DoS Attacks Through Abuse of Functionality Vulnerabilities - Websecurity (English translation)

DoS атаки через Abuse of Functionality уразливості - Websecurity - Author not stated, websecurity.com.ua.

- Title in English: DoS Attacks Through Abuse of Functionality Vulnerabilities - Websecurity
- Published: date not stated
- Original: <http://websecurity.com.ua/2981/>
- Preserved from: http://websecurity.com.ua/2981/ (live) on 2026-08-09
- Licence: unknown

Content (translated into English)

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22:44 20.03.2009

Abuse of Functionality vulnerabilities can often lead to Denial of Service vulnerabilities on websites. This makes it possible to conduct DoS attacks against those websites.

One example of DoS through Abuse of Functionality is a vulnerability in Power Phlogger. Among the scripts bundled with this web application is the extchange.php script. When this script is requested directly, it changes the extension of the system's PHP files to php3. Since the links to the scripts use the php extension, the system stops working properly, resulting in a DoS attack.

Another interesting example of DoS through Abuse of Functionality is the use of the resources of some websites to conduct DoS attacks against other websites. I discovered this vulnerability on regex.info and www.slideshare.net.

These websites have services that connect to other websites to download files remotely. On regex.info, this is a script that downloads a file to analyze its EXIF information, while on

www.slideshare.net, it is an uploader. Moreover, on both websites these services are also vulnerable to Insufficient Anti-automation attacks.

A DoS attack can be conducted by specifying a large file (big_file) to download. Downloading a large file will overload the server, especially if several large-file downloads are started (by exploiting the Insufficient Anti-automation vulnerability). This will result in a DoS attack against such a service.

DoS through Abuse of Functionality:

http://regex.info/exif.cgi?url=http://site/big_file

`http://www.slideshare.net/main/bulkweb?fromsource=webupload&url=http://site/big_file&title=test&dwnld_chk=on`

It is also interesting that bidirectional DoS attacks can be conducted in this way. If such a service is instructed to download several large files from one website (this can be the same file started as several parallel downloads), it will overload both servers.

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