Drive Secure: Teaching Automotive Cybersecurity with RAMN

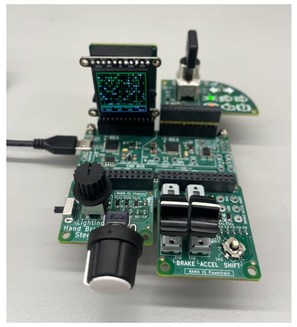
Brooks O'Hanlan, Colton Smith, Jonas von Stein, William Min

Customer: Dr. Zeb Bowden at VTTI Mentor: Dr. Joe Adams

What is RAMN?

The Resistant Automotive Miniature Network (RAMN):

- Is a cost-effective and portable solution to teaching cybersecurity on modern vehicles
- Utilizes four open-source STM32 microcontrollers
- Simulates the function of Electronic Control Units (ECUs) in the automotive industry



Consists Of:

- Main board (center)
- LCD Screen Pod (top left)
- Chassis Pod (bottom left)
- Powertrain Pod (bottom right)
- Body Pod (top right)

Figure 1. RAMN system

Why?

As cars become more advanced, they face the same cybersecurity risks as computers. Our challenges use RAMN to help participants uncover vulnerabilities, develop defenses, and advance the future of secure automotive systems.

Project Overview

Our Challenges:

- Entry-Level Capture the Flag Challenge
  - Use Unified Diagnostic Service (UDS) commands to find the flag
- "Brute Force" Password Identifier
  - Attempt every password combination to identify the answer
- ECU Manipulation:
  - Interact at data layer instead of physical layer

System Architecture

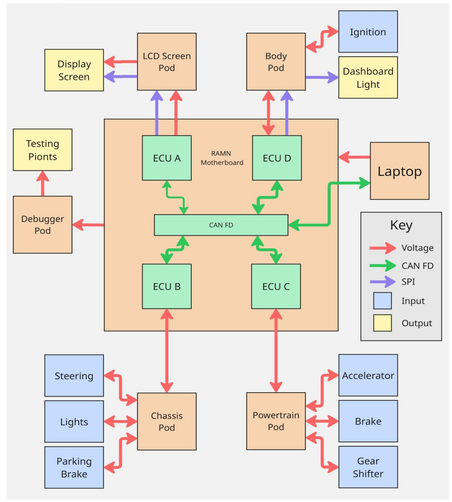


Figure 2. RAMN System architecture

Brute Force Scripting

```
&27741 -> Wrong Password
&27742 -> Wrong Password
&27743 -> Wrong Password
&27744 -> Wrong Password
&27745 -> Wrong Password
&27746 -> Wrong Password
&27747 -> Wrong Password
&27748 -> Wrong Password
&27749 -> Wrong Password
&27750 -> Wrong Password
&27751 -> Wrong Password
&27752 -> Wrong Password
&27753 -> Wrong Password
&27754 -> Wrong Password
&27755 -> Wrong Password
&27756 -> Wrong Password
&27757 -> Wrong Password
&27758 -> Wrong Password
&27759 -> Wrong Password
&27760 -> Wrong Password
&27761 -> Wrong Password
&27762 -> flag{USB_BRUTEFORCE}
FOUND: &27762 -> flag{USB_BRUTEFORCE}
```

Figure 3. Brute Force Challenge

Capture The Flag Challenge

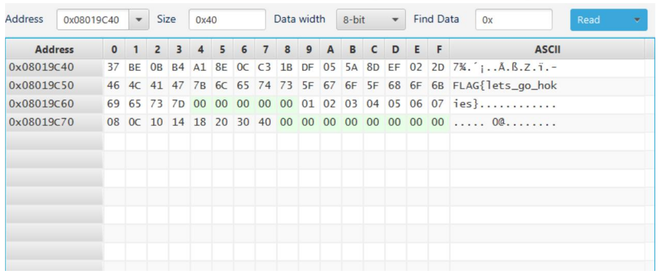


Figure 4. CTF Challenge

ECU Manipulation

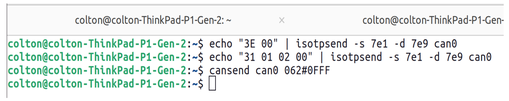


Figure 5. Commands sent to RAMN board via CAN-UTILS after all set-up steps are complete. Set-up steps can be found in our documentation.

Figure 7. CAN frame changed by using cansend command in Figure X, HEX 0F FF is 100% right steering.

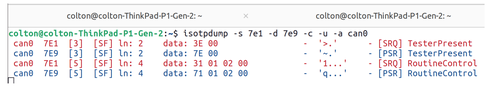


Figure 6. Response messages from RAMN to send commands in Figure X.

Figure 8. Visual output of cansend command to turn steering 100% right, observed by the white square on the steering value in CARLA.

RAMN/Challenge Documentation

A website for the RAMN already exists, but it was more useful for experienced users.

Our documentation:

- Step-by-step instructions
- Resources (hyperlinks)
- Debugging instructions
- Entry-level Oriented

SCAN ME

Conclusion

Our solution provides VTTI with three beginner level cybersecurity challenges and documentation to better help students understand automotive cybersecurity. This serves as foundation for future cybersecurity challenges.

Future Plans

- Increase cybersecurity challenge difficulty
- Design new expansion pods i.e. wireless connectivity
- Host a competition with our challenges
- Teach automotive cybersecurity in classes

Acknowledgements

Special thank you to the following for supporting this work:

- Dr. Joe Adams (Project Mentor)
- Dr. Tim Talty (SME)
- Dr. Zeb Bowden (Customer)
- Camille Gay, Toyota (RAMN Creator)
- Kim Medley (ECE Purchasing)
- Rusty Stewart (For Soldering Training)