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XYZ Portal

Penetration Testing Report

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1. Executive Summary

This report is the result review of during the penetration test, the security assessment of “**XYZ Portal**” Application. As a result of the penetration testing exercise it was possible to confirm that the application does not implement necessary security controls to prevent issues such as Transport layer security protection and x-frame headers to protect users.

The results of Penetration Testing show that there are several security loopholes and weaknesses which can be exploited. These weaknesses require immediate attention and should be given high priority for solution implementation. Detail of vulnerability scanning of systems and network devices, is also included in this report corresponding to “High” ,“Medium” and “Low” level vulnerabilities those require immediate actions.

1.1 Security Testing Overview



2. Testing Summary

START	END
Tue Jan 08 2019	Thu Jan 31 2019

3. Vulnerabilities

Critical

No Critical Vulnerabilities

High

No High Vulnerabilities

Medium

E1- Clickjacking Attack

E2- Insecure Transport Layer Protection

Low

E3- Anonymous Cipher Suite

E4- Insufficient Framing Protection

E1. Clickjacking Attack

Affected hosts

➔ <https://xyz.com>

Description

In a clickjacking attack the victim is tricked into unknowingly initiating some action in one system while interacting with the UI from seemingly completely different system. While being logged in to some target system, the victim visits the attackers' malicious site which displays a UI that the victim wishes to interact with. In reality, the click-jacked page has a transparent layer above the visible UI with action controls that the attacker wishes the victim to execute. The victim clicks on buttons or other UI elements they see on the page which actually triggers the action controls in the transparent overlaying layer. Depending on what that action control is, the attacker may have just tricked the victim into executing some potentially privileged (and most certainly undesired) functionality in the target system to which the victim is authenticated. The basic problem here is that there is a dichotomy between what the victim thinks he's clicking on versus what he or she is actually clicking on.

Attack Scenario

A victim has an authenticated session with a site <https://xyz.com>. At the same time, the victim receives an e-mail that appears to come from an online publication to which he or she subscribes with links to today's news articles. The victim clicks on one of these links and is taken to a page with the news story. There is a screen with an advertisement that appears on top of the news article with the 'skip this ad' button. Eager to read the news article, the user clicks on this button. Nothing happens. The user clicks on the button one more time and still nothing happens. In reality, the victim activated a hidden action control located in a transparent layer above the 'skip this ad' button. The ad screen blocking the news article made it likely that the victim would click on the 'skip this ad' button. Clicking on the button can actually give Hackers access to user's sensitive information.

Recommendation

HTTP security headers provide a layer of security by helping to mitigate attacks and security vulnerabilities by telling the browser how to behave. **X-frame-options (XFO)**, which is a header that **helps to protect your visitors against clickjacking attacks**. It is recommended that you use the x-frame-options header on pages which should not be allowed to render a page in a frame.

Steps to Reproduce

- 1- Create a fake website and hide website address in iframe tag.

Code

```
<html>
  <head> Clickjack test page</head>
  <body>
    <p>Click here to get offer</p>
    <iframe src="http://xyz.com" width="500" height="500"></iframe>
  </body>
</html>
```

- 2- Wait for users to visit this fake site and click on the hidden iframe.
- 3- Attacker can perform various functions including transferring sensitive information to his server etc.

E2. Insecure Transport Layer Protection

PRIORITY

Affected hosts

➔ <https://xyz.com>

Medium

Description

The backend web service is accessed over networks which are not controlled by end users or application developers. As a result, the data transmitted over these networks is liable to be intercepted in transit if it is not appropriately encrypted. The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) used does not provide any mechanisms for ensuring confidentiality of data passed. If network traffic is able to be sniffed, then communications using this protocol can be obtained. Authentication and transfer of application data was found to occur over HTTP. This may allow disclosure of credentials or other sensitive information, to other parties who are able to monitor this traffic.

Attack Scenario

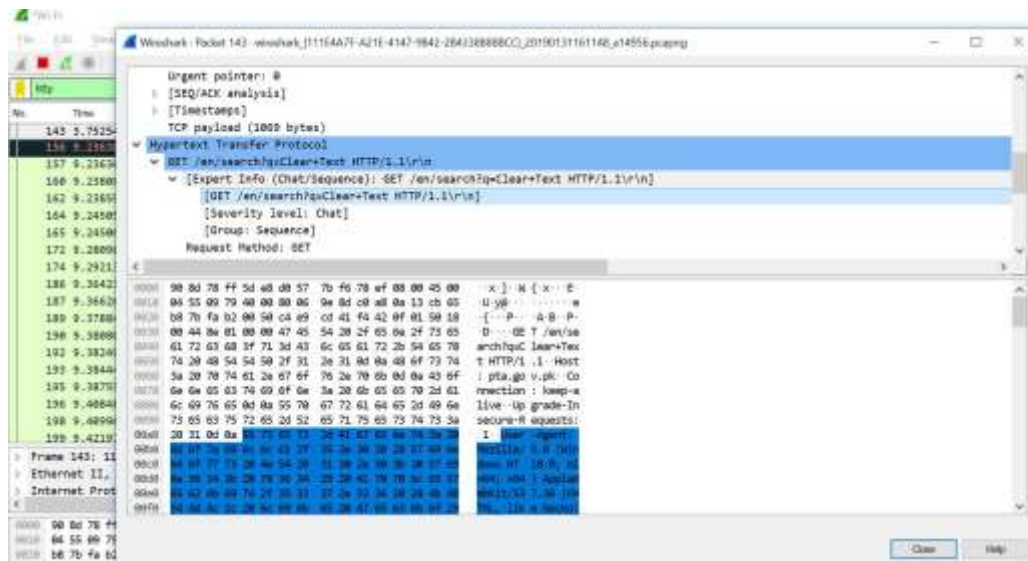
As the application has not implemented TLS properly, an attacker who is appropriately positioned, can simply monitor network traffic. This is most likely to occur when communicating over an open wireless connection or on an uncontrolled network. The attacker can capture credentials, or session tokens, and obtain access to the application data that is passed.

Recommendation

It is recommended to implement transport layer security on website and site through the use of TLS with the addition of HSTS Header. The implementation of this will ensure confidentiality of communications are adequately protected and will redirect all http requests to https.

Steps to Reproduce

- 1- Change Https to Http manually
- 2- Send the link to users who will visit sensitive information on the website.
- 3- Capture the network packets using Wireshark or other packet sniffing tool.



E3. Anonymous Cipher Suite

PRIORITY

Affected hosts

➔ <https://xyz.com>

Low

Description

The default SSL cipher configuration in Apache Tomcat 4.1.28 through 4.1.31, 5.0.0 through 5.0.30, and 5.5.0 through 5.5.17 uses certain insecure ciphers, including the anonymous cipher, which allows remote attackers to obtain sensitive information or have other, unspecified impacts.

Attack Scenario

The Secure Socket Layer (SSL) protocol allows for secure communication between a client and a server. The client usually authenticates the server using an algorithm like RSA or DSS. Some SSL ciphers allow SSL communication without authentication. Most common Web browsers like Microsoft Internet Explorer, Netscape and Mozilla do not use anonymous authentication ciphers by default. A vulnerability exists in SSL communications when clients are allowed to connect

using no authentication algorithm. SSL client-server communication may use several different types of authentication: RSA, Diffie-Hellman, DSS or none. When 'none' is used, the communications are vulnerable to a man-in-the-middle attack.

Recommendation

Remove anonymous ciphers from default configurations if not changed manually before.

E4. Insufficient Framing Protection

Affected hosts

➔ <https://xyz.com>

PRIORITY

Low

Description

The act of placing one web page inside another web page is referred to as framing. This is performed through the use of HTML tag called an iframe. An example where framing is often performed is for the inclusion of content from other sources such as embedding of maps or videos. Should a trusted application be framed within an untrusted web page, click-jacking or frame sniffing attacks against application user can be performed. The application was found to be lacking appropriate X-Frame-Options headers which significantly reduces likelihood against click-jacking and frame sniffing attacks.

Attack Scenario

An attacker may be able to get an authenticated user to inadvertently perform actions by luring or enticing them to access a maliciously crafted web page. By clicking on the page, actions could be performed on the user's behalf, through the framed page. There are few examples available on the Internet of how to build a clickjacking web page, however using such examples in a real life attack would most likely require significant customization in order to take advantage of the particular functions within the Web front end for the application.

Recommendation

To prevent framing attacks, include the X-Frame-Options HTTP header for all web application page responses.

The specified values available for X-Frame-Options are:

- **DENY:** The page cannot be displayed in a frame
- **SAMEORIGIN:** The page can only be displayed in a frame on the same origin as the page itself.
- **ALLOW-FROM URI:** The page can only be displayed in a frame on the specified origin

Typically, the **DENY** option is suitable for most web applications.