Who Are Those Guys?

Welcome to Backfire, the interview within a journal cross-examining popular icons for software truth. This month we are talking with Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid who, despite the rumors, started Hole-in-the-Web LLC, a software company based in Bolivia.

Gary: Why start an identity theft software company?
Butch: I have vision, and the rest of the world wears bifocals.
Sundance: You just keep thinkin' Butch. That's what you're good at.

Gary: Do you know what you're doing?
Butch: Theoretically.

Gary: Theoretically?
Sundance: I'm the programmer.
Butch: Is that what you call programming?
Sundance: Is that what you call running a company? If I knew you were going to stroll...
Butch: You never could code, not from the very beginning!
Sundance: And you were all mouth!
Butch: We seem to be short on brotherly love around here.
Gary: Gentlemen, a little decorum please.

Gary: Do you enjoy the software business?
Butch: Boy, you know every time I see software code, it's like seeing it fresh for the first time. And every time that happens, I keep asking myself the same question: How could I be so darn stupid to keep coming back?

Gary: Percy, what went through your mind when your former employees asked you to join their software company?
Percy: Morons. I've got morons on my team.

Gary: Identity theft is lucrative; are you profitable?
Butch: Do you believe I'm broke already?
Gary: Really, why?
Butch: Well, I swear, Gary, I don't know. I've been working like a dog all my life and I can't get a penny ahead.

Gary: Sundance says it's because you're a soft touch, always taking expensive vacations, buying drinks for everyone and you're a rotten gambler.
Butch: Well, that might have something to do with it.

Gary: Does a secure internet affect your business model?
Butch: What happened to the old internet? It was beautiful.
Sundance: People kept phishing it.
Butch: Small price to pay for beauty.

Gary: Companies are doubling their efforts to secure their internet communications and servers. Are you concerned?
Butch: If they'd just pay me what they're spending to make me stop robbing them, I'd stop robbing them.

Gary: What's next for Butch and Sundance?
Butch: It doesn't matter. I don't know where we've been and I've just been there.
Sundance: Butch and me have been talking it all over. Wherever the hell Bangalore is, that's where we're off to.
Sheriff Bledsoe: They should have let themselves get killed a long time ago when they had the chance. See, they may be the biggest thing that ever hit the internet, but they're still two-bit outlaws. I never met a soul more affable than Butch or faster than the Kid but they're still nothing but two-bit outlaws on the dodge. It's over, their time is over and they're gonna crash hard, and all they can do is choose where.

Gary: Microsoft, Oracle and Yahoo among others have hired cyber-bounty hunters to shut you down. Are you concerned?
Butch: Maybe there's a way to make a profit in this. Bet on Microsoft.
Sundance: I would, but who'd bet on you?
Butch: Whatever they're sellin', I don't want it!

Gary: They appear to be skilled, well funded, and relentless.
Butch: They're wasting their time. They can't track us over the internet.
Sundance: Tell them that.
Butch: I couldn't do that. Could you do that? Why can they do it? Who are those guys?
Sundance: They're very good.
Butch: Don't they get tired? Don't they get hungry?
Sundance: They gotta be.
Butch: Why don't they slow up? Hell, they could even go faster, at least that'd be a change. They don't even break for Starbucks.

Sundance: Did you say they were hired permanent?
Gary: No, just until they destroy you.

Butch: Well, the way I figure it, we can either fight or give. If we give, we go to jail.
Sundance: I've been there already.
Butch: We could fight and they'll stay where they are with a honeypot. Or they could go for position with a honeymonkey and pick us off one at a time. Might even get a server overload started. What else can they do?
Sundance: They could surrender, but I wouldn't count on that.
Butch: Who are those guys?

Butch: Hey, wait a minute – you didn't say Google, did you?
Gary: Google? No.
Butch: Good; for a moment there, I thought we were in trouble.

Cyber-bounty Hunters: Fuego!

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