

RE: [in] Re: [Full-Disclosure] IE is just as safe as FireFox

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Full-Disclosure/2004-11/0945.html>

From: Paul Schmehl (*pauls_at_utdallas.edu*)

Date: 11/19/04

To: full-disclosure@lists.netsys.com
Date: Fri, 19 Nov 2004 16:19:49 -0600

—On Friday, November 19, 2004 01:12:31 PM -0500 "Crotty, Edward"
<Edward.Crotty@dowjones.com> wrote:

> *I'm not a Win based guy (troll?) – Un*x here – and even I was offended by
> #1.*

>

> *There is such a thing as "runas" for Windows.*

>

That's not all.

> -----Original Message-----

> *From:* full-disclosure-admin@lists.netsys.com

> *[mailto:full-disclosure-admin@lists.netsys.com]On Behalf Of* devis

> *Sent:* Friday, November 19, 2004 11:10 AM

> *Cc:* full-disclosure@lists.netsys.com

> *Subject:* Re: [in] Re: [Full-Disclosure] IE is just as safe as FireFox

>

> *1) Despite recent ameliorations of MS (multi user finally, permissions*

> *...) and some effort at making the system more secure, something very*

> *important is still left out: The first default user of the MS computer*

> *is made an administrator.*

Apparently you don't have very broad experience with OSes. ON **every** OS
I'm familiar with, the first user is the administrator (or root) account.

> *This comes down to giving uid0 to ur first*

> *unix user. Unix does NOT do that. It requieres you to use su and become*

> *root (administrator) after proper credentials submission (password).*

When's the last time you installed an OS from scratch? Gentoo, FreeBSD,
OpenBSD, RedHat, Fedora, Slackware, Mac OS X, Debian, Solaris, **all** create
the first user as uid0 during the install process. (I can't speak for the
others because I haven't done those, but I'd be willing to bet that NetBSD,
AIX, HP-UX, SCO et. al. work exactly the same way.)

Full-Disclosure: RE: [in] Re: [Full-Disclosure] IE is just as safe as FireFox

Unix does not grant users root access by default, and it does a much better job of separating privileges by requiring you to join the wheel group *and* either use sudo or su to do work as root, but Windows doesn't make users the admin by default *either*, unless you setup Fast User Switching *during* the install.