



Threat Protection System

Snort Engine Update 239

Release Summary

Release Date: 07-July-2009

Purpose: The Snort Engine Upgrade (SEU) 239 (previous SEU-238) applies to:

- 3D Sensor Version: 4.8 and 4.7
- Defense Center Version(s): 4.8 and 4.7

SEU Change Summary:

Component	Change
Total new rules	2
Total rule modifications	0
Policy change	Yes
Online help change	No
Detection Engine change	No
User Interface change	No

Note: SEU packages are cumulative. The installation of prior SEU packages is not required before installing the current package.

WARNING: The time taken to install the latest SEU will depend on the last time the 3D System was updated with an SEU. Installing SEUs weekly can help lessen the installation time. Additionally, SEUs require 50 Megabytes of free space in /tmp and 150 Megabytes of free space in /var to install successfully.

Synopsis

As a result of ongoing research, the Nortel Threat Protection System Team has added further detection for additional javascript encoding methods being used to actively exploit a known vulnerability in the Microsoft Video ActiveX control.

Details

Microsoft Security Advisory (972890):

The Microsoft Video ActiveX control contains a vulnerability that may allow a remote attacker to execute code on a vulnerable system. The attacker may take advantage of the vulnerability via a call to the ActiveX control from Internet Explorer. This vulnerability requires no user interaction and is being actively exploited.

Rules to detect attacks targeting this vulnerability are included in this release and are identified with GID 1, SIDs 15678 and 15679.

WARNING: Nortel Threat Protection System customers must upgrade to 4.5.1 prior to applying this patch. Failure to upgrade will result in sensor failure when installing these rules.

Snort Engine Updates: In Threat Protection System v4.1, Snort Engine Updates (SEUs) replaced rule pack updates as the mechanism for updating Snort and Snort-based rules. In addition, SEUs can provide new and updated preprocessors and protocol decoders that aid in detecting intrusion attempts.

Note that SEUs can contain new binaries (in the form of shared object rules and new versions of Snort), so make sure that your process for installing new SEUs complies with your network and security policies.

Shared Object Rules: Shared object rules (SORs) are a new type of rule that allows the Nortel Threat Protection System Team more flexibility in detecting possible intrusions. SORs are delivered in SEUs in binary format as compared with the text rules (now called standard text rules or STRs) that were provided in previous rule packs.

You can view the rule documentation and create copies of shared object rules just as you could with standard text rules. However, you can only view and modify attributes such as the message or the source and destination ports and addresses in the rule header. You cannot view or modify the rule keywords section, including rule content keywords. Note that you can still create and modify your own standard text rules, and you can view, copy, and modify any of the legacy standard text rules.

How to get help

If you have purchased a Nortel service program, contact Nortel Technical Support. To obtain contact information online, go to www.nortel.com, and then click on Technical Support.

From the Technical Support page, you can open a Customer Service Request online or find the telephone number for the nearest Technical Solutions Center. If you are not connected to the Internet, you can call 1-800-4 NORTEL (1-800-466-7835) to learn the telephone number for the nearest Technical Solutions Center.

An Express Routing Code (ERC) is available for many Nortel products and services. When you use an ERC, your call is routed to a technical support person who specializes in supporting that product or service. To locate an ERC for your product or service, go to <http://www.nortel.com/support>. Click on the link for Express Routing Codes located at the bottom-right corner of the Web page.

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