

## Bug in libwrap may impact ssh use.

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Now that we are all instituting various protections against ssh password guessing attacks, there is a bug in tcpwrapper which may impact some. If a line in /etc/hosts.allow gets longer than 2047 characters, ssh will go into an infinite loop and consume 100% of cpu. The problem is in the xgets function from misc.c in tcp\_wrapper code. There is no trap against a too-long-line, (or particularly "got==0") and the routine goes into an infinite loop.

- a) Make sure that your script/program ,which puts hosts, which have been bashing at ssh, into hosts.allow (with a :deny option) or into hosts.deny, does not create arbitrary length lines.
- b) patch xgets/libwrap.

[xgets is described as fgets on steroids, and illustrates the dangers of steroid use.]