

SecurityFocus BASICS: RE: PCanywhere: security of it and operation over DSL/cable modems

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Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/securityfocus/security-basics/2002-07/0607.html>

From: Eric S. Wehr (eswehr@hostarica.com)

Date: 07/23/02

From: "Eric S. Wehr" <eswehr@hostarica.com>

To: <securitybasics@plumlee.org>, <security-basics@securityfocus.com>

Date: Tue, 23 Jul 2002 12:23:23 -0400

Potential Solution is to use the VPN, use a remote control program (pcanywhere, controlit from ca (old RCO product renamed) or term serv(has to connect to 2K server)). This way you will not only have a VPN encrypted connection but you are not opening up a desktop through the firewall. Once connected on a VPN, you can connect to any internal boxes with remote control software and do the work as if in the office.

As for speed over broadband. You need a consistent connection speed. DSL is great for this, but Cable modem speeds vary to much and can cause sluggishness and frustration.

Best of luck.

Eric

-----Original Message-----

From: Klepinger, Aaron [mailto:Aaron.Klepinger@CompuCredit.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2002 9:01 AM

To: 'securitybasics@plumlee.org'; security-basics@securityfocus.com

Subject: RE: PCanywhere: security of it and operation over DSL/cable modems

i've often heard Remote Admin mentioned on some lists as a good product (fast & secure), but I can't vouch for it myself. it's cheap, too (\$35/2pcs)

<http://www.radmin.com/>

thx,
aaron

-----Original Message-----

From: securitybasics@plumlee.org [mailto:securitybasics@plumlee.org]

Sent: Monday, July 22, 2002 4:35 PM

To: security-basics@securityfocus.com

RE: PCanywhere: security of it and operation over DSL/cable modems

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Subject: PCanywhere: security of it and operation over DSL/cable modems

We have a workstation at the office that needs to allow a user remote access for running software on the workstation. I don't think a VPN will work because the user MUST run the software on this machine, as if he was seated at it. I'm looking at gotomypc.com and pcanywhere. I don't feel

comfortable using gotomypc.com as this is proprietary company information and I don't trust someone else having the access information for the workstation that has the info on it.

My questions are as follows:

1. Has anyone got experience with the security of PCanywhere running over a DSL/cable modem connection? What should I watch out for? From what I understand, I can use HTTPS as one of the options for the connection. Anyone know the encryption level? Are all parts of the transactions secured with encryption?
2. How does the software work if it's over a broadband connection? My internal IPs aren't valid for routing. How does the software know a connection is being initiated?
3. Any better solutions come to mind? I'd rather have a PITA setup that's secure than a simple one that's not.
4. What security measures should I implement on the users PC to make sure that it's secure as well? I won't have physical access to it but for the initial setup.

I'll be interested in seeing if this gets posted at all due to the recent acquisition of securityfocus by Symantec. Can't bite the hand that feeds you, I guess.

Many thanks for any help. Long time reader (well, several months at least), first time poster.

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