

Re: Internet Explorer SSL encoding

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From: Alun Jones (alun@taxis.com)

Date: 10/09/02

From: alun@taxis.com (Alun Jones)
Date: Wed, 09 Oct 2002 01:47:34 GMT

In article <9db501c26f22\$72d41cb0\$35ef2ecf@TKMSFTNGXA11>, "Jon Keeney" <jon_keeney@itsolutionstx.com> wrote:

>I have a web page at an http address. On this web page, I
>have a form that uses the post method to send a username
>and password to a secure script using action="https://
>
>A security company is telling my customer, a bank, that
>the data sent is not encrypted and is not secure.

It's possible – there are some cases where the form is displayed using https://, and yet the post method is done through http://. More likely, from the way you've phrased your question, is that the security company took a look at the form displayed on the screen, noticed that the lock wasn't there, and assumed that it was unsecured. But then again, so will your users.

>It is my understanding that there is communication between
>IE and the https server before any data is sent and then
>the data is encrypted. Is this correct.

Yes – the host name is resolved to an IP address, a connection is made to port 443, and immediately, the SSL negotiation starts. All data is then encrypted. One thing you could do is put a network trace between the client and the server, and demonstrate that the text is not sent in the clear.

Alun.

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[Please don't email posters, if a Usenet response is appropriate.]

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