

TopResponse Threat Advisory

Release Date: February 17, 2010

Purpose: The Top Layer TopResponse team is issuing an advisory, which provides information needed to provide protection for the Microsoft Office PowerPoint Viewer TextCharsAtom Overflow Vulnerability (MS10-004, CVE-2010-0034).

Top Layer Products: IPS 5500 E-Series.

Vulnerable Infrastructure: Microsoft Office PowerPoint 2003 SP3.

Alert Type: Critical Vulnerability

Risk Assessment: Critical

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

Advisory Impact: Prevention

Summary: Microsoft PowerPoint is a presentation application that is used to display graphics, formatted text, videos and other media on pre-arranged slides. The slides are stored in the PowerPoint Presentation (PPT) file format. There is a vulnerability in the processing of the Microsoft PPT file format; specifically, the vulnerability involves the process of data in a TextCharsAtom object. 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 PPT file which was attached to an email or downloaded directly from the network.

Recommended Action: Top Layer recommends the following actions:

Download and apply Protection Pack 2010-02-11-03 (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, customers should make sure the IPS rule tln-106301 is enabled in the IPS Rule Set used to inspect traffic that may contain PowerPoint (PPT) documents.

Note: The IPS rule tln-106301 is currently enabled in the Strict IPS Rule Sets because there is a potential for false positive events. Please monitor events after the rule is enabled to provide protection for this vulnerability.

To manually enable this rule in a IPS Rule Set complete the following steps:

1. Log into the Web Management Interface of your IPS 5500 E-Series.
 2. Select **Configure Security->Security Policies**.
 3. Select the **IPS Rule Sets** tab.
 4. Select the Rule Set for which you want to change the setting of rule tln-106301.
 5. Enter **tln-106301** in the search window.
 6. Double click on the rule **tln-106301 EXPLT: Microsoft Office PowerPoint Viewer TextCharsAtom Overflow Vulnerability**.
 7. Make sure that the **Enabled** button is checked.
 8. Make sure that the **Action** is set to **DROP**.
 9. Click the **OK** button.
- Repeat steps 4 through 9 for all other Rule Sets that you want to change.
10. Close the Configure Security Policies window.
 11. Click the **Save** icon (upper left of your GUI).

References: Use the following sources for additional information:

Additional Information	Location
Top Layer Support	http://www.toplayer.com/support
Microsoft Support	http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/bulletin/ms10-004.msp
Mitre CVE	http://www.cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2010-0034

Relevant TLN Rules: tln-106301

Relevant TopResponse Protection Pack(s): 2010-02-11-03