# **CTF Topic: CrackStation**

# **1. Introduction**

CrackStation is an online tool used for cracking password hashes. It supports a variety of hash algorithms and utilizes a large database of known hashes to reverse common hash values into their plaintext equivalents. This tool is often used in CTF challenges for tasks involving password cracking and hash analysis.

# **2. Tools and requirements**

**CrackStation**

**Internet Connection:** To access CrackStation and other online resources.

**Text Editor:** For noting down hashes and other relevant data (e.g., Notepad, VS Code).

**3. Scenario**

You have intercepted a list of hashed passwords from a compromised database. Your task is to crack these hashes to retrieve the original passwords. The hashes use the MD5 algorithm. Your goal is to use CrackStation to find the plaintext passwords.

# **4. Process to Follow while Performing CTF**

**Step 1: Download the Hash File**  <https://openwall.info/wiki/john/sample-hashes> **:**

Obtain the list of hashed passwords from the provided hashes

(**e99a18c428cb38d5f260853678922e03**).

**Step 2: Access CrackStation:** Go to the CrackStation website

<https://crackstation.net/>

**Step 3: Enter the Hashes:** Copy the hashes from the downloaded file and paste them into the CrackStation input box.

**Step 4: Crack the Hashes:** Click on the "Crack Hashes" button.

**Step 5: Retrieve Passwords:** Note down the plaintext passwords corresponding to each hash.

**Step 6: Verify Results:** Ensure all hashes have been successfully cracked.

# **Let's Begin The Challenge**

# **Question**

**Flag:** Here are the MD5 hashes(**e99a18c428cb38d5f260853678922e03**).

Use CrackStation to find the plaintext passwords for these hashes.

**Ans: abc123**

**Flag:** What is the type of the following hashes?

**Ans: md5**

# **Hint**

