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Microsoft Exchange Exploit Notification

Microsoft has discovered a new exploit affecting users of Microsoft Exchange Server. The exploit, CVE-2021-42321 can allow an attacker to gain "super user" level access to Exchange upon successfully breaching any authorized user of the system.

According to Microsoft "*The November 2021 security updates for Exchange Server address vulnerabilities reported by security partners and found through Microsoft's internal processes. We are aware of limited targeted attacks in the wild using one of vulnerabilities (CVE-2021-42321), which is a post-authentication vulnerability in Exchange 2016 and 2019. Our recommendation is to install these updates immediately to protect your environment*."

Although the attacker must be authenticated to exploit this vulnerability, the confidentiality and integrity scores are listed as high, which means successful execution gives the attacker access to Exchange at a super user level if any authorized user is breached, and thus Microsoft is recommending that these be patched right away.

Organizations whose Exchange servers are patched regularly should expect application of the above patch to require roughly 20-30 minutes, plus re-boot time, equating to roughly an hour or less of email downtime. Servers not patched regularly could require more time to update, with requirements varying based on the number of patches outstanding and the speed/performance of the server.

If you have received this notification, our records indicate that your organization employs the use of Microsoft Exchange Server software. **We are asking recipients of this notification to respond via email with your desired time slot for application of the update; either during business hours or after business hours.**

We have proactively begun the process of downloading updates in anticipation of their application.

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