

Cisco Security Advisory: Authentication Bypass in Cisco Unity

Advisory ID: cisco-sa-20081008-unity

<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20081008-unity.shtml>

Revision 1.0

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Summary

A vulnerability exists in Cisco Unity that could allow an unauthenticated user to view or modify some of the configuration parameters of the Cisco Unity server. Cisco has released free software updates that address this vulnerability. A workaround that mitigates this vulnerability is available.

This advisory is posted at <http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20081008-unity.shtml>.

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☐ Affected Products

Cisco Unity is a voice and unified messaging platform. Cisco Unity can be configured to interoperate with Microsoft Exchange or IBM Lotus Domino enabling users to access e-mail, voice, and fax messages from a single inbox.

☐ Vulnerable Products

All Cisco Unity versions, 4.x, 5.x and 7.x, may be affected by this vulnerability.

☐ Products Confirmed Not Vulnerable

No other Cisco products are currently known to be affected by this vulnerability.

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☐ Details

Cisco Unity servers may be affected by an authentication bypass when they are configured for anonymous authentication. Anonymous authentication is used when Cisco Unity servers are authenticated to the subscriber instead of Microsoft Windows (Integrated Windows authentication). By default, Cisco Unity is configured so that the administrator uses the Integrated Windows authentication method for authentication.

Details on authentication mechanisms can be found in the Installation Guide for Cisco Unity in the [Authentication Methods Available for the Cisco Unity Administrator](#) section.

This authentication bypass vulnerability allows an unauthenticated user the ability to view or modify

some system configuration parameters. No credentials, personally identifiable, or user information can be obtained through exploitation of this vulnerability.

This vulnerability is documented in Cisco Bug ID [CSCsr86943](#) ([registered](#) customers only) and has been assigned Common Vulnerability and Exposures (CVE) ID CVE-2008-3814.

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☐ Vulnerability Scoring Details

Cisco has provided scores for the vulnerabilities in this advisory based on the Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS). The CVSS scoring in this Security Advisory is done in accordance with CVSS version 2.0.

CVSS is a standards-based scoring method that conveys vulnerability severity and helps determine urgency and priority of response.

Cisco has provided a base and temporal score. Customers can then compute environmental scores to assist in determining the impact of the vulnerability in individual networks.

Cisco has provided an FAQ to answer additional questions regarding CVSS at

<http://www.cisco.com/web/about/security/intelligence/cvss-qandas.html>.

Cisco has also provided a CVSS calculator to help compute the environmental impact for individual networks at

<http://intellishield.cisco.com/security/alertmanager/cvss>.

Authentication bypass w/ anonymous auth					
Calculate the environmental score of CSCsr86943					
CVSS Base Score - 5.8					
Access Vector	Access Complexity	Authentication	Confidentiality Impact	Integrity Impact	Availability Impact
Network	Medium	None	Partial	Partial	None
CVSS Temporal Score - 4.8					

Exploitability	Remediation Level	Report Confidence
Functional	Official Fix	Confirmed

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☐ Impact

Successful exploitation of the vulnerability may result in an unauthenticated user viewing or altering some configuration parameters of the Cisco Unity server.

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☐ Software Versions and Fixes

This vulnerability is fixed in Cisco Unity software version 4.2.1ES161 for the 4.2.1 release, 5.0ES53 for the 5.x release, and 7.0ES8 for the 7.x release.

The latest versions of Cisco Unity software can be downloaded from <http://tools.cisco.com/support/downloads/go/Redirect.x?mdfid=274246502>. Software for each release is available at: [4.2\(1\) ES release](#), [5.0\(1\) ES release](#), [7.0\(2\) ES release](#).

When considering software upgrades, also consult <http://www.cisco.com/go/psirt> and any subsequent advisories to determine exposure and a complete upgrade solution.

In all cases, customers should exercise caution to be certain the devices to be upgraded contain sufficient memory and that current hardware and software configurations will continue to be supported properly by the new release. If the information is not clear, contact the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC) or your contracted maintenance provider for assistance.

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☐ Workarounds

Integrated Windows authentication is not affected by this vulnerability and may be used as an alternative to Anonymous Authentication.

Details on authentication mechanisms and how to configure them can be found in the Installation Guide for Cisco Unity in the [Setting Up Authentication for the Cisco Unity Administrator](#) section.

☐ **Obtaining Fixed Software**

Cisco has released free software updates that address this vulnerability. Prior to deploying software, customers should consult their maintenance provider or check the software for feature set compatibility and known issues specific to their environment.

Customers may only install and expect support for the feature sets they have purchased. By installing, downloading, accessing or otherwise using such software upgrades, customers agree to be bound by the terms of Cisco's software license terms found at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/docs/general/warranty/English/EU1KEN_.html , or as otherwise set forth at Cisco.com Downloads at <http://www.cisco.com/public/sw-center/sw-usingswc.shtml> .

Do not contact psirt@cisco.com or security-alert@cisco.com for software upgrades.

☐ **Customers with Service Contracts**

Customers with contracts should obtain upgraded software through their regular update channels. For most customers, this means that upgrades should be obtained through the Software Center on Cisco's worldwide website at <http://www.cisco.com>.

☐ **Customers using Third Party Support Organizations**

Customers whose Cisco products are provided or maintained through prior or existing agreements with third-party support organizations, such as Cisco Partners, authorized resellers, or service providers should contact that support organization for guidance and assistance with the appropriate course of action in regards to this advisory.

The effectiveness of any workaround or fix is dependent on specific customer situations, such as product mix, network topology, traffic behavior, and organizational mission. Due to the variety of affected products and releases, customers should consult with their service provider or support organization to ensure any applied workaround or fix is the most appropriate for use in the intended network before it is deployed.

☐ **Customers without Service Contracts**

Customers who purchase direct from Cisco but do not hold a Cisco service contract, and customers who purchase through third-party vendors but are unsuccessful in obtaining fixed

software through their point of sale should acquire upgrades by contacting the Cisco Technical Assistance Center (TAC). TAC contacts are as follows.

- +1 800 553 2447 (toll free from within North America)
- +1 408 526 7209 (toll call from anywhere in the world)
- e-mail: tac@cisco.com

Customers should have their product serial number available and be prepared to give the URL of this notice as evidence of entitlement to a free upgrade. Free upgrades for non-contract customers must be requested through the TAC.

Refer to <http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/687/Directory/DirTAC.shtml> for additional TAC contact information, including localized telephone numbers, and instructions and e-mail addresses for use in various languages.

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☐ **Exploitation and Public Announcements**

This vulnerability was reported to Cisco by VoIPShield Systems.

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☐ **Status of this Notice: FINAL**

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☐ **Distribution**

This advisory is posted on Cisco's worldwide website at:

<http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20081008-unity.shtml>

In addition to worldwide web posting, a text version of this notice is clear-signed with the Cisco PSIRT PGP key and is posted to the following e-mail and Usenet news recipients.

- cust-security-announce@cisco.com
- first-bulletins@lists.first.org
- bugtraq@securityfocus.com
- vulnwatch@vulnwatch.org
- cisco@spot.colorado.edu
- cisco-nsp@puck.nether.net
- full-disclosure@lists.grok.org.uk
- comp.dcom.sys.cisco@newsgate.cisco.com

Future updates of this advisory, if any, will be placed on Cisco's worldwide website, but may or may not be actively announced on mailing lists or newsgroups. Users concerned about this problem are encouraged to check the above URL for any updates.

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☐ Revision History

Revision 1.0	2008-Oct-8	Initial public release
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☐ Cisco Security Procedures

Complete information on reporting security vulnerabilities in Cisco products, obtaining assistance with security incidents, and registering to receive security information from Cisco, is available on Cisco's worldwide website at http://www.cisco.com/en/US/products/products_security_vulnerability_policy.html. This includes instructions for press inquiries regarding Cisco security notices. All Cisco security advisories are available at <http://www.cisco.com/go/psirt>.

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