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## Rapid7 **Observed Exploitation of Critical MOVEit Transfer Vulnerability**

Jun 01, 2023 | 8 min read | **Caitlin Condon** 







Last updated at Thu, 10 Aug 2023 20:55:31 GMT

Note: As of June 2, 2023, CVE-2023-34362 has been assigned to the original MOVEit Transfer zero-day vulnerability. To date, additional MOVEit Transfer CVEs have been disclosed and



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Rapid7 recommends updating
MOVEit Transfer immediately
for all critical CVE releases.

Rapid7 managed services
teams are observing
exploitation of a critical zero-day
vulnerability (CVE-2023-34362)

in Progress Software's MOVEit
Transfer solution across
multiple customer
environments. We have
observed an uptick in related
cases since the vulnerability
was disclosed publicly on May
31, 2023; Rapid7 intelligence
indicates that the threat actors
leveraging CVE-2023-34362
have exploited a wide range of
organizations, particularly in

North America.

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invoke emergency incident response procedures if any indicators of compromise are found in their environments.

Note that while updating to a fixed version will help protect against future exploitation, patching alone is not sufficient to address potential threat actor access to systems that have already been compromised.

Rapid7 has a full in-depth technical analysis of the remote code execution exploit chain for CVE-2023-34362 in AttackerKB

.

## **Background**

Progress Software published an advisory on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 warning of a critical

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injection flaw that allows remote attackers to gain unauthorized access to MOVEit Transfer's database. The advisory notes that "depending on the database engine being used (MySQL, Microsoft SQL Server, or Azure SQL), an attacker may be able to infer information about the structure and contents of the database in addition to executing SQL statements that alter or delete database elements...exploitation of unpatched systems can occur via HTTP or HTTPS."

As of June 2, CVE-2023-34362
has been assigned to this issue.
The vulnerability was exploited
by threat actors at least four
days prior to the advisory, and

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access over "at least the past 30 days."

As a result of large-scale community attention on CVE-2023-34362, Progress Software released a new patch for CVE-2023-35036, a second SQL injection vulnerability, on Friday, June 9. One of the files changed appears to be moveitisapi.dll, which our research team confirmed plays a role in the original attack chain. All versions of MOVEit Transfer are affected by this second vulnerability, which is not yet known to be exploited in the wild.

On Thursday, June 15, Progress disclosed a third vulnerability

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As of May 31, there were roughly 2,500 instances of MOVEit Transfer exposed to the public internet, the majority of which look to be in the United States. Rapid7 has previously analyzed similar SQLi-to-RCE flaws in network edge systems; these types of vulnerabilities can provide threat actors with initial access to corporate networks. File transfer solutions have also been popular targets for attackers, including ransomware groups, in recent years.

Microsoft attributed the
MOVEit Transfer zero-day
attacks to Lace Tempest, a
threat actor previously linked to
ClOp ransomware, data theft,
and extortion attacks. On June

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them before June 14 to
negotiate extortion fees for
deleting stolen data. Rapid7
threat intelligence captured the
below screenshot of the threat
group's demands.



# Observed attacker behavior

Rapid7 services teams have so far confirmed indicators of compromise and data exfiltration dating back to at

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name in multiple customer
environments, which may
indicate automated exploitation.

The adversary behavior our teams have observed so far appears to be opportunistic rather than highly targeted; the uniformity of the artifacts we're seeing could plausibly be the work of a single threat actor throwing one exploit indiscriminately at exposed targets. Mandiant has additional analysis supporting this theory here

Rapid7 analyzed a sample
webshell payload associated
with successful exploitation.
The webshell code would first
determine if the inbound
request contained a header

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not populated with a specific password-like value. As of June 1, 2023, all instances of Rapid7-observed MOVEit Transfer exploitation involve the presence of the file

human2.aspx in the wwwroot folder of the MOVEit install directory (human.aspx is the native aspx file used by MOVEit for the web interface).

## Mitigation guidance

All MOVEit Transfer versions
before May 31, 2023 are
vulnerable to CVE-2023-34362.
Fixed versions of the software
are available (see table below),
and patches should be applied
on an emergency basis. In a

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patches directly from their knowledge base articles and not from third-party sources.

The below MOVEit Transfer versions were the latest as of June 9, 2023, and included fixes for CVE-2023-34362 and CVE-2023-35036. **NOTE:** New versions are being released to fix CVE-2023-35708 as of June 16. We will update this list as we are able, but please refer to Progress Software's advisory for the latest information.

- MOVEit Transfer 2023.0.2
- MOVEit Transfer 2022.1.6
- MOVEit Transfer 2022.0.5
- MOVEit Transfer 2021.1.5
- MOVEit Transfer 2021.0.7

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or older must upgrade to a supported version. Progress software has full up-to-date details and documentation on affected versions, along with installers and DLL drop-ins for fixed versions, in their June 9 advisory. We encourage MOVEit Transfer users to make the May 31, June 9, and June 15 advisories their source of ground truth, along with the overview page. Progress Software has created.

MOVEit Cloud is also affected and has been patched globally.
MOVEit Transfer users who leverage the Microsoft Azure integration should rotate their Azure storage keys.

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MOVEit Transfer on ports 80 and 443 until the patch for CVE-2023-34362 can be applied.
Users should also delete any unauthorized files or user accounts (e.g., .cmdline scripts, human2.aspx instances).

Per the MOVEit advisory , organizations should look for indicators of compromise dating back at least a month. Progress Software also lists IOCs in their advisory.

## Identifying data exfiltration

Rapid7 incident response consultants have identified a method to determine what was

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EVTX file, which is located at

C:\Windows\System32\winevt\Logs\MOVEit.evtx .

The MOVEit event logs contain a single event ID (Event ID 0) that provides a plethora of information, including file name, file path, file size, IP address, and username that performed the download.

Progress Software's engineering team told Rapid7 that while event logging is not enabled by default in MOVEit Transfer, it's common for their customers to enable it post-installation.

Therefore, many instances of the MOVEit application may

Affected organizations and incident responders can use this

have these records available on

the host.

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in meeting regulatory
compliance standards where
applicable. **NOTE:** It is critical
that MOVEit customers capture
this log data *before* wiping or
restoring the application from
an earlier backup. Security firm
CrowdStrike also has a guide
on querying SQL databases
directly for exfiltrated data.

## Obtaining file download reports from MOVEit Transfer

Rapid7 thanks Progress

Software for providing the following information.

The Progress Software team indicated that MOVEit Transfer audit logs are stored in the database and can be either

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admin could create a new

Custom Report inside of MOVEit

with the following values:

Fields: \*

Tables: log

Criteria: Action = 'file\_download'

AND (LogTime LIKE '2023-05%'

OR LogTime LIKE '2023-06%')

Saving and running that report would return all File Download actions from the audit log from the months of May and June of this year, with all associated fields. The 'Fields' value could then easily be limited to just the relevant data from that point.

## Rapid7 customers

InsightVM and Nexpose customers can assess their

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and remote vulnerability checks.
Checks for CVE-2023-35708 are
available as of the June 16
content release; InsightVM and
Nexpose customers should
ensure they are using the latest
content version. Authenticated
vulnerability checks are
supported by both the Scan
Engine and the Insight Agent.

The following rules have been added for Rapid7 Insight IDR and Managed Detection Response (MDR) customers:

- Suspicious Web Request Webshell Related To MOVEit
   Exploit
- Suspicious Process MOVEit
   Transfer Exploitation

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## Detection .

InsightCloudSec customers can use the 'Storage Account Older than 90 Days without Access Keys Rotated' insight to identify Access Keys in need of rotation. Customers can also identify related risk factors, such as resources that are publicly accessible, have encryption disabled, or have threat protection disabled. Custom filtering is available, as well. Finally, InsightCloudSec enables mitigation through bot automation.

## **Updates**

June 3, 2023: Specified exploitation timeline and attacker behavior Rapid7 has

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specific vulnerability details.

June 4, 2023: Updated to note that Rapid7 incident responders have identified a method to determine which data and how much was exfiltrated from MOVEit customer environments. Updated to note that MOVEit customers leveraging the Microsoft Azure integration should rotate their storage keys.

June 4, 2023: Updated with guidance on obtaining file download data from MOVEit Transfer — our thanks to the Progress Software team.

June 5, 2023: Updated to note
MOVEit Cloud instances are fully
patched (Progress Software has
asked us to note that cloud
instances were patched May 31,

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changelog). Also added link to latest vendor update, noted Microsoft attribution. Updated with information on using InsightCloudSec to identify and mitigate risks associated with unrotated Access Keys and unprotected resources.

June 6, 2023: Updated with a summary of the ClOp gang's extortion demands and the deadline for contact. Added a link to CrowdStrike's guide on identifying exfiltrated data.

Made edits for brevity.

June 9, 2023: Updated to note that Progress Software has released new versions of MOVEit Transfer to fix a second vulnerability, whose CVE is still pending. Updated the mitigation

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CVEs) and point readers to the advisories and overview page.

June 12, 2023: Updated with Rapid7's full technical analysis of the exploit chain for CVE-2023-34362. InsightVM and Nexpose customers can also now assess their exposure to CVE-2023-35036 with remote and authenticated vulnerability checks.

June 13, 2023: Updated to clarify that Rapid7 has remote and authenticated vulnerability checks available to InsightVM and Nexpose customers for both MOVEit Transfer vulnerabilities (CVE-2023-34362, CVE-2023-35036).

**June 15, 2023:** Updated to note Progress has disclosed an

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CVE-2023-35708 (third MOVEit
Transfer vulnerability)
information. The full list of latest
fixed versions is still pending.
Please refer to Progress's
advisory for the latest
information. InsightVM and
Nexpose customers can now
assess their exposure to CVE2023-35708 with both
authenticated and remote

June 16, 2023: Updated with

July 7, 2023: Progress Software has disclosed three additional CVEs in MOVEit Transfer as of July 6, 2023. CVE-2023-36934 is a critical SQL injection vulnerability that could allow an unauthenticated attacker to

vulnerability checks available in

the June 16 content-only

release.

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injection vulnerability that could allow authenticated attackers to gain access to the MOVEit
Transfer database. CVE-2023-36933 is an exception handling issue that could allow an attacker to crash the application. Fixed versions are available: Mitigation directions and latest versions are in
Progress Software's advisory here

InsightVM and Nexpose customers will be able to assess their exposure to all three CVEs with authenticated vulnerability checks scheduled to be released in the July 7, 2023 content release.

Download Rapid7's Annual Vulnerability

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