

TopResponse Threat Advisory

Release Date: October 16, 2008

Purpose: The Top Layer TopResponse team is issuing an advisory, which provides information needed to provide protection for the Microsoft Excel Calendar Object Vulnerability (MS08-057,CVE-2008-3477).

Top Layer Products: IPS 5500 E-Series.

Vulnerable Infrastructure: Microsoft Excel 2000 SP3, Microsoft Excel 2002 SP3, Microsoft Excel 2003 SP2, and Microsoft Excel 2003 SP3.

Alert Type: Critical vulnerability

Risk Assessment: Moderate

Threat Impact: Remotely exploitable vulnerability that could allow an attacker to control vulnerable systems

Advisory Impact: Prevention

Summary: Microsoft Excel supports the ability to embed a number of streams in a spreadsheet. Some of the streams can contain VBA performance cache data. There is a vulnerability in the way Microsoft Excel processes such streams. The reported vulnerability could allow an attacker to execute arbitrary code on the users systems in the context of the logged-on user by enticing the user to open a specially crafted XLS file.

Recommended Action: Top Layer recommends the following actions:

Download and apply Protection Pack 2008-10-15-02 (or later) to put this new protection into place. This is automatically applied to the "Strict Client Protection" IPS Rule Set. In order to take advantage of the protection, make sure the IPS rule tln-106204 is enabled in the IPS Rule Set used to inspect traffic to your Microsoft Excel client infrastructure.

References: Use the following sources for additional information:

Additional Information	Location
Top Layer Support Web site	http://www.toplayer.com/support
Microsoft Advisory	http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/MS08-057.mspx

Relevant TLN Rules: tln-106204

Relevant TopResponse Protection Pack(s): 2008-10-15-02