

comp.security.ssh: Re: PermitRootLogin without–password and UsePAM yes doesn't work

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Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.ssh/2004–11/0188.html>

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In article <1ea95d2e.0411250135.51de0572@posting.google.com>,

Hans <hans753@hotmail.com> wrote:

>I'm using openSSH 3.8.p1 on SuSE Linux Enterprise Server 9 (SLES 9).

>

>I've set the following in the sshd_config:

>PermitRootLogin without–password

>UsePAM yes

>

>=> I shouldn't be able to login as root with a password, but it works:

>Logfile:

>Accepted keyboard–interactive/pam for root from ::ffff:xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx

>port 4108 ssh2

>From a protocol standpoint, that's not "password" authentication, it's keyboard–interactive via PAM. Now it happens that PAM uses a password, but sshd has know way of knowing that, it could have been a S/Key, a token or something.

The man page isn't all that clear about that in 3.8x, but it's a little clearer in 3.9p1. At some point it would be good to extend PermitRootLogin to allow a comma–separated list of auth methods or something...

>If I set 'UsePAM no' everything works as expected.

>

>In future I've to use PAM to get LDAP authentication => what I've to

>do get it working.

Upgrade to 3.9p1 and disable ChallengeResponseAuthentication.

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Darren Tucker (*dtucker at zip.com.au*)

GPG key 8FF4FA69 / D9A3 86E9 7EEE AF4B B2D4 37C9 C982 80C7 8FF4 FA69

Good judgement comes with experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgement.