"Holistic" Security: Circles, Pies, or Crystals?

Jim Litchko, IMSI

Securing a system is not like plugging a hole in a dam. Throwing a firewall and/or cryptography at the problem is not enough. Using his over twenty years of experience conducting system security reviews, he will identify the most common security misperceptions that he has seen, i.e., "Black Box Solutions", "MS Evaluation", "Trust", "Circle-based Security", and "KES Principle". Jim will illustrate how these misperceptions with real-world examples and the resulting impact to the companies they supported. After this presentation, the audience will understand what is meant by "Holistic" security and the "PIES Concept", and how they are applied to securing any information system.

# "Holistic" Security: Circles, Pies, or Crystals

Jim Litchko
Jim@litchko.com

#### **Presentation**

- Circle or Pie
  - Holistic and Realistic
- Attitudes
  - Ours and Theirs
- Solutions
  - Case Studies
- Opinions
  - Mine
- Questions
  - Anytime

#### Where can . . .

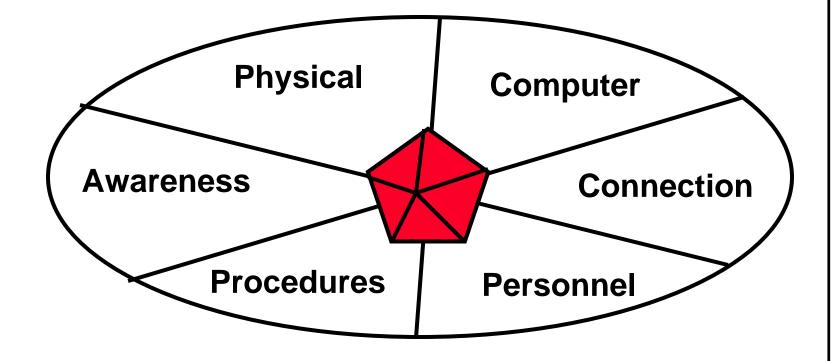
- Insider is a greater threat then outsiders
- A cup of coffee save you \$10,000 -\$50,000/hour
- Solve all security problems with on solution - firewall or PKI or . . . .
- A six-pack beer cooler replace a \$4,000 fire-proof safe
- Common sense can be replaced by technology

# **Audience Survey:**

- Loses due to Outsider?
- Loses due to Insiders?
- Loses due to CS?

# "Fortress" (Circle-based) Security **Physical Personnel** Computer Connection **Awareness Procedures**

#### "Holistic" (Pie-Based) Security



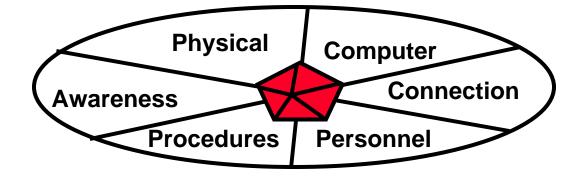
6

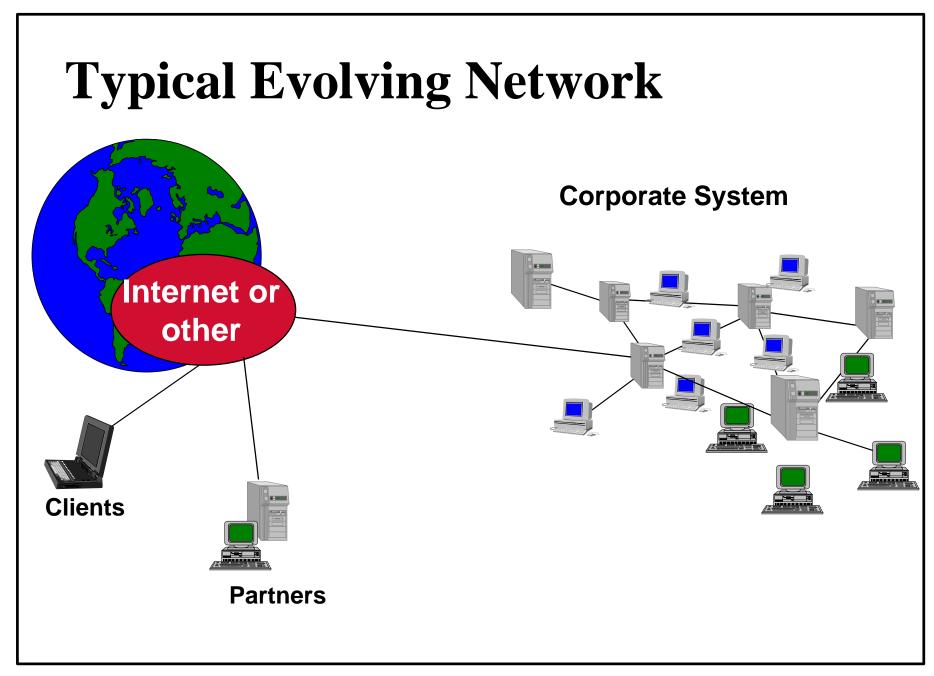
# **Entry and Departures**

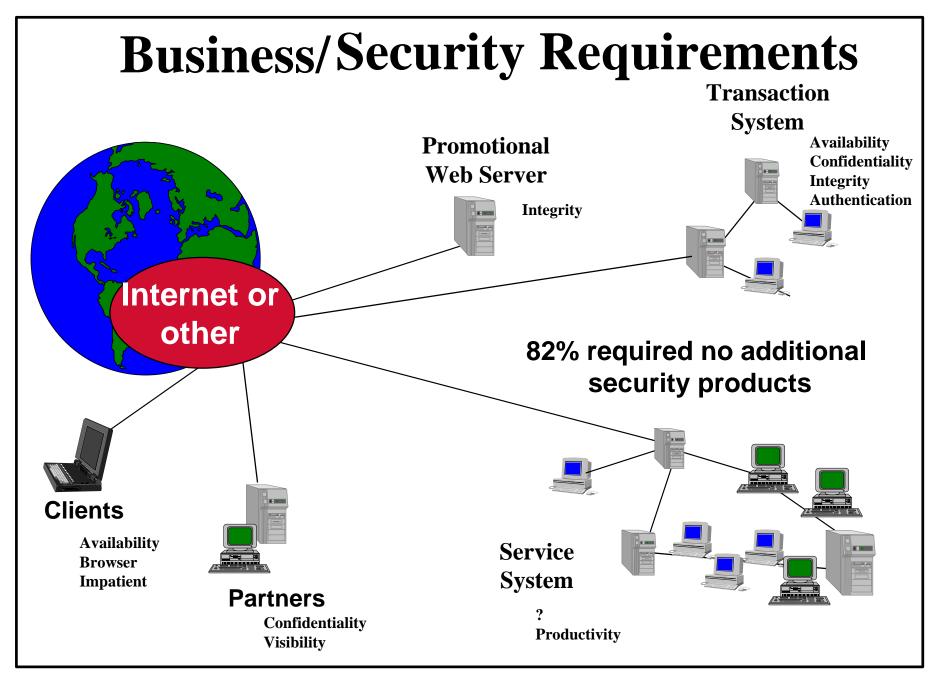
- Initial entry
  - Last name and first name
  - Change password on first login
- Departures
  - Delete account prior to departure, except.....
- Audit Results
  - 67% continued "first name" past anniversary date
- Personal Experience
  - Forwarding email continued for months

## **Attitudes and Perceptions:**

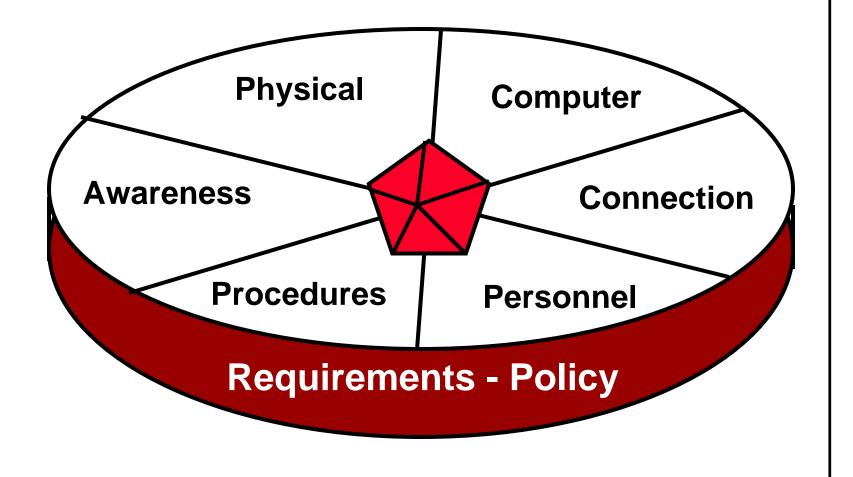
- Sailor-Proof
  - If it is too hard, they will find away around it.
- SNMP is the standard
  - Not a smoking gun . . . . a bleeding wound is needed.
- What is the aspirin for security:
  - Firewalls, VPN, PKI, IDS, .....?
  - Technology will solve all of our problems!
  - Email monitoring problem solution was policy.







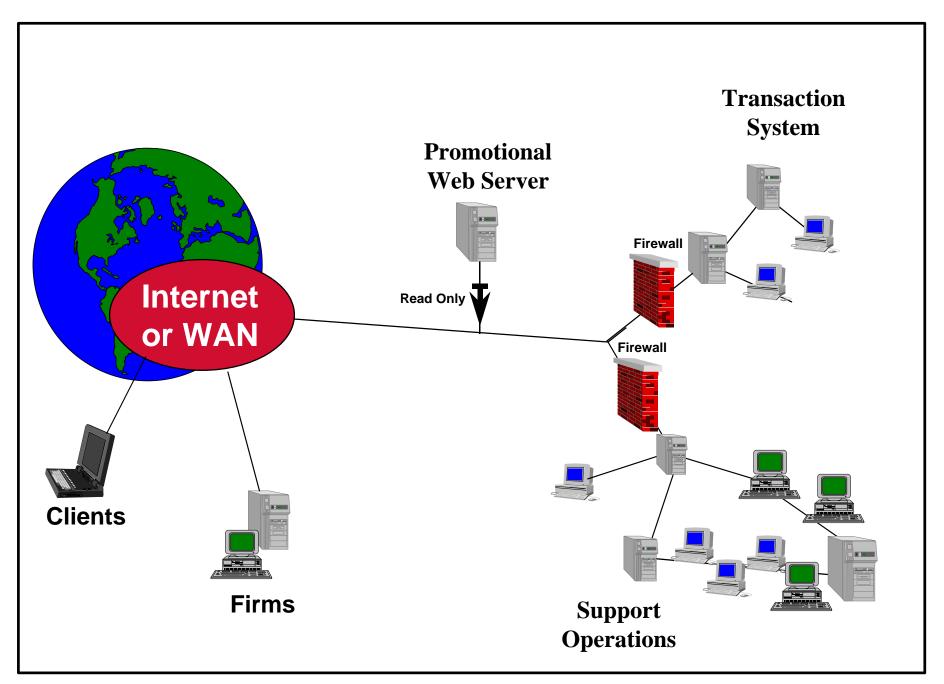
### **Policy and Senior Management Support**



7/26/99

# A firewall is just a door.....Right?

- 50+ complex firewalls for deployment
  - Cost: 50+ x \$50,000 = \$2.5M
- 3 large government contractors
- How are they to be configured?
  - "Configured? It is a firewall."
- Policy?
  - What do you think the Commanding Officer wants?
  - Policy developed by contractors in 20 minutes.
- Results?



# **Black Box or Crystal Box?**

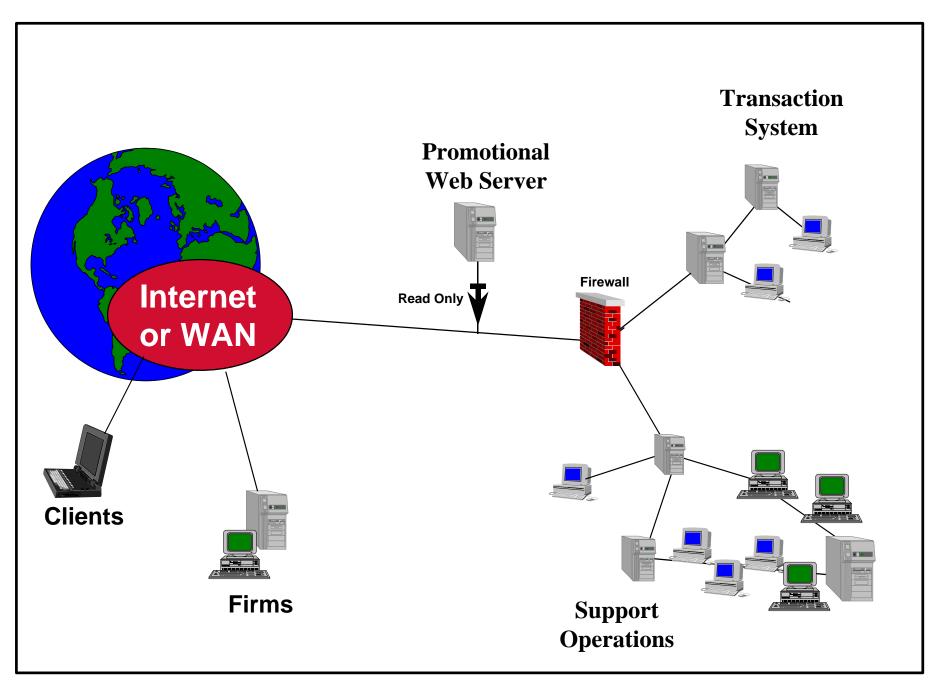
- Crypto algorithms
  - DES and RSA
  - Proprietary
- Firewalls
  - UNIX
  - -NT
- Awareness
  - KISS
  - Responsible employees

# What and who do we trust? Why?

- Orange Book or Common Criteria
- ICSA
- NSA
- NIST
- Market Share or GUI
- Stock price
- Guarantee
- PKI agent or Bank or ......

#### KISS - Keep InfoSec Simple

- Firewall is based on simplicity
  - Harden O/S
  - Tight and concise code
- Good and Bad news
  - Firewalls have lots of capabilities
  - Firewalls have lots of capabilities
- Meet "requirement" not the "desirables" or the "potentials"
  - Cost impact
  - Complexity impact vulnerabilities and cost



#### **Authentication**

#### Something that you know:

- PIN or combination

R-38

Password

L-13

**R-41** 



- Procedure

#### Something that you <u>have</u>:

- Badge or ID
- ATM or Credit card
- Token

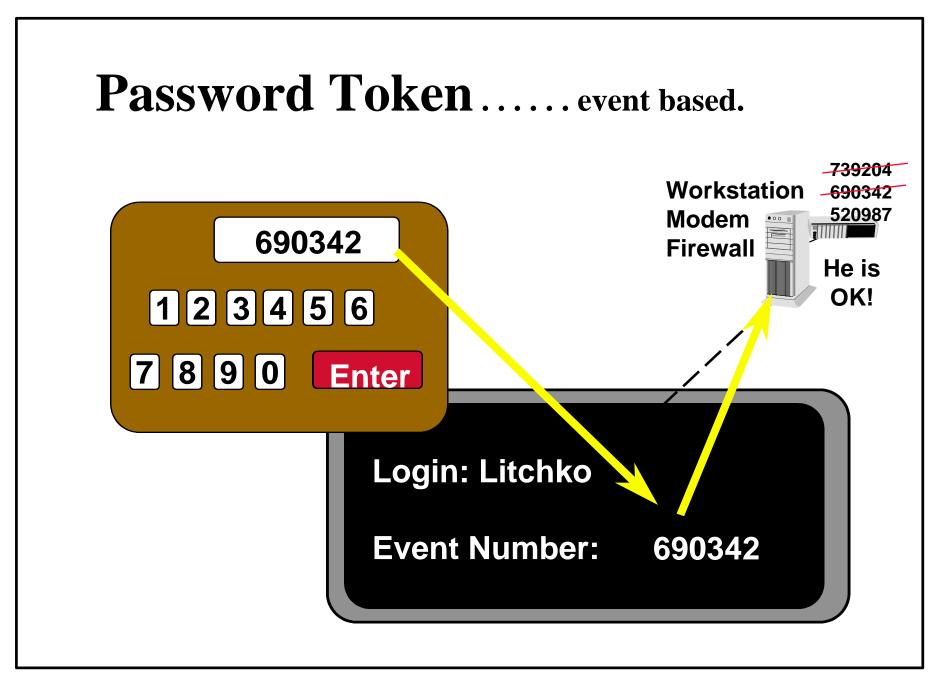


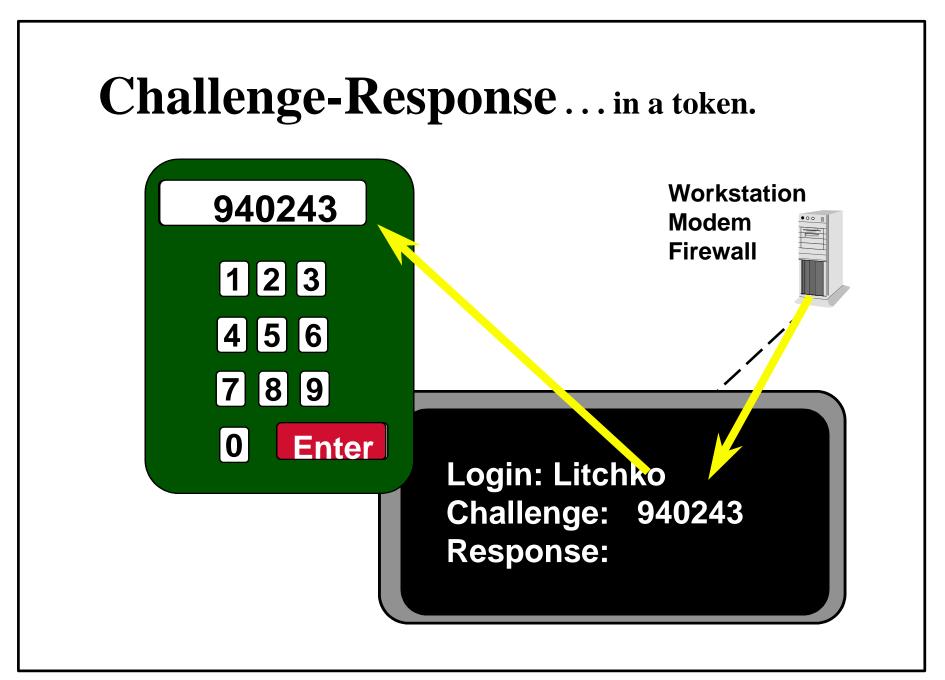


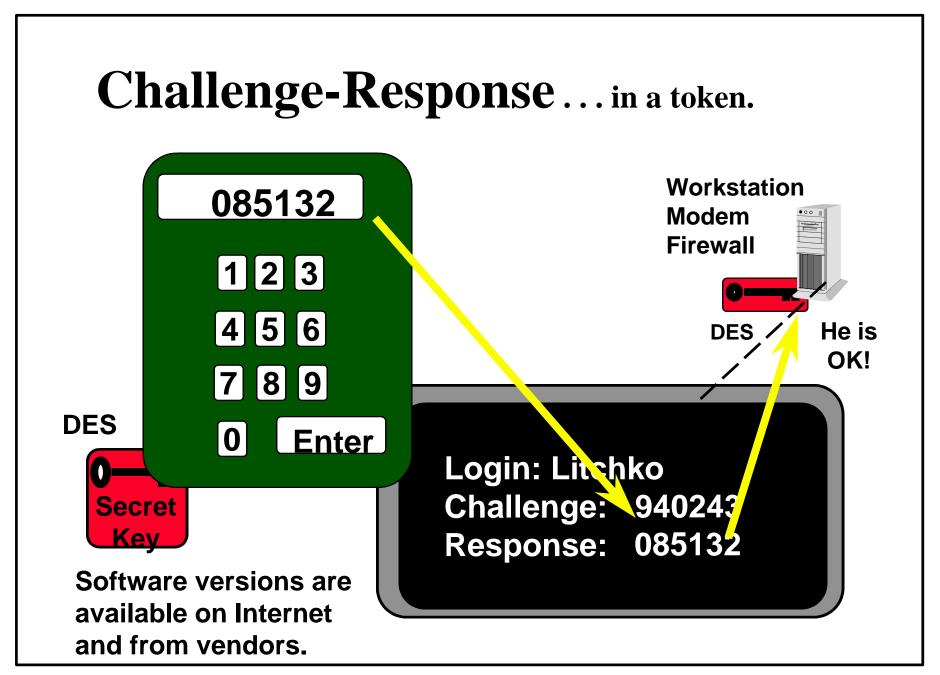
#### Something that you <u>are</u>:

- Finger prints and retina patterns
- Voice pattern and weight
- Signature

# Password Token . . . . . time based. Workstation 690342 Modem **Firewall** He is OK! 1234567890 Login: Litchko Enter SecureID #: 690342





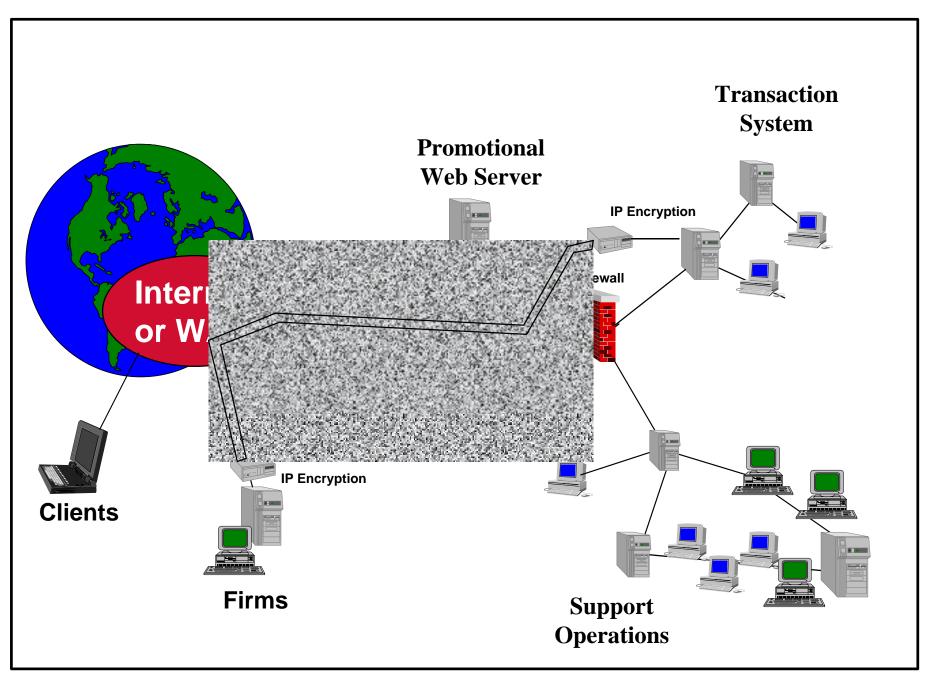


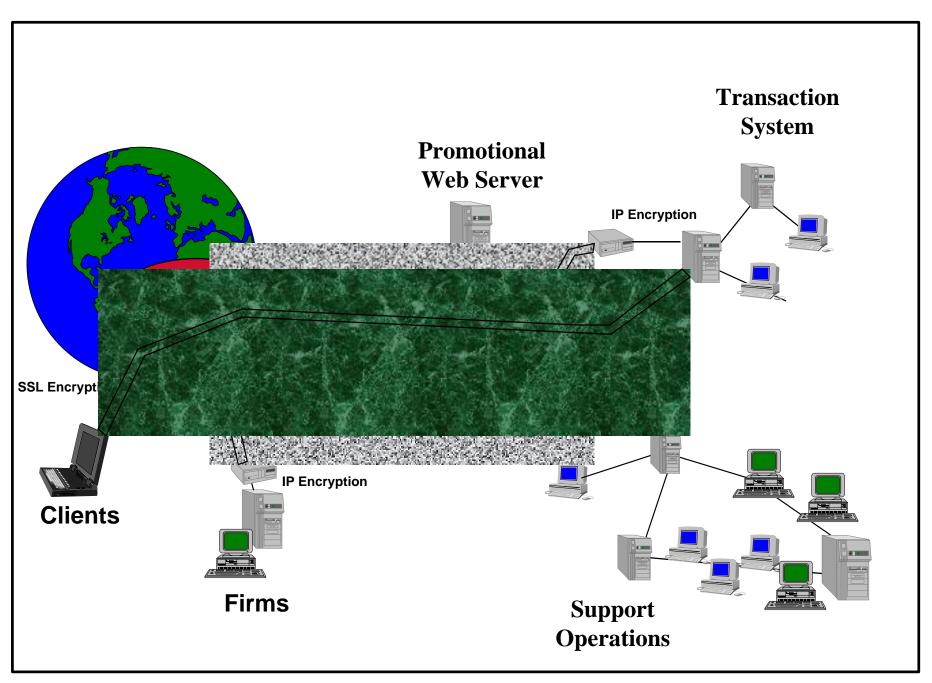
#### **Problem**

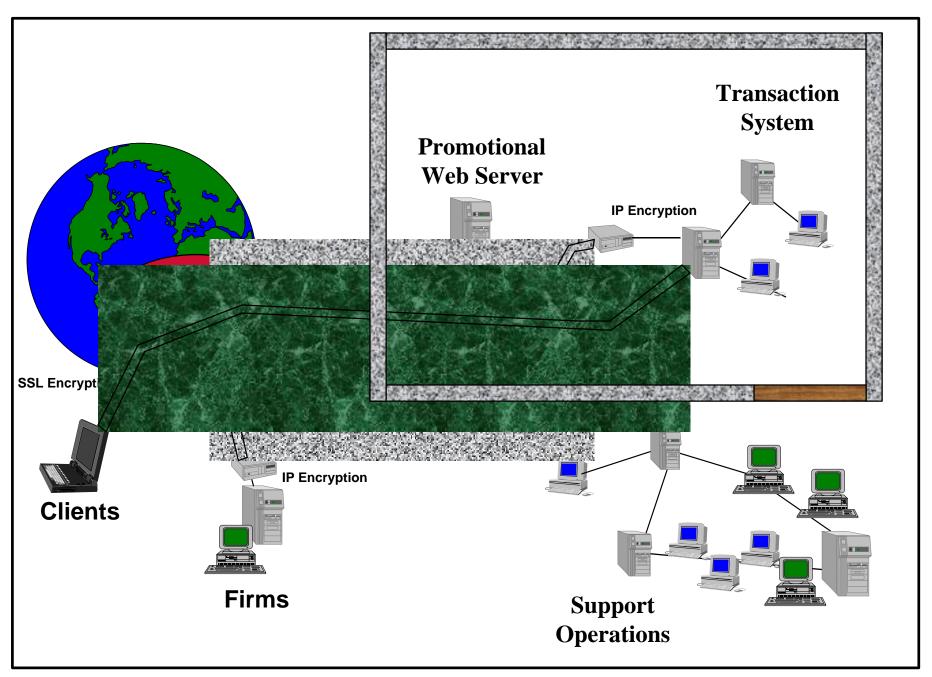
- Subscription Information Service Provider
- Web site distribution
- Computer illiterate users
- Sharing passwords
- \$40,000 loss per month
- What is the solution?

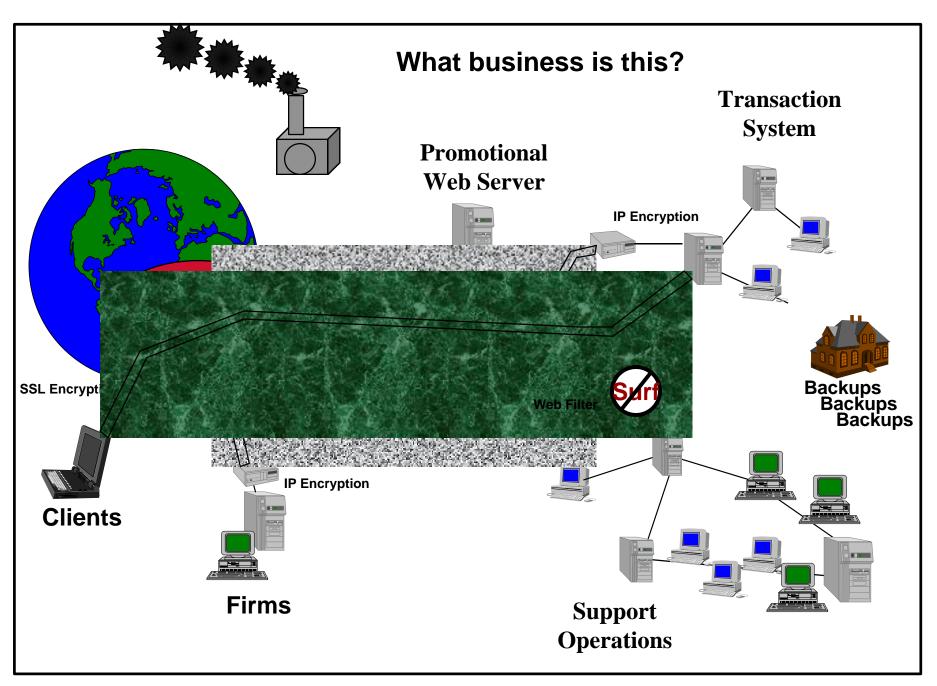
# PKI is for everyone.....is it?

- PKI is "The solution for security"
- Everyone needs a "private key"
  - Authentication all
  - Signature some
- Who will be my Certification Authority?
  - Verisign, GTE, NSA, . . . . . .
  - Bank
  - Mom
  - Me
- Why?









Summary

- Based security on business first
- Practical solutions, not just technical
- Security is a business risk

#### "Holistic" Security: Circles, Pies, or Crystals?

Securing a system is not like plugging a hole in a dam. Throwing a firewall and/or cryptography at the problem is not enough. Using his over twenty years of experience conducting system security reviews, he will identify the most common security misperceptions that he has seen, i.e., "Black Box Solutions", "MS Evaluation", "Trust", "Circlebased Security", and "KISS Principle". Jim will illustrate how these misperceptions with real-world examples and the resulting impact to the companies they supported. After this presentation, the audience will understand what is meant by "Holistic" security and the "PIES Concept", and how they are applied to securing any information system.