

From: [VT - CNRE - CNRE Admin Faculty Listserv](#) on behalf of [CNREHelpDesk](#)
To: CNRE_ADMIN_FACULTY@LISTSERV.VT.EDU
Subject: Security Alert: Extremely Critical Adobe Flash Player Vulnerability!
Date: Friday, March 11, 2016 8:41:53 AM
Importance: High

Hello CNRE,

Adobe has announced 23 “Extremely Critical” vulnerabilities in their Flash Player plugin for both the Mac OS and Windows platforms. This is a real bad one as it is currently being exploited and all you have to do is visit a malicious website and your computer can be taken over. They are not patching the vulnerable version of Flash Player (20.x and earlier) but they have released a new version (21.x) which is not vulnerable. [As most of you have Flash installed on your computers I highly recommend everyone follow the steps in the appropriate section below on all your computers to update your Flash Player\(s\).](#) It should only take a minute or so... Thanks and as always please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) if you have any questions or problems. Lon.

Note to Windows Firefox users: These steps were written using Internet Explorer. Therefore if Firefox is your default browser then when clicking on the scholar links below you will have to save the download and manually double click on it to run it.

Note to Windows 8.x & 10 users: Flash for Internet Explorer is now incorporated into the operating system and updates will be handled through Windows Update (which I highly recommend you do now). Other browsers still use Flash from Adobe so they will need to be updated using the steps outlined in 2.b below.

Updating Flash in Windows: (Does not require a reboot)

1. There are two versions of Flash for Windows, one that is only for Internet Explorer and another that is for all other browsers like Firefox.
2. You should update both versions if you have other browsers installed on your computers.
 - a. Updating Flash for Internet Explorer in Windows (not needed if running Windows 8.x or 10):
 - i. Go to: https://scholar.vt.edu/access/content/group/cc06d203-2211-4202-a71a-356012eca893/Downloads/install_flash_player_ax.exe.
 - ii. Click on the “Run” button.
 - iii. Click on the “Run” button again in Windows XP or the “Yes” button in Windows 7 after it downloads.
 - iv. Agree to the license agreement.
 - v. Click on the “INSTALL” button.
 - vi. Click on the “DONE” button.
 - vii. Continue on to b if you have other browsers installed.
 - b. Updating Flash for other browsers in Windows (including Windows 8.x):
 - i. Go to: https://scholar.vt.edu/access/content/group/cc06d203-2211-4202-a71a-356012eca893/Downloads/install_flash_player.exe.
 - ii. Click on the “Run” button.

- iii. Click on the "Run" button again in Windows XP or the "Yes" button in Windows 7 after it downloads.
- iv. Agree to the license agreement.
- v. Click on the "INSTALL" button.
- vi. Click on the "DONE" button.

Updating Flash for OS X: (Does not require a reboot)

1. Go to https://scholar.vt.edu/access/content/group/cc06d203-2211-4202-a71a-356012eca893/Downloads/install_flash_player_osx.dmg.
2. Once it downloads the disk image open it up if it doesn't open automatically.
3. Install the updated Flash player by double clicking on the "Install Adobe Flash Player.app" folder icon in the mounted disk image.
4. Click on the "Open" button.
5. Agree to the license agreement.
6. Click on the "INSTALL" button.
7. If prompted supply your OS X logon password and click on "OK".
8. Note that if you have a browser open then you might be prompted to close it before being able to continue.
9. Click on the "DONE" button when the installation finishes.
10. Right click on the "Flash Player" disk image on your desktop and choose "Eject" to unmount the downloaded disk image.
11. Done.

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