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**From:** Weber, Lon on behalf of CNRHelpDesk  
**Sent:** Friday, March 12, 2010 10:02 AM  
**To:** CNRHelpDesk  
**Subject:** Security Alert: Extremely Critical Internet Explorer 6 & 7 Vulnerability

**Importance:** High

Hello again CNR,

Microsoft has announced an "Extremely Critical" vulnerability in versions 6 & 7 of its Internet Explorer program. The rating of Extremely Critical means that it is a zero-day vulnerability and is currently being exploited. If you are running one of these older versions of IE then all you have to do is browse to a maliciously formed webpage and your computer can be taken over by the bad people. Version 8 of IE which most of you are running is not affected by this vulnerability. I highly recommend that EVERYONE perform the following procedure on ALL of your Windows based computers. If you are already running version 8 then it will only take a couple of seconds to complete. Thanks and as always please do not hesitate to contact Chad at the [CNRHelpDesk@exchange.vt.edu](mailto:CNRHelpDesk@exchange.vt.edu) (1-9599) for problems or questions. Lon.

Procedure to validate/upgrade to Internet Explorer 8: (Will require a reboot if you need to upgrade)

1. Launch Internet Explorer.
2. From the "Help" menu select "About Internet Explorer".
3. If it says you are at version 8 then you can stop here, otherwise continue on to step 4.
4. Go to <http://clk.atdmt.com/MRT/go/179284015/direct/01/>.
5. Click on the big orange "Download now" button.
6. Mine presented me with two options: one with MSN features and one without. I left it the default which is without the MSN features. Click on the "Download now" button.
7. Click on the "Run" button.
8. Click on the "Run" button after it downloads the installer.
9. After a few moments while the installer extracts itself you will be presented with an opportunity to participate with the improvement of IE. I chose not to and clicked on the "Next >" button.
10. Accept the license agreement.
11. Click on the "Next >" button while leaving the "Install updates" option selected.
12. Click on the "Restart now (recommended)" button once the installation completes.
13. Once your computer has restarted launch IE. Note that you will most likely be presented with a few questions to answer in IE 8 as a first run setting.
14. From the "Tools" menu select "Windows Update" followed by clicking on the "Express" button.
15. Install any updates that it suggests. Note that this might require yet another restart to complete.
16. Repeat starting at step 13 until "Windows Update" reports that there aren't any more updates to apply.
17. Done.

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Lon A. Weber, Director of IT  
College of Natural Resources, Virginia Tech  
216C Cheatham Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061  
Phone: 540-231-3277 Fax: 540-231-7664  
<http://www.it.cnr.vt.edu>