

Re: Are .NET Windows Applications Totally Insecure?

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.dotnet.security/2003-03/0164.html>

From: Michel Gallant \ (MVP\) (neutron@istar.ca)

Date: 03/09/03

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First off, an item (whether it be a native exe, dll or .net assembly or java applet) is digitally signed to provide *authentication* and integrity verification for the end user.

It is not really about protecting the "digital asset ownership" of the application itself.

You can probably do the same thing with a signed cab archive (i.e. extract the contents, and repackage and sign with your own certificate, claiming you are the owner .. hence constituting fraud!).

It is up to the owner to ensure that they *trust* the digital certificate (and hence the CA issuer) of any application they receive that is signed.

So this is not an issue with .net at all. It is a lack of understanding of what the purpose of a digital signature is all about!

– Mitch

"clintonG" <csgallagher@REMOVETHISTEXTmetromilwaukee.com> wrote in message news:#E0fSwb5CHA.2400@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl...

> *An associate claims windows applications developed with the
> .NET Framework are totally insecure with regard to maintaining
> digital asset ownership.*

>

> *His claim is based on an assertion that he can use ILDASM
> on a dll or an exe to expose the owner of the application,
> including the security certificate which can then be cut out and
> replaced with other credentials and re-assembled thereby
> making the application 'theirs.'*

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> *How sound is his assertion?
> Comment on why or why not please.*

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microsoft.public.dotnet.security: Re: Are .NET Windows Applications Totally Insecure?

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