

TopResponse Threat Advisory

Release Date: March 13, 2008

Purpose: The Top Layer TopResponse team is issuing an advisory, which provides information needed to block attacks for the Microsoft Office Web Component URL Parsing (MS08-017, CVE-2006-4695), Microsoft Office Web Component Datasource (MS08-017, CVE-2007-1201), and activity associated with Microsoft Excel Vulnerabilities (MS08-014).

Top Layer Products: IPS 5500 4.X and E-Series.

Vulnerable Infrastructure: Microsoft Office 2000 SP3, Microsoft Office XP SP3, Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 2002 and 2003 SP1; Microsoft Office 2003 SP3, Microsoft Office Excel Viewer 2003, Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack for Word, Excel, and Powerpoint 2007 File Formats, Microsoft Office 2004 for Mac, and Microsoft Office 2008 for Mac.

Alert Type: Critical Vulnerabilities

Risk Assessment: Moderate

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

Advisory Impact: Prevention

Summary:

- The Microsoft Office Web Components (OWC) is a group of OLE ActiveX controls that can be used as part of other components, including Web pages, VBA forms, and Windows forms. The reported vulnerabilities in Microsoft OWC could allow an attacker to execute arbitrary code on the users systems in the security context of the logged-on user by enticing the user to open a specially crafted web page.
- The reported activity associated with the Microsoft Excel vulnerabilities could allow an attacker to control exploited systems.

Recommended Action: Top Layer recommends the following actions:

IPS 5500 E-Series Users: Download and apply Protection Pack 2008-03-11-02 (or later). This will put into place protection against the Microsoft OWC vulnerabilities. This is automatically applied to the “Recommended Client Protection” IPS Rule Set. In order to take advantage of the protection, make sure the IPS rule tln-106180 is enabled in the IPS Rule

Set used to inspect traffic from your client infrastructure. This Protection Pack will also put into place protection by blocking the activity associated with targeted attacks against the Microsoft Excel vulnerabilities.

IPS 5500 4.X Users: Download and apply Protection Pack 2008-03-11-02 (or later). This will put into place protection by blocking the activity associated with targeted attacks against the Microsoft Excel vulnerabilities.

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/MS08-017.msp |
| MSRC Report | http://blogs.technet.com/msrc/archive/2008/01/15/msrc-blog-security-advisory-947563.aspx |

Relevant TLN Rules: tln-106180

Relevant TopResponse Protection Pack(s): 2008-03-11-02