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## Oc\_credentials security? #17439



tanguy-opendsi opened this issue on Oct 7, 2019 · 13 comments

Labels

0. Needs triage enhancement

tanguy-opendsi commented on Oct 7, 2019

Hi,  
Can i get informations about the algorithm used to hash password inside oc\_credentials.  
  
I think this is synchronous hash because nextcloud need it with external storage but i'm not sure ?  
  
Best regards



tanguy-opendsi added 0. Needs triage enhancement labels on Oct 7, 2019

kessellb commented on Oct 7, 2019 • edited

[Contributor](#)[server/lib/private/Security/CredentialsManager.php](#)  
Lines 53 to 69 in c54a59d

```
53      /**
54       * Store a set of credentials
55       *
56       * @param string|null $userId Null for system-wide credentials
57       * @param string $identifier
58       * @param mixed $credentials
59       */
60      public function store($userId, $identifier, $credentials) {
61          $value = $this->crypto->encrypt(json_encode($credentials));
62
63          $this->dbConnection->setValues(self::DB_TABLE, [
64              'user' => $userId,
```

[server/lib/private/Security/Crypto.php](#)  
Lines 84 to 103 in be5c058

```
84      /**
85       * Encrypts a value and adds an HMAC (Encrypt-Then-MAC)
86       * @param string $plaintext
87       * @param string $password Password to encrypt, if not specified the secret from config.php will be taken
88       * @return string Authenticated ciphertext
89       */
90      public function encrypt(string $plaintext, string $password = ''): string {
91          if($password === '') {
92              $password = $this->config->getSystemValue('secret');
93          }
94          $this->cipher->setPassword($password);
95      }
```

synchronous hash

I would say yes.

Can i get informations about the algorithm

Sure. Everything is open. Please use <https://help.nextcloud.com> for questions.

kessellb closed this as completed on Oct 7, 2019

Schmuuu commented on Oct 7, 2019

Hi @kessellb

Just to let you know, I told him to better ask the developers regarding these questions. We in the Forum don't have much of the insights. Especially when it comes to questions why certain hash functions have been chosen, the broader community is missing the information I think.

kessellb commented on Oct 7, 2019

[Contributor](#)

told him to better ask the developers regarding these questions

Seems valid. Do you think the answer is sufficient? We can still ping some of the paid engineers. But the question is not specific.

Schmuuu commented on Oct 8, 2019

Thanks :)

Well, I'm not sure; @tanguy-opendsi does this answer your question?  
The comment seems to be descriptive: "Encrypts a value and adds an HMAC (Encrypt-Then-MAC)"

And the DB table oc\_credentials seems to save a value consisting of  
ciphertext|iv|hmac

where "iv" seems to be a random number based on the length of a string. I don't understand what iv could mean or what ivLength is about. But maybe you understand that.  
Please let us know what your questions was aiming at and where further clarification is required.

tanguy-opendsi commented on Oct 8, 2019

Author

@Schmuuu Thx for your reply yes i'm understanding the HMAC but same like you not the iv  
for the iv i did not understand too :)

kesselb commented on Oct 8, 2019

Contributor

cc @nextcloud/security 🍷

LukasReschke commented on Oct 8, 2019

Member

IV = Initialization Vector, which is required as this is using AES in CBC mode.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Initialization\\_vector](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Initialization_vector) has some more details.

tanguy-opendsi commented on Oct 8, 2019

Author

@LukasReschke that mean HMAC use AES?

LukasReschke commented on Oct 8, 2019

Member

The HMAC is there to provide integrity. AES CBC alone doesn't provide that.

The answer at <https://security.stackexchange.com/questions/63132/when-to-use-hmac-alongside-aes> is describing this quite well.



LukasReschke commented on Oct 8, 2019

Member

I guess it would be good if you could rephrase your original question so that we can give a better answer :-)

What are your concerns? What do you want to protect against?

tanguy-opendsi commented on Oct 8, 2019

Author

@LukasReschke  
Ok :)  
My question is :  
How work the mechanism when you use external storage?  
Nextcloud have to store and decrypt the password to use external storage properly ?  
If yes, what is the strength of your code (Using salt, what algorithm ect.)  
Can you describe the mechanism ?

olivluca commented on May 19, 2020

Isn't it futile to encrypt the password, considered that if an attacker compromises the system he can easily obtain the secret?  
I'd much prefer for the password **not** to be stored if there is no need for them, yet they are even if I have no external storage configured with stored credentials.

kesselb commented on May 19, 2020

Contributor

@olivluca #21037

Assignees

No one assigned

Labels

0. Needs triage enhancement

Projects

None yet

Milestone

No milestone

Development

No branches or pull requests

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5 participants

