

Re: They can break ZoneAlarm easily !

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.firewalls/2002-10/10888.html>

From: David (davidwnh@adelphia.net)

Date: 10/07/02

From: "David" <davidwnh@adelphia.net>

Date: Mon, 07 Oct 2002 07:01:16 GMT

It was definitely a file sharing issue, which is just about the worst hole to leave open on a windows machine. Being a "personal" firewall which is made for your average Joe ZA should not only block this by default (which I think it does), but also needs to have good documentation on such a feature, and should alert people to what they risk when they disable such settings. Being easy to set up for the average user as well as having thorough, intuitive documentation is all part of the whole picture. Look at all the posts about lsass.exe and services.exe as it regards to ZA and then wonder why this info isn't in the documentation or even on their website. You shouldn't need a computer science degree to properly set up software that's marketed to the average consumer. That is the whole idea behind software isn't it, to make things easier? I had to use the MS Technet site as well as other networking and firewall sites to get the information I needed to attempt to tweak the settings in ZA. Why the hell can't you answer them from their documentation or website? Why does their technical support website include only 9 "faqs" of which most are just marketing info? So it really does have something to do with ZA.

As far as quality I tried using ZA for abt 2 months and it fell way short in several categories. Try using it with 802.11b! Try using it on a LAN. If you want to block broadcasts from one adapter but not another for example you can't do it. It totally screws up a lot of services that rely on broadcasts on a LAN if you want to have certain protections from the internet. The privacy protection screws up IIS on the same machine even if you set IIS as trusted and no privacy protection on trusted zones. I had a time server on my LAN but had to open the port in both trusted and internet zones in order to get access to it from my LAN ip's which were all in the trusted zone. That in itself shows how poor the program is at discerning between trusted and internet. With a lot of tweaking between hi-low security and open-close ports you can get better results for some services in a LAN/internet set up but not as much as it should and its a crap shoot to see which setting overrides another. At boot up the program has intermittent trouble discerning what is trusted and what isn't to the point where it can screw up a WIN2K domain login and group policy application. They need to make the program determine service dependencies or it will never work right at boot time (this seems to be a problem with a lot of personal firewalls however). You have to add the loopback adapter (127.0.0.1) to trusted to get some internet

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servers to give access to their own machine. Easy enough for some of us to figure out, but for the average Joe how about some documentation or a default setting. I've been through about five updates and have to say that none of the bugs I reported have been fixed, the program is even less stable than previous versions, and now they are more concerned with locking out crackers(which added another bug) than fixing the problems that us paying customers are having. I realize I tried to push the program to its limits and the program might be adequate for the average Joe who just surfs the web and answers his email with a dialup connection, but you'd have to be nuts to trust ZA on broadband without a router.

I can't say it's any better or worse than some of the other "personal" firewalls out there, but the frequency of updates as well as this and other information posted on the web should make it evident that these programs aren't a "set it and forget it" kind of thing.

"mhicaoidh" <mhic_aidh@hotmail.NiX.com.SPäM> wrote in message news:ZZ6o9.70396\$dp1.189723@rwcrcnsc52.ops.asp.att.net...

> *Taking a moment's reflection, David mused:*
> /
> / *Zone Alarm is not as good as they advertise it to be.*
>
> *Actually, it is ... as are most of the other personal firewalls. As*
the
> *OP stated later in the thread, he found out how the person put the file*
> *there, and it had nothing to do with ZoneAlarm.*
>
>

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