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IE6.0 Protocol Guessing

SirDarckCat sent an interesting email this morning about IE6.0. Apparently it attempts to guess what you mean in certain circumstances allowing for rigid anti-XSS filters to fail when looking for precise terms like javascript: and vbscript: even after attempting to de-obfuscate. Rather than attempt to explain, take a look at this snippet from his email:

> There are some characteristics in internet explorer that could aid

attackers when doing XSS attacks.

In IExplorer:

>

??script:

and

>

???script:

are translated to vbscript: so, for example:

MYscript:msgbox("hi")

or

YOUscript:msgbox("hi")

will be treated as:

vbscript:msgbox("hi")

and anything with:

????script:

will be treated as:

javascript:

so..

somescript:alert("hi");

will be treated as:

javascript:alert("hi");

I have not been able to test this myself as I don't have 6.0 handy. However, if it works, I know a log of anti-XSS filters that would fail on this one. It's a bad one, but anyone worried about it should simply upgrade to 7.0 which doesn't appear to have this flaw in it. Very nice find by SirDarckCat.

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