



Security Newsletter

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SMBleed: A New Critical Vulnerability Affects Windows SMB Protocol



SMBleed

New SMB Protocol Vulnerability

(CVE-2020-1206)

Cybersecurity researchers today uncovered a new critical vulnerability affecting the Server Message Block (SMB) protocol that could allow attackers to leak kernel memory remotely, and when combined with a previously disclosed "wormable" bug, the flaw can be exploited to achieve remote code execution attacks.

Dubbed "SMBleed" (CVE-2020-1206) by cybersecurity firm ZecOps, the flaw resides in SMB's decompression function – the same function as with SMBGhost or EternalDarkness bug (CVE-2020-0796), which came to light three months ago, potentially opening vulnerable Windows systems to malware attacks that can propagate across networks. The newly discovered vulnerability impacts Windows 10 versions 1903 and 1909, for which Microsoft today released security patches as part of its monthly Patch Tuesday updates for June.

To mitigate the vulnerability, it's recommended that home and business users install the latest Windows updates as soon as possible. For systems where the patch is not applicable, it's advised to block port 445 to prevent lateral movement and remote exploitation.

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