CTF Flags Documentation

Flag 1: Admin Password Discovery

Name: Database Infiltration Flag Location: Base64-encoded admin password in the users table Flag Format: CTF{}

- 1. Initial SQL Injection Bypass
 - 1. Navigate to the login page
 - 2. Use SQL injection to bypass authentication:
 - 1. Username: 'OR 1=1 --
 - 2. Password: anything
 - 3. This logs you in as the first user in the database

Hint: Don't forget to add a space after the — to comment out the rest of the query.

- 2. Access Profile Page
 - 1. Navigate to index.php?page=profile
 - 2. Locate the "Share Your Experience" review section
- 3. Exploit SQL Injection in Review Update
 - 1. Use the review textarea to perform SQL injection via the updateReview() function
 - 2. First, discover database structure:

```
sql', review_text=(SELECT GROUP_CONCAT(table_name SEPARATOR ', ')
FROM information_schema.tables WHERE table_schema=database())
WHERE '1'='1' --
```

4. Extract User Table Columns

```
sql', review_text=(SELECT GROUP_CONCAT(column_name SEPARATOR ', ') FROM
information_schema.columns WHERE table_name='users') WHERE '
1'='
1' --
```

5. Extract User Data

```
sql', review_text=(SELECT
GROUP_CONCAT(CONCAT(username,':',password,':',role) SEPARATOR ', ') FROM
users) WHERE '
1'='
1' --
```

- 6. Decode Admin Password
 - 1. Locate the admin user entry in the extracted data
 - 2. The password is stored as base64-encoded
 - 3. Decode the base64 string to reveal the flag

Flag 2: File System Access

Name: Server File System Flag Location: /flag.txt file on the server Flag Format: CTF{}

- 1. Obtain Admin Credentials
 - 1. Complete Flag 1 exploit to get admin username and decoded password
- 2. Login as Administrator
 - 1. Use the admin credentials to log in properly as admin user
- 3. Access File Upload Functionality
 - 1. As an admin user, the profile page shows file upload capability
 - 2. The upload function in handleFileUpload() has no file type restrictions for admins
- 4. Create PHP Web Shell
 - 1. Create a PHP file with web shell functionality:

- 2. Save as shell.png.php
- 5. Upload Web Shell
 - 1. Use the profile image upload feature to upload shell.php
 - 2. The file will be stored in the /uploads/ directory
- 6. Access Web Shell
 - 1. Navigate to /uploads/shell.php
 - 2. Use the command interface to explore the file system
- 7. Locate and Read Flag
 - 1. Execute Is or dir to list files in the current directory
 - 2. Look for flag.txt

Flag 3: Coffee Strength Flag

Name: Coffee Strength Flag **Location**: Encrypted in barista_academy.c binary, revealed upon solving Challenge 1 **Flag Format**: CTF{m0cha_myst3ries_r3v34l3d}

- 1. Gain Admin Access
 - 1. Complete Flag 2 to obtain access to the PHP web shell.
- 2. Download the Vulnerable Binary
 - 1. List the files and locate the base64-encoded binary named barista_academy.
 - 2. Base64-encode the binary on the server so you can copy it:

```
base64 ./barista_academy
```

- 3. Decode and Prepare the Binary
 - 1. On your local machine, decode the base64 file and make it executable.
- 4. Run the Binary in Docker
 - Move the obtained barista_academy binary to the challenge/secret-executable directory.
 - 2. Follow the instructions in README and to run the program.

```
./run_barista.bat # on windows
./run_barista.sh # on linux/macos
```

- 3. Alternatively, you may run the binary directly if you have the necessary environment set up, it is a linux/amd64 binary.
- 5. Exploit the Buffer Overflow
 - 1. When prompted to enter your favorite coffee blend, input a string that overflows the buffer and overwrites the coffee_strength variable.
 - 2. The goal is to change coffee_strength from its initial value (e.g., 17) to exact amount required (this is randomized). Try inputting a string like:

```
1234567890123456789012345678N
```

- 3. If the value is not correct, adjust the final character until you reach the target value. The program will give hints about the current strength.
- 4. Upon success, the program reveals the flag:

```
CTF{m0cha_myst3ries_r3v34l3d}
```

5. Enter this flag when restarting the program to unlock the next challenge.

Flag 4: Coffee Shop Balance Flag

Name: Coffee Shop Balance Flag Location: Encrypted in barista_academy.c binary, revealed upon solving Challenge 2 Flag Format: CTF{espresso_3xpr3ss_secrets}

- 1. After capturing Flag 3, the program unlocks Challenge 2.
- 2. You start with 1100 coins and can buy coffees costing 900 coins each.
- 3. The program checks if you have enough balance for the purchase.
- 4. Exploit integer overflow by entering a very large number of coffees to make the total cost overflow to a negative number (e.g., 12312312).
- 5. This causes your balance to increase incorrectly. Repeat purchases if needed.
- 6. Once your balance reaches or exceeds 100,000 coins, the program awards Flag 4:

```
CTF{espresso_3xpr3ss_secrets}
```

7. Enter this flag when restarting the program to unlock the next challenge.

Hint: Try entering a very large integer as the number of coffees to order. If the program rejects non-numeric input, use a large positive number to trigger the overflow.

Flag 5: Secret Order Printer Flag

Name: Secret Order Printer Flag **Location**: Encrypted in barista_academy.c binary, revealed upon solving Challenge 3 **Flag Format**: CTF{cappucc1n0_cr4ck3r_4l3rt}

- 1. After capturing Flag 4, the program unlocks Challenge 3.
- 2. Use the secret order printer feature, which reads your input and passes it directly to printf without format string protection.
- 3. Exploit the format string vulnerability by sending a payload such as:

- 4. The output will display hexadecimal values from the stack. Look for values that resemble ASCII when converted.
- 5. Reverse the byte order of each 64-bit chunk (little-endian) to reveal the flag. For example:
 - 707061637b465443 → CTF{capp
 - 635f306e31636375 → uccino_3c

o ...

There are many online tools available to help with this conversion.

6. Combine the parts to get the full flag:

```
CTF{cappucc1n0_cr4ck3r_4l3rt}
```

Hint: Use repeated %llx format specifiers to leak stack memory. Convert the hex output to ASCII and reverse the endianness for each chunk to reconstruct the flag.