



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20330-1000

DCN: 3929

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MAY 6 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR AFAA/FSD (ATTN: MR HALL)
5023 4th St
March ARB CA 92518-1852

FROM: SAF/IEB
1665 Air Force Pentagon
Washington DC 20330-1665

SUBJECT: Report of Review of Audit Induced Recommendations regarding the BRAC
Facilities Analysis Capacity tool

The Air Force Audit Agency has recommended an alternative to the computer location that hosts the BFAC application, and the associated connectivity; used to provide capacity analysis. As of 15 April 2005 the BRAC Facilities Analysis Capacity tool has been incorporated into the Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency (AFPCA) operating environment.

It is important to note that up to 15 April 2005 the contractor continued to provide operation of the tool and ensured that only authorized personnel accessed it. Only those machines identified by AF/ILE, by IP address, were allowed to access BFAC. Protection from unauthorized access to BFAC was controlled by the ability of the host to query the requester's computer for an IP address and comparing that number to those authorized to access BFAC. The contractor has reported that neither the tool nor the data have been compromised while hosted at their facilities.

The following facts were pertinent to the analysis of the risks involved with operating BFAC within the contractor facilities.

Booz, Allen & Hamilton (BAH) was awarded the contract to develop and deploy the BFAC application. During development, and in accordance with the contract, BAH utilized computer hardware and software assets provided under contract or procured in accordance with contract provisions. The assets were installed and operated within their offices. In the December 2004 and January 2005 time frame the Air Force procured the necessary equipment and software to establish a support environment within AFPCA for BFAC. In order to incorporate the hardware and software within the AFPCA environment, a number of changes to BFAC software would be required to satisfy AFPCA requirements.

In December 2004 BFAC was being utilized to provide capacity analysis to support scenario development for the Air Force Base Closure Executive Group.

Research by my office indicated the difference between the use of an HTTP versus an HTTPS site is one of encryption during transmission. According to Bambooweb (see URL: <http://www.bambooweb.com>) the risk that HTTPS mitigates is 'the man in the middle'

interception of transmitted data. To access BFAC an individual must be able to supply the correct combination of their identification and password.

Within BFAC, scenario analysis is compartmented so only users identified with a scenario may execute an analysis process or may view an analysis outcome. Further, the data used for analysis can not be altered by someone performing a scenario analysis in BFAC. Only an ORACLE system administrator has the privileges to change the data utilized by BFAC. Once a scenario is run in BFAC the ILE analysts copies the HTML data to an Excel spreadsheet on their personal computer for further analysis.

Those individuals at BAH who operated the BFAC server had signed non-disclosure agreements and are considered trusted agents, in terms of reliability and trustworthiness for having access to the operating system.

Booz, Allen & Hamilton is considered a trusted contractor for the Department of Defense, having participated in or provided support to programs of all levels of classification and sensitivity. As a trusted contractor BAH has demonstrated knowledge and skill in developing and operating secure facilities, secure computer operations, and secure internet sites. AF/ILEP has provided due diligence in defining the security requirements for BFAC, in providing oversight in the operation of BFAC, and ensuring compliance with contractual imperatives.

Prior to moving the operation of BFAC into AFPCA facilities I had determined that the risks associated with operating the program from the contractor facilities was acceptable. Further, I had determined the contractor had provided adequate security and controls for the protection of the software and the data commensurate with the needs of the Air Force.

By moving the tool into the Air Force environment we have eliminated the risks associated with contractor operations.

The Air Force Pentagon Communication Agency has completed the appropriate information assurance activities to fully integrate the BFAC tool into their environment.



GERALD F. PEASE, JR.
Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Basing & Infrastructure Analysis)