

# Introduction to penetration testing

With the onboarding of devices into the cyberspace comes the increase in complexities and attack vectors which has led to a rise in the importance of security. Security such that we are protecting devices which hold a magnitude of personal identifiable information. This information includes names of people, security numbers, passwords etc. Johnson (2020) defines penetration testing as an objectifiable testing activity that tries to validate an item against a checklist to ensure that it meets the defined criterias. Wilhelm (2010) identifies the thought process of penetration tests as attacking systems with penetration testing tools and goes further to identify there is more to the concept. Saqib and Moon (2023) details the problems facing network security which lead to data breach as a function of authentication and privacy issues and also give a classification for penetration testing which can be divided into

1. White box testing: this is penetration testing in which the organization's information is given to the tester . Also known as Overt security testing by NIST.
2. Black box; in this testing methodology the tester is completely left in the dark, also known as covert by NIST. its purpose is to replicate the impact an adversary might have on an organization in the most rudimentary way.
3. Gray-Box testing: this is a methodology in which the Tester has partial knowledge of organizations information

In this work we will consider penetration testing as a step by step objectified approach to validate a system against a checklist. The checklist employed is the National Institute of Standards and Technology special publication 800 115(NIST SP 800 115) although there are others like Open Source Security Testing Methodology Manual (OSSTMM) etc. This simulation will be considered a white box testing and we will not be following the guidelines strictly due to the nature of the assessment.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

The scope/environment of this simulated network pentest is going to encompass a network consisting of 4 physical endpoint devices, 5 if the logical topology is considered. Among this devices we have

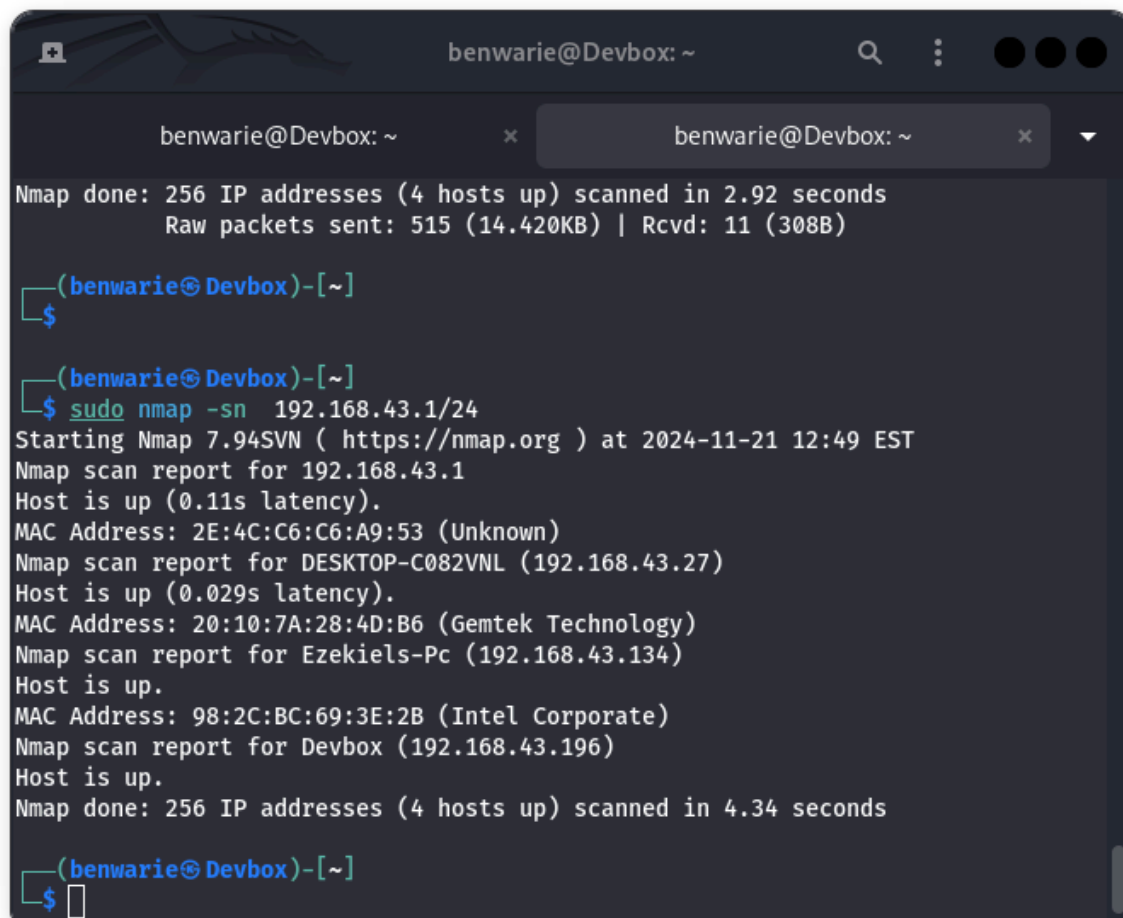
1. A mobile device doubling as the access point/router(galaxy s9)(192.168.43.1/24)
2. Desktop 1 ( our server DESKTOP-C082VNL)(192.168.43.27/24)
3. Desktop 3 (hosting our Kali Linux our attacker, Devbox (192.168.43.196) and doubling as another server)

The topology below shows the physical and logical topology of our simulated network.

Using the Nist sp 800 115 we begin at network discovery. Our tool of choice to discover hosts on the network include nmap and netdiscover. Below is the output of our nmap scan. The available host in our network include:

1. 192.168.43.27/24 DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)MAC Address: 20:10:7A:28:4D:B6 (Gemtek Technology)
2. 192.168.43.1/24 MAC Address: 2E:4C:C6:C6:A9:53 (Unknown)
3. 192.168.43.196/24 Devbox (192.168.43.196)
4. 192.168.43.134/24 Ezekiels-Pc (192.168.43.134) MAC Address: 98:2C:BC:69:3E:2B (Intel Corporate)

Below is a screen shot from nmap which shows our host.



```
benwarie@Devbox: ~
Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (4 hosts up) scanned in 2.92 seconds
Raw packets sent: 515 (14.420KB) | Rcvd: 11 (308B)

(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]
$ sudo nmap -sn 192.168.43.1/24
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-11-21 12:49 EST
Nmap scan report for 192.168.43.1
Host is up (0.11s latency).
MAC Address: 2E:4C:C6:C6:A9:53 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)
Host is up (0.029s latency).
MAC Address: 20:10:7A:28:4D:B6 (Gemtek Technology)
Nmap scan report for Ezekiels-Pc (192.168.43.134)
Host is up.
MAC Address: 98:2C:BC:69:3E:2B (Intel Corporate)
Nmap scan report for Devbox (192.168.43.196)
Host is up.
Nmap done: 256 IP addresses (4 hosts up) scanned in 4.34 seconds

(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]
$
```

## Network Port and Service Identification

Overview of the Vulnerability Identified and tools used to identify it.

The scope of our pentest has been limited to 192.168.43.27/24 DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)MAC Address: 20:10:7A:28:4D:B6 (Gemtek Technology). We proceed to identify the open ports and services running on this machine. The tool we will achieve this with is nmap which is a very robust tool in penetration testing. Below is the nmap output for open ports, os and banner information.

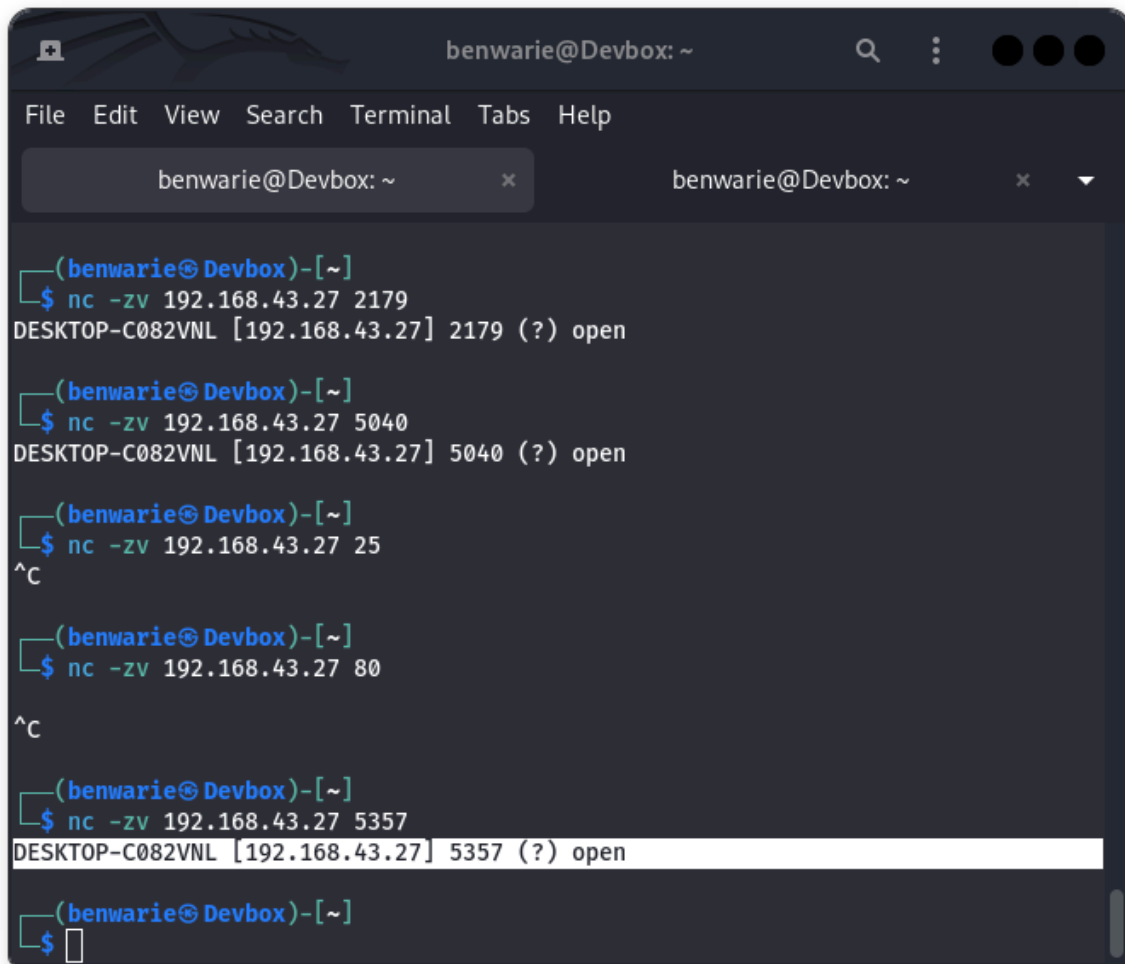
```
benwarie@Devbox: ~
Nmap scan report for DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)
Host is up (0.021s latency).
Not shown: 997 filtered tcp ports (no-response)
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
135/tcp    open  msrpc   Microsoft Windows RPC
2179/tcp   open  vmrpd?
5357/tcp   open  http    Microsoft HTTPAPI httpd 2.0 (SSDP/UPnP)
|_http-server-header: Microsoft-HTTPAPI/2.0
|_http-title: Service Unavailable
MAC Address: 20:10:7A:28:4D:B6 (Gemtek Technology)
Warning: OSScan results may be unreliable because we could not find at least 1 open and 1 closed port
Device type: general purpose
Running (JUST GUESSING): Microsoft Windows XP (87%)
OS CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows_xp::sp3
Aggressive OS guesses: Microsoft Windows XP SP3 (87%)
No exact OS matches for host (test conditions non-ideal).
Network Distance: 1 hop
Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows

Host script results:
|_nbstat: NetBIOS name: DESKTOP-C082VNL, NetBIOS user: <unknown>, NetBIOS MAC: 20:10:7a:28:4d:b6 (Gemtek Technology)
```

From this scan we discover our target has 3 ports open including port 135/tcp running msrpc, port 2179/tcp running vmrpd and port 5357/tcp running http and they are all open. We can also ascertain that the device is running the Windows operating system. Additionally port 5040? Tcp running an unknown service was discovered when a deeper search was conducted with nmap.

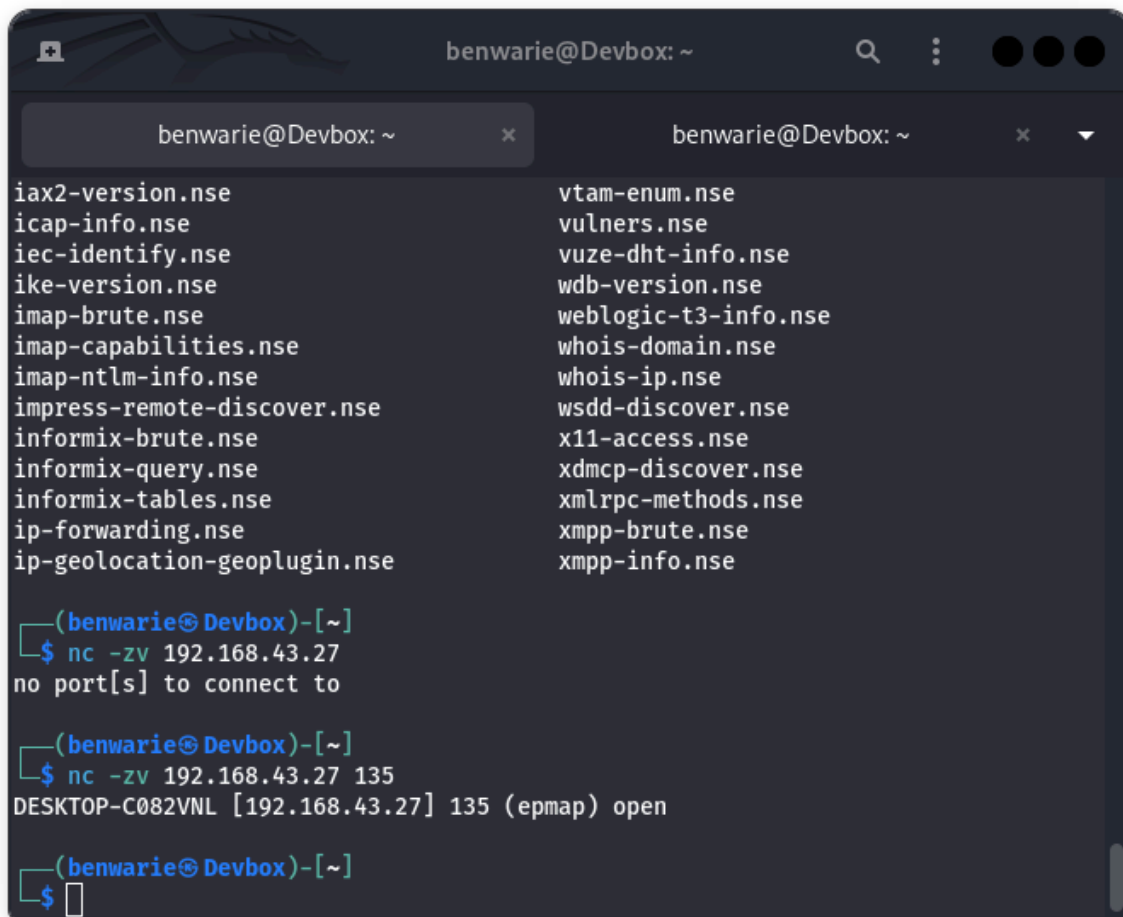
```
benwarie@Devbox: ~  
benwarie@Devbox: ~  
(benwarie@Devbox)-[~]  
$ sudo nmap -Pn -T3 -sS -p 192.168.43.27  
[sudo] password for benwarie:  
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-11-21 13:11 EST  
Error #487: Your port specifications are illegal. Example of proper form: "-100  
,200-1024,T:3000-4000,U:60000-"  
QUITTING!  
(benwarie@Devbox)-[~]  
$ sudo nmap -Pn -T3 -sS -p 0-5355 192.168.43.27  
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-11-21 13:12 EST  
Nmap scan report for DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)  
Host is up (0.013s latency).  
Not shown: 5353 filtered tcp ports (no-response)  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
135/tcp   open  msrpc  
2179/tcp  open  vmrpd  
5040/tcp  open  unknown  
MAC Address: 20:10:7A:28:4D:B6 (Gemtek Technology)  
  
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 47.12 seconds  
(benwarie@Devbox)-[~]  
$
```

Futhter enumeration of individual open ports with netcat revealed no new information.



A terminal window titled "benwarie@Devbox: ~" with a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Search, Terminal, Tabs, Help) and two tabs. The terminal shows a series of netcat listener commands and their results:

```
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27 2179  
DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 2179 (?) open  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27 5040  
DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 5040 (?) open  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27 25  
^C  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27 80  
^C  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27 5357  
DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 5357 (?) open  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$
```



```
benwarie@Devbox: ~  
benwarie@Devbox: ~  
iax2-version.nse  
icap-info.nse  
iec-identify.nse  
ike-version.nse  
imap-brute.nse  
imap-capabilities.nse  
imap-ntlm-info.nse  
impress-remote-discover.nse  
informix-brute.nse  
informix-query.nse  
informix-tables.nse  
ip-forwarding.nse  
ip-geolocation-geoplugin.nse  
vtam-enum.nse  
vulners.nse  
vuze-dht-info.nse  
wdb-version.nse  
weblogic-t3-info.nse  
whois-domain.nse  
whois-ip.nse  
wsdd-discover.nse  
x11-access.nse  
xdmcp-discover.nse  
xmlrpc-methods.nse  
xmpp-brute.nse  
xmpp-info.nse  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27  
no port[s] to connect to  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$ nc -zv 192.168.43.27 135  
DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 135 (epmap) open  
  
(benwarie@ Devbox)-[~]  
$
```

Below is reconnaissance output using netcat

1. DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 135 (epmap) open
2. DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 5357 (?) open
3. DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 5040 (?) open
4. DESKTOP-C082VNL [192.168.43.27] 2179 (?) open

A later assessment with Nmap revealed we have a postgresql server running on the target machine listening on port 5432

```
benwarie@Devbox: ~  
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 17:30, 0.03s elapsed  
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 17:30  
Scanning DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27) [1000 ports]  
Discovered open port 135/tcp on 192.168.43.27  
Discovered open port 139/tcp on 192.168.43.27  
Discovered open port 445/tcp on 192.168.43.27  
Discovered open port 5432/tcp on 192.168.43.27  
Discovered open port 5357/tcp on 192.168.43.27  
Discovered open port 2179/tcp on 192.168.43.27  
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 17:30, 6.18s elapsed (1000 total ports)  
Nmap scan report for DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)  
Host is up (0.0099s latency).  
Not shown: 994 filtered tcp ports (no-response)  
PORT      STATE SERVICE  
135/tcp   open  msrpc  
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn  
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds  
2179/tcp  open  vmrpd  
5357/tcp  open  wsddapi  
5432/tcp  open  postgresql  
  
Read data files from: /usr/share/nmap  
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 6.27 seconds  
Raw packets sent: 1995 (87.780KB) | Rcvd: 7 (308B)
```

Port 135 running Msrpc allowed for enumeration of rpc bindings which we interacted with using rpcclient, although the vulnerability is of low severity as privileged actions could not be carried out

```
PS> benwarie@Devbox: /home/benwarie

deletetrustedom          Delete Trusted Domain
-----
GENERAL OPTIONS
    help                  Get help on commands
    ?                    Get help on commands
    debuglevel            Set debug level
    debug                Set debug level
    list                  List available commands on <pipe>
    exit                  Exit program
    quit                  Exit program
    sign                  Force RPC pipe connections to be signed
    seal                  Force RPC pipe connections to be sealed
    packet                Force RPC pipe connections with packet authentication level

    schannel              Force RPC pipe connections to be sealed with 'schannel'.
    Assumes valid machine account to this domain controller.
    schannelsign           Force RPC pipe connections to be signed (not sealed) with 'schannel'. Assumes valid machine account to this domain controller.
    timeout               Set timeout (in milliseconds) for RPC operations
    transport              Choose ncacn transport for RPC operations
    none                  Force RPC pipe connections to have no special properties
rpcclient $> sign
Setting NTLMSSP - sign: NT_STATUS_OK
rpcclient $> 
```

```
benwarie@Devbox: ~/CVE-2022-26809

File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help

benwarie@Devbox: ~
benwarie@Devbox: ~/CVE-2022-26809
benwarie@Devbox: ~

[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - Connecting to the endpoint mapper service...
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - EPM unknown type: 33 46353837393746362d433946332d344436332d394244342d45353241433032304535383600
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - EPM unknown type: 32 65306531363139372d646435362d346131302d393139352d35656537613135356138333800
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 51a227ae-825b-41f2-b4a9-1ac9557a1018 v1.0 TCP (49664) 192.168.43.27 [Ngc Pop Key Service]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - ae2dc901-312d-41df-8b79-e835e63db874 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-31a5e6d268a6e52094) [appxsvc]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - ff9fd3c4-742e-45e0-91dd-2f5bc632a1df v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-31a5e6d268a6e52094) [appxsvc]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 9435cc56-1d9c-4924-ac7d-b60a2c3520e1 v1.0 LRPC (SPPCTransportEndpoint-00001) [SPPSVC Default RPC Interface]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - bf4dc912-e52f-4904-8ebe-9317c1bdd497 v1.0 LRPC (OLE76B7AB7E7C2ED19DCFF2D83FD11C)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - bf4dc912-e52f-4904-8ebe-9317c1bdd497 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-7ed21e22e669e10b0)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c0e9671e-33c6-4438-9464-56b2e1b1c7b4 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-4d2a23ec132f3e17c8) [wbiosrv]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 4be96a0f-9f52-4729-a51d-c70610f118b0 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-4d2a23ec132f3e17c8) [wbiosrv]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 0767a036-0d22-48aa-ba69-b619480f38cb v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-23d6190b898a94d5fa) [PcaSvc]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d09bdeb5-6171-4a34-bfe2-06fa82652568 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-aa84ec80e24b62230b)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - ba4aa15a-be94-47fb-9bfb-fef110e7efad v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-e5b7eb673a8f4768a4) [DevQueryBroker client query RPC interface]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 0497b57d-2e66-424f-a0c6-157cd5d41700 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3eec8d91a9a5aa61c4) [AppInfo]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 201ef99a-7fa0-444c-9399-19ba84f12a1a v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3eec8d91a9a5aa61c4) [AppInfo]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 5f54ce7d-5b79-4175-8584-cb65313a0e98 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3eec8d91a9a5aa61c4) [AppInfo]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - fd7a0523-dc70-43dd-9b2e-9c5ed48225b1 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3eec8d91a9a5aa61c4) [AppInfo]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 58e604e8-9adb-4d2e-a464-3b0683fb1480 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3eec8d91a9a5aa61c4) [AppInfo]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d2716e94-25cb-4820-bc15-537866578562 v1.0 LRPC (OLE4D68FE27D70D242770B7AF09FAAF)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d2716e94-25cb-4820-bc15-537866578562 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-798041e9c0c1114307)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 0c53aa2e-fb1c-49c5-bfb6-c54f8e5857cd v1.0 LRPC (OLE4D68FE27D70D242770B7AF09FAAF)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 0c53aa2e-fb1c-49c5-bfb6-c54f8e5857cd v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-798041e9c0c1114307)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 923c9623-db7f-4b34-9e6d-e86580f8ca2a v1.0 LRPC (OLE4D68FE27D70D242770B7AF09FAAF)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 923c9623-db7f-4b34-9e6d-e86580f8ca2a v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-798041e9c0c1114307)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - e8748f69-a2a4-40df-9366-62db6b696e26 v0.0 LRPC (OLE4D68FE27D70D242770B7AF09FAAF)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - e8748f69-a2a4-40df-9366-62db6b696e26 v0.0 LRPC (LRPC-798041e9c0c1114307)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c8ba73d2-3d55-429c-8e9a-c44f006f69fc v0.0 LRPC (OLE4D68FE27D70D242770B7AF09FAAF)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c8ba73d2-3d55-429c-8e9a-c44f006f69fc v0.0 LRPC (LRPC-798041e9c0c1114307)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 43890c94-bfd7-4655-ad6a-b4a68397cdcb v0.0 LRPC (OLE4D68FE27D70D242770B7AF09FAAF)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 43890c94-bfd7-4655-ad6a-b4a68397cdcb v0.0 LRPC (LRPC-798041e9c0c1114307)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d09bdeb5-6171-4a34-bfe2-06fa82652568 v1.0 LRPC (OLEBF7FB8ABAE53412E6ECCBF41EB79)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d09bdeb5-6171-4a34-bfe2-06fa82652568 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-b383fb75b421480aff)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d09bdeb5-6171-4a34-bfe2-06fa82652568 v1.0 LRPC (OLEBF7FB8ABAE53412E6ECCBF41EB79)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - d09bdeb5-6171-4a34-bfe2-06fa82652568 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-b383fb75b421480aff)
```



```
benwarie@Devbox: ~/CVE-2022-26809
File Edit View Search Terminal Tabs Help

benwarie@Devbox: ~
benwarie@Devbox: ~/CVE-2022-26809
benwarie@Devbox: ~

[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 1d45e083-478f-437c-9618-3594ced8c235 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-c990e4d69ed553c693)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 367abb81-9844-35f1-ad32-98f038001003 v2.0 TCP (53384) 192.168.43.27
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - b58aa02e-2884-4e97-8176-4ee06d794184 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-2b033370c08692a848)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 650a7e26-eab8-5533-ce43-9c1dfce11511 v1.0 PIPE (\PIPE\ROUTER) \DESKTOP-C082VNL [Vpn APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 650a7e26-eab8-5533-ce43-9c1dfce11511 v1.0 LRPC (RasmanLrpc) [Vpn APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 650a7e26-eab8-5533-ce43-9c1dfce11511 v1.0 LRPC (VpnikeRpc) [Vpn APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 650a7e26-eab8-5533-ce43-9c1dfce11511 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-8c68d9d3b1ed0f52f8) [Vpn APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - a4b8d482-80ce-40d6-934d-b22a01a44fe7 v1.0 LRPC (LicenseServiceEndpoint) [LicenseManager]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 26268c86-e770-433e-86ef-5f3ba6731fba v1.0 LRPC (OLE92B47D3E7B841B8987CD18E6790)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 26268c86-e770-433e-86ef-5f3ba6731fba v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-8b18b3eb4ce0ecdffc)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 98716d03-89ac-44c7-bb8c-285824e51c4a v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3c4afd899c5fae04ea) [XactSrv service]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 1a0d010f-1c33-432c-b0f5-8cf4e8053099 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-3c4afd899c5fae04ea) [IdSegSrv service]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - e64b9aee-f372-4312-9a14-8f1502b5c8e3 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-e9a4294289c8f6d941)
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 714dc5c4-c5f6-466a-b037-a573c958031e v1.0 LRPC (OLE8B818B8B8C253D849AA37AC7F51F) [ProcessTag Server Endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 714dc5c4-c5f6-466a-b037-a573c958031e v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-a4dd3cb520b0727ab7) [ProcessTag Server Endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - a398e520-d59a-4bdd-aa7a-3c1e0303a511 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-ed6f6f7a4751b71fc6) [IKE/Authip API]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 552d076a-cb29-4e44-8b6a-d15e59e2c0af v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-4bcd74f6a7458245d4) [IP Transition Configuration endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 2e6035b2-e8f1-41a7-a044-656b439c4c34 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-4bcd74f6a7458245d4) [Proxy Manager provider server endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 2e6035b2-e8f1-41a7-a044-656b439c4c34 v1.0 LRPC (TeredoDiagnostics) [Proxy Manager provider server endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 2e6035b2-e8f1-41a7-a044-656b439c4c34 v1.0 LRPC (TeredoControl) [Proxy Manager provider server endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c36be077-e14b-4fe9-8abc-e856ef4f048b v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-4bcd74f6a7458245d4) [Proxy Manager client server endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c36be077-e14b-4fe9-8abc-e856ef4f048b v1.0 LRPC (TeredoDiagnostics) [Proxy Manager client server endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c36be077-e14b-4fe9-8abc-e856ef4f048b v1.0 LRPC (TeredoControl) [Proxy Manager client server endpoint]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c49a5a70-8a7f-4e70-ba16-1e8f1f193ef1 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-4bcd74f6a7458245d4) [Adh APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c49a5a70-8a7f-4e70-ba16-1e8f1f193ef1 v1.0 LRPC (TeredoDiagnostics) [Adh APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c49a5a70-8a7f-4e70-ba16-1e8f1f193ef1 v1.0 LRPC (TeredoControl) [Adh APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - c49a5a70-8a7f-4e70-ba16-1e8f1f193ef1 v1.0 LRPC (OLEB37CDCB696750A7C0B09BA7EEF69) [Adh APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - dd490425-5325-4565-b774-7e27d6c09c24 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-e805c34d2bab6164ca) [Base Firewall Engine API]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 7f9d11bf-7fb9-436b-a812-b2d50c5d4c03 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-e805c34d2bab6164ca) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 7f9d11bf-7fb9-436b-a812-b2d50c5d4c03 v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-44919f4f69e7a040d4) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - f47433c3-3e9d-4157-aad4-83aa1f5c2d4c v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-e805c34d2bab6164ca) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - f47433c3-3e9d-4157-aad4-83aa1f5c2d4c v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-44919f4f69e7a040d4) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - f47433c3-3e9d-4157-aad4-83aa1f5c2d4c v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-ffaba5f115cb535ac1) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 2fb92682-6599-42dc-ae13-bd2ca89bd11c v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-e805c34d2bab6164ca) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 2fb92682-6599-42dc-ae13-bd2ca89bd11c v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-44919f4f69e7a040d4) [Fw APIs]
[*] 192.168.43.27:135 - 2fb92682-6599-42dc-ae13-bd2ca89bd11c v1.0 LRPC (LRPC-ffaba5f115cb535ac1) [Fw APIs]
```

# How the vulnerability was exploited, and the tools used to exploit it. Vulnerability Scanning

Enumeration of vulnerabilities is done on the target system using Tenable nessus and nmap to ascertain any vulnerability to gain entry into the system. We discovered Mdns which was revealing excess information such as Hostname, Domain name, Smb which did not enforce signing on its \$IPC shares and several other informational. Below is the result of the scan.

Nessus Essentials / Folders

Not secure https://localhost:8834/#/scans/reports/21/hosts/2/vulnerabilities

There's an error with your feed. Click here to view your license information.

tenable Nessus Essentials Scans Settings

FOLDERS

- My Scans
- All Scans
- Trash 2

RESOURCES

- Policies
- Plugin Rules
- Terrascan

Tenable News

Cybersecurity Snapshot: Prompt Injection and Data ...

Read More

## Pentest / 192.168.43.27

Configure Audit Trail Launch Report Export

Back to Hosts

Vulnerabilities 18

Filter Search Vulnerabilities 18 Vulnerabilities

Sev	CVSS	VPR	EPSS	Family	Count	
MEDIUM	5.3			Misc.	1	
MEDIUM	5.0 *			Service detection	1	
INFO				Windows	6	
INFO				Windows	9	
INFO				Port scanners	4	
INFO				General	1	
INFO				General	1	
INFO				Misc.	1	

Details

192.168.43.27  
20:10:7A:28:4D:B6  
Microsoft Windows 10 Enterprise  
Microsoft Windows Server 2019 LTSC  
Microsoft Windows Server 2019  
Today at 5:53 PM  
Today at 6:03 PM  
Used: 10 minutes  
Download

Vulnerabilities

Legend: Critical, High, Medium, Low, Info

Nessus Essentials / Folders

Not secure https://localhost:8834/#/scans/reports/21/hosts/2/vulnerabilities/57608

There's an error with your feed. Click here to view your license information.

tenable Nessus Essentials Scans Settings

FOLDERS

- My Scans
- All Scans
- Trash 2

RESOURCES

- Policies
- Plugin Rules
- Terrascan

Tenable News

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Read More

## Pentest / Plugin #57608

Configure Audit Trail Launch Report Export

Back to Vulnerabilities

Vulnerabilities 18

MEDIUM SMB Signing not required

Plugin Details

Severity: Medium  
ID: 57608  
Version: 1.20  
Type: remote  
Family: Misc.  
Published: January 19, 2012  
Modified: October 5, 2022

Risk Information

Risk Factor: Medium  
CVSS v3.0 Base Score: 5.3  
CVSS v3.0 Vector: CVSS:3.0/AV:N/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:U/C:N/I:L/A:N  
CVSS v3.0 Temporal Vector: CVSS:3.0/E:U/RL:O/RC:C  
CVSS v3.0 Temporal Score: 4.6  
CVSS v2.0 Base Score: 5.0

Description

Signing is not required on the remote SMB server. An unauthenticated, remote attacker can exploit this to conduct man-in-the-middle attacks against the SMB server.

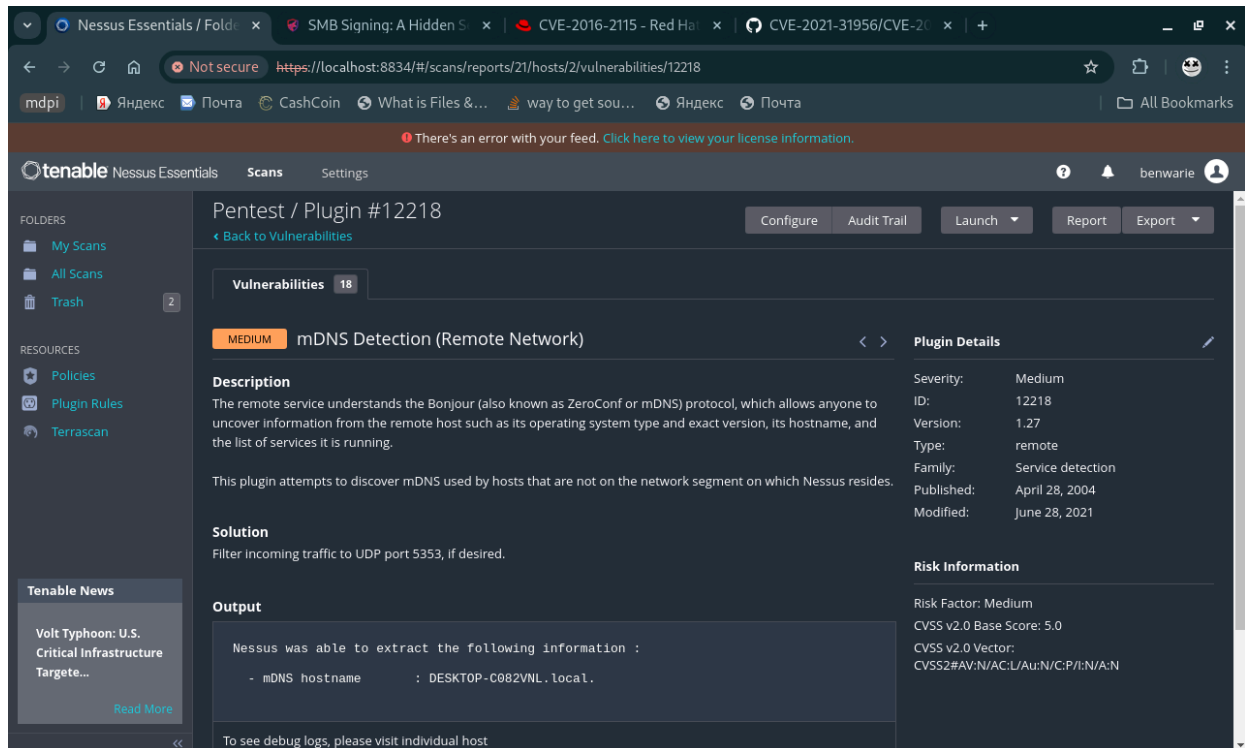
Solution

Enforce message signing in the host's configuration. On Windows, this is found in the policy setting 'Microsoft network server: Digitally sign communications (always)'. On Samba, the setting is called 'server signing'. See the 'see also' links for further details.

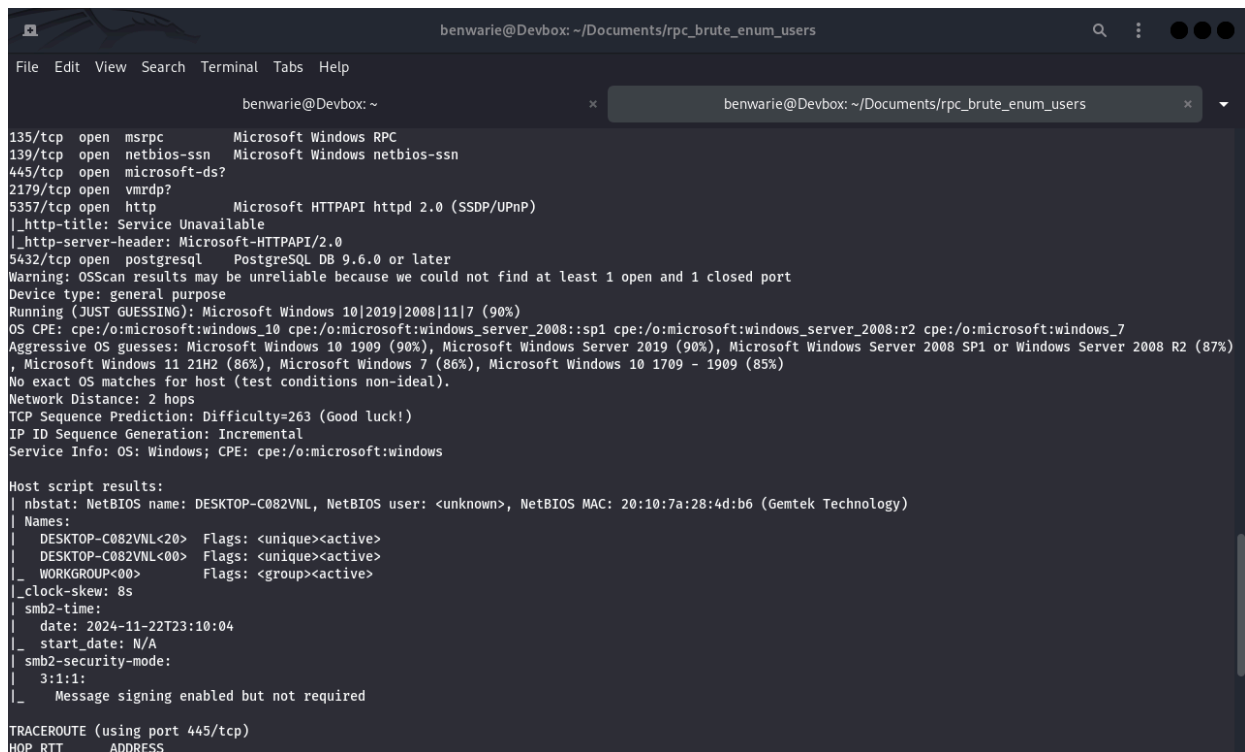
See Also

- <http://www.nessus.org/u?df39b8b3>
- <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc731957.aspx>
- <http://www.nessus.org/u?74b80723>
- <https://www.samba.org/samba/docs/current/man-html/smb.conf.5.html>
- <http://www.nessus.org/u?a3cac4ea>

Output



Further enumeration with nmap scripting engine did not reveal any flaw which was also solidified by using several POC test scripts for individual CVE



We were able to reveal the version of the smb using metasploit. Below is an extract of the auxiliary scanner,

version information for smb  
[\*] 192.168.43.27:445 - SMB Detected (versions:2, 3) (preferred dialect:SMB 3.1.1)  
(compression capabilities:LZNT1) (encryption capabilities:AES-128-GCM)  
(signatures:optional) (guid:{d4c466e6-6ec7-45ca-b021-7d95ca4817fb}) (authentication  
domain:DESKTOP-C082VNL)  
[\*] 192.168.43.27: - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)  
[\*] Auxiliary module execution completed

Below is a checklist used for CVE;

cve\_2019\_0708\_bluekeep\_rce  
ms12\_020\_maxchannelids  
ms12\_020\_check  
cain\_abel\_4918\_rdp  
cve\_2019\_0708\_bluekeep\_rce  
cve\_2019\_0708\_bluekeep  
CVE-2021-1675  
CVE-2021-31956  
CVE-2017-0144  
PrintNightmare CVE-2021-34527  
ZeroLogon CVE-2020-1472

We proceeded to enumerate the Postgresql server for possible vulnerabilities and discovered that it doesn't have encryption which is an impairment on confidentiality and integrity. However we didn't exploit this vulnerability to the end due to the cost of computation in running large wordlists to find a match.

```
benwarie@Devbox: ~/Documents
benwarie@Devbox: ~/Documents x benwarie@Devbox: ~/Documents/SMBGhost-SMBLee... x benwarie@Devbox: ~/Documents/SMBGhost-SMBLee... x
benwarie@Devbox)~[/Documents/Exploit/CVE-2020-0796]
$ cd ..
benwarie@Devbox)~[/Documents/Exploit]
$ cd ..
benwarie@Devbox)~[/Documents]
$ nmap -Pn -v -p 5432 -sV 192.168.43.27
Starting Nmap 7.94SVN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-11-22 21:31 EST
NSE: Loaded 46 scripts for scanning.
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 21:31
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 21:31, 0.01s elapsed
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 21:31
Scanning DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27) [1 port]
Discovered open port 5432/tcp on 192.168.43.27
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 21:31, 0.03s elapsed (1 total ports)
Initiating Service scan at 21:31
Scanning 1 service on DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)
Completed Service scan at 21:31, 6.52s elapsed (1 service on 1 host)
NSE: Script scanning 192.168.43.27.
Initiating NSE at 21:31
Completed NSE at 21:31, 0.01s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 21:31
Completed NSE at 21:31, 0.01s elapsed
Nmap scan report for DESKTOP-C082VNL (192.168.43.27)
Host is up (0.0088s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE
5432/tcp  open  postgresql
PostgreSQL DB 9.6.0 or later

Read data files from: /usr/share/nmap
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 7.20 seconds
Raw packets sent: 1 (44B) | Rcvd: 1 (44B)
benwarie@Devbox)~[/Documents]
$
```

```
benwarie@Devbox: ~/Documents/SMBGhost-SMBleed-scanner

Module options (auxiliary/scanner/postgres/postgres_version):

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
VERBOSE   false           no        Enable verbose output

Used when connecting via an existing SESSION:

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
SESSION                   no        The session to run this module on

Used when making a new connection via RHOSTS:

Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
-----
DATABASE  postgres         no        The database to authenticate against
PASSWORD  postgres         no        The password for the specified username. Leave blank for a random password.
RHOSTS    192.168.43.27    no        The target host(s), see https://docs.metasploit.com/docs/using-metasploit/basics/using-metasploit.html
RPORT     5432             no        The target port
THREADS   1                yes       The number of concurrent threads (max one per host)
USERNAME  postgres         no        The username to authenticate as

View the full module info with the info, or info -d command.

msf6 auxiliary(scanner/postgres/postgres_version) > set RHOST 192.168.43.27
RHOST => 192.168.43.27
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/postgres/postgres_version) > run

[*] 192.168.43.27:5432 Postgres - Version Unknown (Pre-Auth)
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf6 auxiliary(scanner/postgres/postgres_version) > 
```

```
benwarie@Devbox: ~/Downloads

(benwarie@Devbox)-[~/Downloads]
$ python3 51247.py -i 192.168.43.27 -p 5432 -u -P
usage: 51247.py [-h] [-i [IP]] [-p [PORT]] [-U [USER]] [-P [PASSWORD]] [-c [COMMAND]]
51247.py: error: unrecognized arguments: -u

(benwarie@Devbox)-[~/Downloads]
$ python3 51247.py -i 192.168.43.27 -p 5432 -U -P

[+] Connect to PostgreSQL - 192.168.43.27
Error

[-] Failed to connect with PostgreSQL

(benwarie@Devbox)-[~/Downloads]
$ python3 51247.py -i 192.168.43.27 -p 5432 -U default -P default

[+] Connect to PostgreSQL - 192.168.43.27
Error

[-] Failed to connect with PostgreSQL

(benwarie@Devbox)-[~/Downloads]
$ ls
50847.py 51247.py Nessus-10.8.0-ubuntu1604_amd64.deb Repository google-chrome-stable_current_amd64.deb

(benwarie@Devbox)-[~/Downloads]
$ python3 50847.py -i 192.168.43.27 -p 5432 -U default -P default

[+] Connecting to PostgreSQL Database on 192.168.43.27:5432

[-] Connection to Database failed:
connection to server at "192.168.43.27", port 5432 failed: FATAL: no pg_hba.conf entry for host "192.168.43.134", user "default", database "template1", no encryption

(benwarie@Devbox)-[~/Downloads]
$ 
```

## Overview of the Vulnerability Identified and tools used to identify it.

The Vulnerability discovered on our target machine is “open ports” which we escalated to get

1. rpc sessions with the target device.
2. Encryption status of Postgres
3. Smb client status

## Potential risks and Impact of exploiting this vulnerability on real-world IT Infrastructure

The potential risk of this vulnerability in real world iT infrastructure include:

1. Information disclosure with regards to confidentiality and integrity compromise of database
2. Dos/DDos
3. Remote code execution from disclosure of hostname and device service versions.

## Recommendation on Prevention and Mitigation Strategies

Recommendations for mitigation include

1. Use of firewall to block ip-addresses and close open ports
2. Deploying IT infrastructure in different network segments to prevent access to critical assets
3. Encryption of Database
4. Implementation of Authentication and Authorization policies e.g network access controls
5. Implementation of Patch management to handle outdated software running on devices.
6. Implementation of network or host based Intrusion detection and intrusion prevention systems

## Conclusion

In conclusion we have been able to demonstrate practical skill for network penetration testing to identify hosts on a network and target a specific machine to reveal open ports and enumerate them for services leading to access on these machines. This is an example of how attackers can gain access to devices and access personal information.

## References

1. Manasha Saqib, & Ayaz Hassan Moon. (2023). A systematic security assessment and review of Internet of Things in the context of authentication. *Computers & Security*, 125, 103053. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cose.2022.103053>
2. Johnson, L. (2020). Chapter 10 - System and network assessments. In L. Johnson (Ed.), *Security controls evaluation, testing, and assessment handbook* (2nd ed., pp. 447–469). Academic Press. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-818427-1.00010-0>
3. Wilhelm, T. (2010). Running a PenTest. In T. Wilhelm (Ed.), *Professional penetration testing* (p. 217). Syngress. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-1-59749-425-0.00013-0>