

CSE 543 - Computer Security

Lecture 10 - Access Control

October 5, 2006

URL: <http://www.cse.psu.edu/~tjaeger/cse543-f06/>

TCB (an aside ...)

- The trusted computing base is the infrastructure that you assume will behave correctly
 - Hardware (keyboard, monitor, ...)
 - Operating Systems
 - Implementations
 - Local networks
 - Administrators
 - Other users on the same system



- Axiom: the larger the TCB, the more assumptions you must make (and hence, the more opportunity to have your assumptions violated).

Blindly Following Policy

- First, what is a policy?
 - Some statement of secure procedure or configuration that parameterizes the operation of a system
- Example: Airport Policy
 - You need to put your things through X-ray machine
 - Take off your shoes (only if it has metal)
 - Does anybody understand the “metal” part here?
 - Laptops by themselves
 - Metal detector
- Purpose: to prevent someone from bringing in a (metal) weapon ...

