mk/pax.mk`)



# Position-Independent Executables (validation)

- To confirm an executable binary is a PIE:

```
$ file hello-pie
ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64,
version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked (uses
shared libs), for NetBSD 7.0, not stripped
```

```
$ file hello-nopie
ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version
1 (SYSV), dynamically linked (uses shared
libs), for NetBSD 7.0, not stripped
```



# RELRO and BIND\_NOW

- RELRO protects ELF executable programs from tampering at run-time
- Makes exploitation harder by reducing the attack surface through relocations
- Benefits from immediate binding with BIND\_NOW
- Performance penalty when starting big programs
- Involves the **linking** phase



# RELRO and BIND\_NOW

- Supported in pkgsrc for Linux and NetBSD (GCC)
- Enabled in `/etc/mk.conf`:  
`PKGSRC_USE_RELRO=yes`
- Sets two linking flags, in the case of GCC:  
`-Wl, -z, relro -Wl, -z, now`
- Requires the package to support LDFLAGS



# RELRO and BIND\_NOW (challenges)

- More granularity is now supported:
  - Full, or
  - Partial (without BIND\_NOW)
- Some packages break at run-time with full RELRO (e.g. Xorg)
- Could be adapted to more platforms
- Same issue as before with support from packages  
☹

# RELRO and BIND\_NOW (validation)

- To confirm a binary was built with RELRO and BIND\_NOW:

```
$ objdump -x hello
```

```
[...]
```

```
Program Header: [...]
```

```
    RELRO off      0x000000d68
```

```
    vaddr 0x00600d68
```

```
    paddr 0x00600d68 align 2**0
```

```
    filesz 0x00000298
```

```
    memsz  0x00000298 flags r--
```

```
[...]
```

```
Dynamic Section: [...]
```

```
    BIND_NOW
```

```
    0x00000000
```



# edgebsd/hardening

- Package meant to test a local pkgsrc setup:  
<https://git.edgebsd.org/gitweb/?p=edgebsd.git;a=tree;f=hardening>

```
$ hardening
[!] Hi! I am a library.
[!] Let's see if I am strong enough...
[+] built with -fPIC
[!] Bye! I am not a library anymore.
[!] Hi! I am an executable.
[+] built with -fPIC, good enough for full ASLR
[+] built with _FORTIFY_SOURCE 2, all good
[+] mmap() failed W|X, good
[-] mmap() gave two identical addresses :(
```



# Demo

- Let us pray the demo gods?
- This presentation is the demo
- Userland with every feature mentioned so far (except Modular Xorg with partial RELRO)
- All the way to LibreOffice 5.3.0.3



## 3. Future work

- Reproducible Builds
- Code Flow Integrity (CFI)
- SafeStack
- Address Sanitizer



# Reproducible Builds

*« Reproducible builds are a set of software development practices that create a verifiable path from human readable source code to the binary code used by computers. »*

- More at <https://reproducible-builds.org/>



# Reproducible Builds

## 1. Deterministic build system:

- Always the same result from a given source (including the current date and time, ordering of output...)

## 2. Pre-defined (or recorded) build environment:

- Specific file format for build definitions

## 3. Let users reproduce and verify the original build



# Reproducible Builds

- Already implemented in FreeBSD's ports:
  - Initial patch takes the timestamp from `distinfo`
  - Specific patches needed as well (Perl...)
- Can affect many aspects of the build process:
  - Build environment: setting `$SOURCE_DATE_EPOCH`
  - Some flags relevant for GCC:
    - `gcc -Wp, -iremap, ...`
    - `gcc -fdebug-prefix-map=...`



# Code Flow Integrity (CFI)

- Prevents exploits from redirecting the execution flow of programs
- Controlled crashes instead of undefined behaviour
- Again, pkgsrc should be a great test-bed for this feature



# Code Flow Integrity (Clang)

- Implementation available in Clang:  
<http://clang.llvm.org/docs/ControlFlowIntegrity.html>
- Requires the following in CFLAGS:  
- `flto` - `fsanitize=cfi`  
(individual schemes can be selected)  
and possibly - `fvisibility=hidden`
- Additional debugging information can be obtained
- Suitable for release builds:
  - Negligible performance impact



# SafeStack (Clang)

- « An instrumentation pass that protects programs against attacks based on stack buffer overflows, without introducing any measurable performance overhead. It works by separating the program stack into two distinct regions: the safe stack and the unsafe stack. The safe stack stores return addresses, register spills, and local variables that are always accessed in a safe way, while the unsafe stack stores everything else. This separation ensures that buffer overflows on the unsafe stack cannot be used to overwrite anything on the safe stack. »

<https://clang.llvm.org/docs/SafeStack.html>

- Involves CFLAGS:
  - fsanitize=safe-stack



# Address Sanitizer (GCC)

- A memory error detector from GCC:  
<https://gcc.gnu.org/onlinedocs/gcc/Instrumentation-Options.html>
- Instruments memory access instructions
- Detects out-of-bounds and use-after-free bugs
- Involves CFLAGS:
  - fsanitize=address(more schemes are supported)



# Closing words

- pkgsrc is a great project for testing security features
- Some possibilities can already be enabled *could some of them be turned on by default?*
- A lot more can still be done!



# Thank you!

- BSDCan 2017:  
<http://www.bsdcn.org/2017/>
- pkgsrc: <https://pkgsrc.org/>
  - The pkgsrc Security Team & the Release Engineering Group
- Joyent: <https://pkgsrc.joyent.com/>
  - Jonathan Perkin <jperkin@>
- Devio.us, EdgeBSD, HardenedBSD, OpenBSD...
- Contact me at [khorben@NetBSD.org](mailto:khorben@NetBSD.org)
- Time for questions?

