

Security Assessment Report: Public S3 Bucket Exposure

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Assessed Resource: flaws.cloud

Date: 20, Oct 2025

1. Executive Summary

A critical security misconfiguration was identified in the AWS S3 bucket `flaws.cloud`. The bucket was configured with public read access, allowing unauthenticated enumeration and download of all stored objects. This exposure included sensitive information revealing internal infrastructure details and a direct escalation path to additional systems.

2. Methodology

The assessment followed a structured approach to identify and validate the public exposure:

Phase 1: Discovery & Verification

```
(eman@vbox)-[~]  
$ nslookup 52.92.137.219  
219.137.92.52.in-addr.arpa      name = s3-website-us-west-2.amazonaws.com.  
  
Authoritative answers can be found from:
```

Confirmed S3 website hosting through reverse DNS resolution

Phase 2: Access Validation

```
(eman@vbox)-[~]  
$ aws s3 ls s3://flaws.cloud --no-sign-request  
2017-03-14 08:00:38      2575 hint1.html  
2017-03-03 09:05:17      1707 hint2.html  
2017-03-03 09:05:11      1101 hint3.html  
2024-02-22 07:32:41      2861 index.html  
2018-07-10 21:47:16     15979 logo.png  
2017-02-27 06:59:28         46 robots.txt  
2017-02-27 06:59:30      1051 secret-dd02c7c.html
```

Verified unauthenticated list operations against the bucket

Phase 3: Permission Analysis

```
(eman@vbox)-[~]  
$ s3scanner -bucket flaws.cloud  
INFO exists | flaws.cloud | us-west-2 | AuthUsers: [] | AllUsers: [READ]
```

Confirmed public read permissions at bucket level

Phase 4: Data Extraction & Analysis

```
(eman@vbox)-[~/flaws-cloud-assessment]
$ aws s3 sync s3://flaws.cloud ./bucket-contents/ --no-sign-request
download: s3://flaws.cloud/hint3.html to bucket-contents/hint3.html
download: s3://flaws.cloud/hint1.html to bucket-contents/hint1.html
download: s3://flaws.cloud/index.html to bucket-contents/index.html
download: s3://flaws.cloud/secret-dd02c7c.html to bucket-contents/secret-dd02c7c.html
download: s3://flaws.cloud/logo.png to bucket-contents/logo.png
download: s3://flaws.cloud/hint2.html to bucket-contents/hint2.html
download: s3://flaws.cloud/robots.txt to bucket-contents/robots.txt
```

Downloaded complete bucket contents for analysis

Phase 5: Sensitive Data Review

```
(eman@vbox)-[~/flaws-cloud-assessment/bucket-contents]
$ cat robots.txt
User-agent: *
Allow: /index.html
Disallow: /
```

Analyzed critical findings within exposed data

3. Findings

3.1 Public Access Misconfiguration

- Bucket flaws.cloud allowed public read access
- 7 objects (25 KB) fully accessible without authentication
- Permission confirmed via multiple assessment tools

3.2 Data Exposure Details

- Complete static website source code
- Internal hint files revealing infrastructure information
- robots.txt exposing directory structure
- secret-dd02c7c.html containing escalation path to level2-c8b217a33fcf1f839f6f1f73a00a9ae7.flaws.cloud

4. Risk Analysis

- **Data Confidentiality:** Complete loss - all bucket contents publicly accessible
- **Attack Surface Expansion:** Exposure provides direct path to additional internal systems
- **Compliance Impact:** Violates multiple security frameworks (CIS, NIST, PCI-DSS)

5. Recommendations

Immediate Actions (Within 24 hours):

- Disable public access on flaws.cloud S3 bucket
- Investigate the exposed level2 system for further compromise
- Review all S3 buckets in the environment for similar misconfigurations

Long-term Remediation:

- Implement S3 Block Public Access at the account level
- Deploy automated CSPM tooling for continuous monitoring
- Establish S3 security baselines in development pipelines