



Physical Penetration Tests

Summary of the Audit

Purpose

Results

Note that the business units have had the opportunity to formulate their comments concerning our penetration tests results.

If required, the business units agreed to take the necessary actions to correct the deficiencies found.

Test physical security under real conditions in order to determine whether non-authorized physical access to the city’s strategic buildings is possible.

For obvious security reasons, we cannot disclose in this annual report the results of our physical penetration tests.

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5.7. Physical Penetration Tests

1. Background

The Ville de Montréal (the city) and its controlled organizations have a great deal of essential and vital assets that are located, stored or held in various buildings and other premises.

Given the importance of these assets, they must be adequately protected in order to, first, maintain a sufficient level of protection to guarantee the safety of people and property, and second, to ensure that essential services continue to be offered for the functioning and well-being of the Montréal community.

Physical security is the first means of defence that must be put in place in order to manage the risks associated to protecting the city's assets. This is because physical penetration is one of the first ways chosen by those of malicious intent to perpetrate acts aiming to steal, damage or destroy these assets or the information they contain.

In order to control or limit access to buildings that contain protected assets (e.g., confidential information, expensive material and equipment) and to prevent fraudulent operations, efficient protection, surveillance and access control mechanisms must be put in place. With all the material and modus operandi available on the Internet, the risk of non-authorized physical access by anyone motivated enough and adequately prepared is increased. To this effect, best security practices advocate running physical penetration tests under real conditions.

We therefore decided to carry out an audit mission that includes physical penetration tests. Contrary to the process we usually follow, it was necessary that we did not send a notice to the owners of the assets targeted by our audit. This approach was used to test, under real conditions, the physical security controls in order to avoid having them be reinforced temporarily, in time for our visits.

2. Purpose and Scope of the Audit

The purpose of our audit mission was to test physical security under real conditions in order to determine whether non-authorized physical access to the city's strategic buildings was possible.

This audit mission is in keeping with our physical penetration test program, which was undertaken in 2010. This program will continue in 2017.

3. Physical Penetration Tests Results

For obvious security reasons, we cannot disclose in this annual report the results of our physical penetration tests. We should mention that, if necessary, the business units concerned have been informed of the deficiencies we have found and that they will be the object of upcoming action plans.