OCT 2016

In the Boxing Ring

Network Box Technical News

from Mark Webb-Johnson, CTO Network Box

Welcome to the October 2016 edition of In the Boxing Ring

This month, Network Box USA's CTO Pierluigi Stella concludes our series of **why you need WAF.** Previously, we have highlighted the issues of: *the value of protecting one's webserver, why an IPS is ineffective against all potential application vulnerabilities, the role and key features of WAF, SSL certificates, and many more.* In our final part, on pages 2 to 3, we take a good hard look at **web applications**.

On page 4, we highlight the features and fixes to be released in this month's patch Tuesday for Network Box 5.

Finally, Network Box Hong Kong welcomed **KDDI** for a Sales Training Workshop, Network Box Germany participated at the **IT&Media FUTUREcongress**, and Network Box Australasia attended the **Canterbury Tech 16**, in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Mark Webb-Johnson
CTO, Network Box Corporation Ltd.
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You can contact us here at HQ by email (nbhq@network-box.com), or drop by our office next time you are in town. You can also keep in touch with us by several social networks:

twitter http://twitter.com/networkbox

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http://www.facebook.com/networkboxresponse

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Google+ https://plus.google.com/u/0/107446804085109324633/posts

In this month's issue:

NETWORK BOX

Why you need WAF

(part 3 of 3)

by Pierluigi Stella

Chief Technology Officer
Network Box USA

Over the past two articles, we outlined how vital it is to provide a robust security posture for one's web server and the various options currently available. In today's concluding installment, we take a long, hard look at **web applications**.

For instance, what web application you're currently using? More than likely, it was not developed with security in mind. No matter how much we discuss the topic and we talk about security driven web application development, how many people and companies really even know how to do that? How many developers test their web applications from a security stand point?

And what if the web application in question is old, a legacy development that was written 10 years ago? Developers have moved on, documentation is scarce, if present at all, and yet the web application plays a vital in your company's business.

Updating the tools it relies upon isn't even a question – the application will break. Fixing the web applications issues may well be even harder and often unfeasible. The entire construct is a vulnerability disaster waiting to happen. This is likely the most important example of where a WAF can be very useful.

A WAF will have a configurable layer where a business owner, or vendor can create specific signatures. Therefore, instead of breaking the web application, or living with one that is vulnerable and can expose confidential data, a WAF allows for the creation of customized protection, if you like, dedicated signatures tailored to very specific web applications. This allows organizations to achieve strong protection for their web applications without the need to alter functionalities, and without having to fuss over updating them in a rush.

Note that we are not advocating running that old COBOL application for the next 40 years. And yes, sooner rather than later, we'd be better off scraping everything and rewriting applications with more advanced tools. But the adoption of a WAF ensures that process to be just that – a process – instead of a frenzied decision dictated by the need to cover up security holes.

We hope that you've found these articles on **why you need a Web Application Firewall** (or WAF) informative and useful. Today's threat landscape being this dynamic and fast-paced, organizations that fail to adequately arm themselves do so at great (financial and operational) risk.

Network Box 5

NEXT GENERATION MANAGED SECURITY

On Tuesday, 4th October 2016, Network Box will release our patch Tuesday set of enhancements and fixes. The regional SOCs will be conducting the rollouts of the new functionality in a phased manner over the next 14 days.

Network Box 5 Features
October 2016

This month, for Network Box 5, these include:

- Address CVE-2016-2776 in bind name service
- Extend GMS SYSINFO sensor with detailed information on hard drives installed
- Extend GMS INFECTEDLAN sensor to show IP addresses of affected workstations
- Enhancements to the GMS NBPROXY sensor to show utilization counts per input type
- Performance improvements in Anti-DDoS collections
- Introduce good/bad transaction counts for Anti-DDoS collections
- Introduce facility for automatic suppression of duplicate syslog messages
- Performance and stability improvement to NBSYNC cluster sync system
- Improvements to VPN logging to store VPN detailed connection logs for easy searching and display
- Add a 'connecting' state to VPN status to show VPNs in the process of connecting
- Add message size filter for admin web portal mail log detail display
- Improvements to line and pie chart formatting, across various screen resolution sizes
- Add a X-Frame-Options header to user and admin web portals, to prevent cross site iframe embedding
- In mail scanning, treat .jar files, and embedded java classes, as executable classification
- Improvements to memory usage in handling Microsoft CDF OLE documents

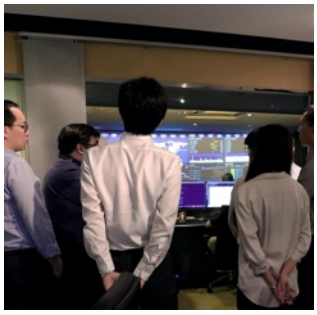
In most cases, the above changes should not impact running services or require a device restart. However, in some cases (depending on configuration), a device restart may be required. Your local SOC will contact you to arrange this if necessary.

Should you need any further information on any of the above, please contact your local SOC. They will be arranging deployment and liaison.

NETWORK BOX

Network Box Hong Kong
KDDI Sales Workshop

Network Box Hong Kong hosted a KDDI sales training workshop on Network Box 5.3 Cyber Security Services and the current cyber Enterprise Risk Management landscape.



Network Box Germany
IT& Media FUTUREcongress

Network Box Germany, in association with TAROX, was at the **IT&Media FUTUREcongress**. The main theme of event was "Business 4.0: Digitalization for the middle class." Over a thousand visitors attended the convention which took place in Bielefeld Veranstalungshalle.

Network Box Australasia
Canterbury Tech 16

Network Box Australasia was at the **Canterbury Tech Summit 16**, at the Wigram Conference Centre in Christchurch, New Zealand.

John Key, New Zealand's Prime Minister, opened the summit with a speech focusing on cyber security.

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