

In the Boxing Ring

MAR 2019



Network Box Technical News

from **Mark Webb-Johnson**

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Welcome to the March 2019 edition of In the **Boxing Ring**

This month, we will be talking about **Password Policies**. These are sets of rules to enforce the use of strong passwords, and best practices. When properly implemented, they can greatly enhance the security of your computer systems. Network Box has always supported password policies, and on pages 2 to 3 we discuss this in greater detail, and highlight the Network Box standardized policy framework that is used throughout our systems.

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

In other news, Network Box USA participated at this year's **Houston Cyber Summit**, held at the George R Brown Centre. In addition, Network Box was featured in various media outlets including **CNN** and the **SCMP**. Finally, the Network Box **Dark Web Monitoring Service** is now available. If you would like to subscribe to this new service, please contact your regional Security Operations Centre.



Mark Webb-Johnson
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March 2019

Stay Connected

You can contact us here at Network Box 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:



<https://twitter.com/networkbox>



<https://www.facebook.com/networkbox>
<https://www.facebook.com/networkboxresponse>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/network-box-corporation-limited/>



<https://plus.google.com/u/0/107446804085109324633>

In this month's issue:

Page 2 to 3 Password Policies

Love them, or hate them, password policies are a requirement of several security frameworks, and are here to stay. Network Box's approach to this is to implement support for password policies, then give our customers the option as to which policies to require for their users. On pages 2 to 3 this is discussed in further detail.

Page 4 Network Box 5 Features

The features and fixes to be released in this month's patch Tuesday for Network Box 5.

Page 5 Network Box Highlights:

- **Network Box USA**
Houston Cyber Summit 2019
- **Network Box Media Coverage**
 - CNN
 - South China Morning Post
- **Network Box Dark Web Monitoring Service**



Password Policies

Password policies are sets of rules to enforce the use of strong passwords, and require them to be regularly changed. Used properly, they can greatly enhance the security of an organization's computer system.

Several security frameworks (including, but not limited to, PCI) have a requirement for password policy enforcement.

Network Box has always supported password policies when we use external authentication to servers enforcing password policies. However, we are now moving towards implementing these policies as an option in our direct authentication frameworks.

Network Box Standardized Password Policies

The issue with password policies is that there are so many of them, they are implemented in many different ways, and different security frameworks require different policies. To address this, Network Box has developed an extensible standardized password policy framework to be used in our offerings.



Today, this framework has support for the following policy types:

User policies:

- Dual Factor (where dual factor logins are required, optional, or disallowed)
- User Password Change (can users change their own password)
- User Password Reset (can users reset their own password via email)

Password quality policies:

- Password quality check (selection from standard modules)
 - **Digits:** Password must contain one or more digits
 - **MixedCase:** Password must contain mixed case letters
 - **Symbols:** Password must contain one or more special symbol
 - **NotUser:** Password must not be the same as the user identification
- Password minimum length requirement

Password expiration policies:

- Number of days since last change, after which password will expire
- Number of days, before expiration, that we should warn the user
- Number of days grace period, after expiration, that we should still allow user to login (with warning displayed)
- Number of previous passwords stored to protect against re-use

Password lockout policies:

- Number of failed password attempts before account is 'soft' locked
- Automatic unlock grace period (in minutes) for 'soft' locks
- Maximum number of failed password attempts before account is 'hard' locked

Session policies:

- Number of minutes after which idle sessions are automatically logged out
- Number of minutes grace period, after expiration, that we should warn user but still allow session to be recovered on activity

As well as completely custom policies (based on the previous criterion), standard password policies (such as PCI 3.2 minimum) will be maintained by Network Box.

Box Office

The first implementation of this password policy framework is in the Box Office systems.

Organizations can apply policies at the owner level, such that all users belonging to that owner have the password policy enforced. Both standard and custom (per owner) password policies are supported.

Additionally, the upcoming NBSIEM+ will also implement this policy framework.

Admin Web Portal

We expect to be able to offer these password policies in our Network Box 5 Admin Web Portal product within the next few months; to release before summer 2019.

Love them, or hate them, password policies are a requirement of several security frameworks, and are here to stay. Network Box's approach to this is to implement support for password policies, then give our customers the option as to which policies to require for their users.

Network Box

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NEXT GENERATION MANAGED SECURITY

On Tuesday, 5th March 2019, 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 March 2019

This month, for Network Box 5, these include:

- Improvements to URL scanning performance and timeout behaviour
- Enhancements to IPSEC VPN status logging
- Introduction of a unified mechanism to facilitate the bypass of specific IPS/IDS signatures, for specific IP address, for all modes of IDS/IPS operation
- Add support for 'nobind' option with SSL VPN
- Add support for windows domain names in SSL VPN certificates
- Make pop3 proxy default scan timeout behaviour configurable
- Make imap4 proxy default scan timeout behaviour configurable



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 HIGHLIGHTS



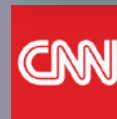
Network Box USA

Houston Cyber Summit 2019

Network Box USA was at the Houston Cyber Summit 2019, a conference for business leaders on how to thrive in the era of cyberattacks. The event took place at the George R Brown Centre, with over 300 attendees from all across the world.



Network Box Media Coverage



CNN

Japan is hacking millions of its citizens because everyone's home security is terrible

LINK: <https://cnn.it/2ErGabo>



South China Morning Post

SCMP

How your stolen personal data is sent to the dark web, and what hackers can do with it

LINK: <https://bit.ly/2NA7WGB>

Network Box

Dark Web Monitoring Service



The Network Box Dark Web Monitoring Service is now available for customers. The system scans data breaches from the Dark Web, looking for your registered Domains and Email Addresses, and will notify customers if their details are discovered there.

Please contact your regional SOC if you are interested in subscribing to this new service.

Key Features:



Scans the Dark Web for postings of registered domains and email addresses



Detailed reports of data breaches



On-going monitoring service, and notification of any discoveries found on the Dark Web

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