Microsoft Secure Channel (Schannel) Vulnerability (CVE-2014-6321)

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- Published: date not stated
- Original: <https://web.archive.org/web/20160403035045/https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-318A>
- Current location: <https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-318A>
- Preserved from: https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA14-318A (live) on 2026-08-10
- Capture timestamp: 20160403035045
- Licence: unknown

Content

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Systems Affected

- Microsoft Windows Vista, 7, 8, 8.1, RT, and RT 8.1
- Microsoft Server 2003, Server 2008, Server 2008 R2, Server 2012, and Server 2012 R2

Microsoft Windows XP and 2000 may also be affected.

Overview

A critical vulnerability in Microsoft Windows systems could allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code via specially crafted network traffic.[[1]] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/detail?vulnId=CVE-2014-6321)

Description

Microsoft Secure Channel (Schannel) is a security package that provides SSL and TLS on Microsoft Windows platforms.[2, 3] Due to a flaw in Schannel, a remote attacker could execute arbitrary code on both client and server applications.[[1]]

(https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/detail?vulnId=CVE-2014-6321)

It may be possible for exploitation to occur without authentication and via unsolicited network traffic. According to Microsoft MS14-066, there are no known mitigations or workarounds.[[2]] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/https://technet.microsoft.com/library/security/MS14-066)

Microsoft patches are typically reverse-engineered and exploits developed in a matter of days or weeks.[[4]] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://www.reddit.com/r/netsec/comments/2m1alz/microsoft_security_bulletin_ms14066/) An anonymous Pastebin user has threatened to publish an exploit on Friday, November 14, 2014.[[5]] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://pastebin.com/bsgX01dU)

Impact

This flaw allows a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code and fully compromise vulnerable systems.[[6]](https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://adi.is/winshock.txt)

Solution

Microsoft has released Security Bulletin MS14-066 to address this vulnerability in supported operating systems.[[2]] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/https://technet.microsoft.com/library/security/MS14-066)

References

- [[1] NIST Vulnerability Summary for CVE-2014-6321] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://web.nvd.nist.gov/view/vuln/detail?vulnId=CVE-2014-6321)
- [[2] Microsoft Security Bulletin MS14-066 - Critical] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/https://technet.microsoft.com/library/security/MS14-066)
- [[3] Microsoft, Secure Channel] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/desktop/aa380123%28v=vs.85%29.aspx)
- [[4] Reddit, Microsoft Security Bulletin MS14-066] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://www.reddit.com/r/netsec/comments/2m1alz/microsoft_security_bulletin_ms14066/)
- [[5] Pastebin, SChannelShenanigans] (https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://pastebin.com/bsgX01dU)
- [[6] Winshock.txt](https://web.archive.org/web/20160410072032/http://adi.is/winshock.txt)

Revisions

- November 14, 2014: Initial Release
