



Disposition of Physical Media and Hard Drives

Information Security Forum

May 30, 2007



Everyone should Understand

- Even if you think you don't have sensitive data stored on your computer
- Information can be saved indirectly:
 - Application
 - Screen prints
 - Testing
- If you don't know your technical support team is doing this....ask them



Wipe all Disks and Media

- Prior to events:
 - Survey for public auction
 - Disposal - no longer needed
 - Reassignment to someone
 - Transfer to another department on campus
- Necessary to reduce possibility of inappropriate exposure of data and unauthorized use.



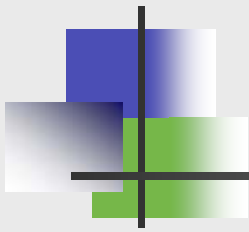
Goal: Protect Information

- Unauthorized access
- Ensure compliance to applicable laws, regulations, policies and practices.
- Examples of data exposure
- We all face the same issues
- Shared responsibility

Be Compliant



Still photo from: Office Space (1999) - Ron Livingston, Ajay Naidu, David Herman
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Typical Media Types

- Floppy Disks
- CDs
- Hard drives



Floppy Disks

- Disposal Methods
 - Shred with Campus Service
 - Shred with disk shredder
 - Demagnetize



CDs

- Disposal Methods
 - Shred



Hard Drives

- Options: Use software, physically destroy
- Disposal Guidelines
 - The DOD 5220-22.M standard
- Campus guidelines
 - http://www.security.calpoly.edu/what_technical_support/index.html



Darik's Boot and Nuke (DBAN)

- Source: <http://dban.sourceforge.net/>
- Free software - Random data write
- Use the DoD Short - 3 passes

Wipes:

- Data
- Empty space
- Index.dat
- NTFS Metadata
- Cookie store
- Swap file
- Registry



When DBAN isn't Option

- Cannot run DBAN
 - Disk will not start up
 - Server without disk
 - Operating system failures
- Destroy it – render it unusable
 - Send to ITS Technical Services
 - Drill hole



Disks under Warranty

- Before returning disk to vendor
 - > destroy data using methods described
- Upfront fee to remove requirement to return disk for warranty replacement



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Further Information

- More specifics at LAN coordinator meetings
- Cal Poly Security site:
<http://security.calpoly.edu/>