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MENU

Zero-day vulnerability exploited in WordPress Lara Google Analytics plugin.

BY JEROME BRUANDET OCTOBER 14, 2019 - 4:47PM [+0700]

The WordPress Lara Google Analytics plugin, which has 20,000+ active installations, was prone to an authenticated stored XSS vulnerability in version 2.0.4 and below.

> This vulnerability is currently being exploited, make sure to follow the recommendations below.

Reference

A CVE ID has been requested and we'll update this post when it is assigned.

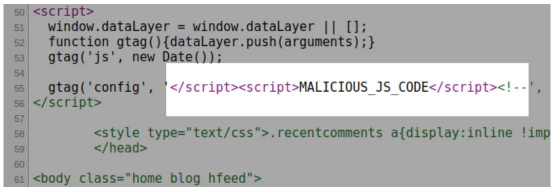
Authenticated Stored XSS

In the main "lara-google-analytics.php" script, the `lrgawidget_setProfileID` action is used to call the `lrgawidget_callback` function via the WordPress AJAX API.

```
add_action( 'wp_ajax_lrgawidget_setProfileID', 'lrgawidget_callback
...
...
function lrgawidget_callback() {
   global $wpdb;
   $user_id = get_current_user_id();
   $lrperm = lrgawidget_internal_permissions();
   $lrdata = $_POST;
   $modifiedAction = explode("_", $lrdata['action']);
   $lrdata['action'] = $modifiedAction[1];

   if ($lrdata['action'] == "setProfileID"){
      if ( (isset($lrdata['enable_universal_tracking'])) && !empty(
         update_option('lrgawidget_property_id', $lrdata['property_
      }else{
         delete_option('lrgawidget_property_id');
      }
   }
```

Attackers are using it to inject JS code in the `property_id` field. It is injected into all pages and posts of the CMS:



```
<script>
  window.dataLayer = window.dataLayer || [];
  function gtag(){dataLayer.push(arguments);}
  gtag('js', new Date());

  gtag('config', '</script><script>MALICIOUS_JS_CODE</script><!--',
</script>

        <style type="text/css">.recentcomments a{display:inline !imp
        </head>

<body class="home blog hfeed">
```

Note that the attack requires a user account on the blog, such as a subscriber.

Timeline

The vulnerability was reported to the wordpress.org team on October 13, 2019, and a new version 2.0.5 was released the same day.

Recommendations

Update as soon as possible if you have version 2.0.4 or below installed. Note that the new version was released only a few hours after we reported the issue – which is a great thing – and it does block the ongoing attack, however it still lacks capability check and hopefully the author will come up with a better patch in the next few days.

If you are using our web application firewall for WordPress, NinjaFirewall WP Edition (free) and NinjaFirewall WP+ Edition (premium), you are protected against this vulnerability.

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