

# [NT] Apache Tomcat Denial of Service (NULL)

*Source:* <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Securiteam/2002-06/0094.html>

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*From:* [support@securiteam.com](mailto:support@securiteam.com)

*Date:* 06/21/02

From: [support@securiteam.com](mailto:support@securiteam.com)

To: [list@securiteam.com](mailto:list@securiteam.com)

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## SUMMARY

Apache's <<http://jakarta.apache.org/>> Tomcat has been found to contain a vulnerability that would allow a malicious user to tie up all 75 working threads and cause a Denial of Service situation.

## DETAILS

Vulnerable systems:

- Apache Tomcat 4.0.3 on Windows 2000 Server

Immune systems:

- Apache Tomcat 4.1.3 beta on Windows 2000 Server

By sending a large amount of null characters to the web service it is possible to cause a working thread to hang. The default installation has 75 working threads, which means this malformed request has to be sent to the server 75 times.

Vendor Response:

This was reported to the vendor on the 23rd of May, 2002. We never heard back from the vendor. On the 10th of June, 2002, the issue was confirmed fixed in the latest build.

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Corrective action:

Upgrade to V4.1.3 beta, which is available here:

<<http://jakarta.apache.org/builds/jakarta-tomcat-4.0/release/v4.1.3-beta/>>  
<http://jakarta.apache.org/builds/jakarta-tomcat-4.0/release/v4.1.3-beta/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The information has been provided by <<mailto:pgrundl@kpmg.dk>> Peter Gründl.

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