
From: Weber, Lon on behalf of CNRHelpDesk
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2010 9:48 AM
To: CNRHelpDesk
Subject: Extremely Critical 0-Day Internet Explorer Vulnerability

Importance: High

Hello CNR,

Over the weekend Microsoft announced an “Extremely Critical” 0-Day (currently being exploited) that by just visiting a maliciously formed web page your computer can be taken over. They have yet to patch it and their recommendation is “Do not browse untrusted websites or follow untrusted links.”. Given that that is pretty difficult to achieve I highly recommend not using IE until they patch this nasty one. If you are not already a Mozilla Firefox user then I suggest becoming one for at least a little while. If you are already a Mozilla Firefox user then you need to verify that it is set as your default web browser. Please follow the appropriate steps below according to which browser you currently use. Note that if you are already using another web browser other than IE or Firefox like Google Chrome or Safari for Windows then you don’t need to take any further steps provided these have been setup as your default browser. I will send out another note once Microsoft has patched this vulnerability with instructions on how to set it back as the default web browser (for those who want to change back). Thanks and as always please don’t hesitate to contact Chad at the CNRHelpDesk@exchange.vt.edu (1-9599) with questions or problems. Lon.

I’m currently using Internet Explorer:

1. Go to <https://scholar.vt.edu/access/content/group/cc06d203-2211-4202-a71a-356012eca893/Downloads/Firefox%20Setup%203.5.7.exe>
2. Click on the “Run” button.
3. Click on the “Run” button after the download finishes.
4. Click on the “Next >” button.
5. After verifying that a standard install is selected click on the “Next >” button.
6. Make sure that the “Use Firefox as my default web browser” option is checked and click on the “Install” button.
7. Click on the “Finish” button.
8. Note that on first run it may prompt you to import your IE settings, it’s up to you if you want to do that.
9. Done.

I’m already using Mozilla Firefox but need to verify/set it as my default web browser:

1. Launch Firefox.
2. From the top bar menu select “Tools” followed by “Options”.
3. From the “Options” window click on the “Advanced” tab at the top.
4. Click on the “Check Now” button down in the “System Defaults” portion of the window.
5. If it prompts you asking if you want to set Firefox as your default browser then click on the “Yes” button and continue on to step 7.
6. If it tells you that it is already your default browser then just click on the “OK” button.
7. Click on the “OK” button.
8. Done.

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