Apple's Safari 4 fixes local file theft attack

Apple's Safari 4 fixes local file theft attack - Chris Evans, scarybeastsecurity.blogspot.com.

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Security: Apple's Safari 4 fixes local file theft attack

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Safari 4 was just released and among the various improvements is a range of security fixes. One of these fixes is for an XXE attack against the parsing of the XSL XML. Full technical details may be found here:

http://scary.beasts.org/security/CESA-2009-006.html

Or for the lazy, you can skip straight to the:

Demo for Safari 3 / MacOS Demo for Safari 3 / Windows

I found it interesting that Safari 3 seemed robust against XXE attacks in general -- there are a lot of places that browsers find themselves parsing XML (XmlHttpRequest, prettifying XML mime type documents, SVG, E4X, etc.) However, the relatively obscure area of the XSL XML succumbed to an XXE attack.

(Note: awareness of XXE attacks remains low despite the issue being documented since at least 2002).