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**From:** Weber, Lon on behalf of CNRHelpDesk  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2010 10:57 AM  
**To:** CNRHelpDesk  
**Subject:** RE: Extremely Critical 0-Day Internet Explorer Vulnerability

**Importance:** High

Hello CNR,

Microsoft did patch the "Extremely Critical" vulnerability in Internet Explorer yesterday. Some of your computers may have already been patched and automatically rebooted last night. I suggest everyone perform a "Windows Update" from the Start menu and install whatever it recommends (if anything). Note that this will require a reboot if your computer had not already been patched automatically last night. If you want to switch back to using Internet Explorer after you've patched it follow the steps below. Thanks. Lon.

**Setting Internet Explorer as your default web browser:**

1. Launch Internet Explorer.
2. If it asks you "Internet Explorer is not currently your default browser. Would you like to make it your default browser?" then click on "Yes" and you're done.
3. If it didn't ask that question then click on the "Tools" top bar menu followed by "Internet Options".
4. Click on the "Programs" tab.
5. Place a check mark next to the "Tell me if Internet Explorer is not the default web browser" option.
6. Click on the "OK" button.
7. Quit Internet Explorer and start back at step number 1.

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**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](mailto: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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