

Windows Update / Office Update again!

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/NT-Bugtraq/2004-09/0058.html>

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Date: 09/18/04

Date: Fri, 17 Sep 2004 19:21:56 -0700
To: NTBUGTRAQ@LISTSERV.NTBUGTRAQ.COM

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Perhaps this falls under the heading of "beating a dead horse", BUT... the "horse" is still very much alive and kicking, and when it kicks, IT HURTS.

I finally got around to installing Microsoft's latest hot-fixes this morning (MS04-027 & MS04-028), but when I checked afterwards (to make sure they 'took'), I discovered much to my dismay that they DIDN'T. ('take')

I use Shavlik's HFNetChk Pro 4 to push patches to all of the workstation in my little home network (which only has two workstations but that's completely beside the point) and HFNetChk kept saying my wife's computer was still missing MS04-027. ("Vulnerability in WordPerfect Converter Could Allow Code Execution (884933)").

(What the frick? I just *applied* the dang thing. What's going on?)
(And yes, the system WAS rebooted afterwards)

Tried again with identical results: it said it wasn't installed, I installed it (remotely from my system), and then walked over and WATCHED my wife's computer reboot and then returned back to my system to run the scan again to verify it got installed and it didn't.

(sigh)

So okay, fine, I'll do it manually since her computer is just in the next room (but the whole point of this post is that for OTHERS [using patch management products like HFNetChk Pro to patch all their systems] it/they might NOT be, so what I'm about to describe *is* a "big deal" in my opinion.

Fired up Windows Update.

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That was my first mistake. It of course said there were no patches/fixes/updates to be installed since Microsoft's left hand (Windows Update) doesn't seem to know what it's right hand (OFFICE Update) is doing.

(SIGH!)

So okay. Let's try OFFICE Update this time.

Ah! THERE's the sucker.

Click, click, clickity, click goes my mouse and in short order the update is downloaded and launched, ... only to discover that:

I NEED TO INSERT THE ORIGINAL OFFICE CDROM IN ORDER TO APPLY THE UPDATE/FIX!

What the F**K??!!!

Why, oh, WHY, Microsoft, does a critical (okay "important") **SECURITY UPDATE** require MANUAL INTERVENTION in order to be applied?!

I was lucky in that I was able to quickly locate it (after scrounging around for it a while) and happened to have physical access to the system being patched, but what about other admins out there that need to patch hundred or possible THOUSANDS of systems in their network? What are they going to do? Send Robby the Robot around to everyone's workstation so it can manually insert the CDROM whenever the patch asks for it?

That's nuts.

Please, PLEASE, **PLEASE!** get your act together Microsoft.

There should only be ONE "Windows Update" center, not two separate ones, and for \$DEITY's sake, installation of a SECURITY PATCH *shouldn't* require manual insertion of the original product CDROM before it'll install a *SECURITY* patch!

>:(

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Version: PGP 7.0.4

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