

ISS Advisory clarification

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Date: 06/21/02

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To: "'bugtraq@securityfocus.com'" <bugtraq@securityfocus.com>
Date: Fri, 21 Jun 2002 16:15:53 -0400

Quick clarification on several points based on emails that I've received:

- 1) We did notify Apache before going public. ISS X-Force emailed Apache in the morning at 9:44am regarding this Advisory. We waited until the afternoon before sending to Bugtraq for approval and finally reaching the Bugtraq mailing list archive at approximately Jun 17 2002 3:57PM.
- 2) Apache was not aware that a remote exploit vulnerability existed until ISS X-Force alerted them to the seriousness of this. They were working on denial of service issues.
- 3) ISS X-Force patch did work against the remote exploit that we found and it did address the Gobbles exploit. While our patch did properly work against the remote exploits, we recommend using the official Apache patch. Apache's updated patch includes fixes for the remote exploit and denial of service attacks.
- 4) While the general nature of open-source and its virtual organizations do have enforcement of strict confidentiality issues, this is not true for every single open-source project. This is based on the past experience. We have seen where open-source projects spread information immediately in the wild and we have seen some that are organized to maintain confidentiality. ISS X-Force deals with all vendors on a case-by-case basis to provide maximum protection for our customers and the community.

We are currently working with another major vulnerability dealing with an open-source vendor whereby we both are coordinating and cooperating and shrinking the 30 day quiet period significantly to quickly provide a patch to the public. We are trying to learn from our experience and continue to improve the advisory release process. We are hoping this next major advisory will be received more positively.

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ISS: ISS Advisory clarification

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