

RE: spamming via formail.pl

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From: Moeller, Arno (am@bogs.de)

Date: 09/26/01

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From: "Moeller, Arno" <am@bogs.de>
To: "'focus-linux@securityfocus.com'" <focus-linux@securityfocus.com>
Subject: RE: spamming via formail.pl
Date: Wed, 26 Sep 2001 13:06:31 +0200

Hi,

> Yes, you could use the referer header to see if they're 'legit' but
> we all know that's forgable too. What you should do is hard code the
> addr to which the mail goes in the formail.pl script, rather than
> having it rely on form data. That way the worst the spammers can do
> is target that one email address.

I'm totally aware of all that, but we're dealing with spammers here. And I like to think of spammers being lazy. When one method doesn't work anymore they tend to move on to the next formmail-script/open relay, instead of trying to defeat the measures being taken to prevent spamming.

I also know that this is a dangerous assumption, but for now denying GET cut down spam from formmail-scripts to zero. Of course, I'm monitoring my log-files closely, and by any signs of further spamming I'll take appropriate actions, e.g. hard-code the recipient into the formmail script.

But for now, in consideration of the fact, that there's no spamming going on for now, it's the best solution for all: The customers aren't bothered with spam, and the spammers can't spam.

Best regards,

Arno Moeller

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