

## Re: man pages for format string functions

**Source:** <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD-Security/2001-03/1961.html>

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**From:** Mike Bristow ([mike@urgle.com](mailto:mike@urgle.com))

**Date:** 03/29/01

Date: Thu, 29 Mar 2001 17:09:04 +0100  
From: Mike Bristow <[mike@urgle.com](mailto:mike@urgle.com)>  
To: Kris Kennaway <[kris@obsecURITY.org](mailto:kris@obsecURITY.org)>

[ doc@ added; hackers@ dropped (xpost limit:()). I'm not on either doc@ or security@, so please cc me on any replies ]

On Tue, Mar 27, 2001 at 11:17:09AM –0800, Kris Kennaway wrote:

> *On Tue, Mar 27, 2001 at 02:13:03PM –0500, Andrew R. Reiter wrote:*

[ on adding warnings to man pages about potential format–string type bugs ]

> > *I am fairly poor with wording man pages, as you can see, but I think it*

> > *might be worth while just to point this out.*

>

> *I've wanted to do this, but so far haven't had time. Do you think you*

> *could submit a patch? Don't worry about wording, that can easily be*

> *tweaked.*

Here's a first–draft of such a patch that covers printf(3), stdarg(3), err(3), setproctitle(3), and syslog(3), together with their on–the–same–manpage friends.

I haven't touched NgSendAsciiMsg(3), and libstand(3) [ for panic(const char \*msg, ...) ], but possibly I should.

Any comments? Anything obvious I've missed?

I'll look at these again with fresh eyes tomorrow, deal with any comments, and then file a PR, I guess.

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Mike Bristow, [seebitwopie](mailto:seebitwopie)

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- text/plain attachment: [format–string–vulns–man.patch](#)