

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [CDN Security Added](#)

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 2:40 pm

I've added some additional CDN security options. This might cause some disruption to serving for those with userscripts or have referrers disabled in their browser. If you find that you suddenly cannot see the images, javascript doesn't work, or the screen is all white with no css then that's why.

Consider yourselves notified and check your settings to ensure you won't have a problem. This was put into place after some attacks occurred in the last 24 hours toward the CDN. So this extra security measure will minimize the effects of those attacks.

Thank you.

Barneyyz™ - May 12, 2014, 2:41 pm

Sounds good, taking care of the community as always.

Viral Dragon - May 12, 2014, 2:41 pm

I see. That explains why everything is blue/grey. Lol.
Thanks for the notification Omni.

-Viral.

Cryptic™ - May 12, 2014, 2:42 pm

Explains why the site was looking odd a few minutes ago.

bandors - May 12, 2014, 2:42 pm

Thank you very much for adding this Omni.

Bonfire - May 12, 2014, 2:44 pm

Nothing's changed on my side. Looks like I got lucky.
Thanks for the update Omni.

Roytoy - May 12, 2014, 2:46 pm

Couldn't see any difference on my side, but I was wondering why HF was done for so many times today.

Flaxpicker - May 12, 2014, 2:51 pm

That explains why HF was down a couple of times today
Thanks for keeping us updated ?

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 2:55 pm

You may be perfect right now but in 12 hours or at some point when your cache expires the problem may occur. I'm sure you'll see threads in the next couple days about this. Anyone complaining please point them to this thread.

Viral Dragon - May 12, 2014, 2:56 pm

(May 12, 2014 02:55 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You may be perfect right now but in 12 hours or at some point when your cache expires the problem may occur. I'm sure you'll see threads in the

next couple days about this. Anyone complaining please point them to this thread.
Will do. I'll close them with a link to this thread. ._. I'll clear my cache now though.

-Viral.

'Snorlax - May 12, 2014, 2:57 pm

Sweet! Another CDN never hurts. May I ask.. Where is this CDN located?

Mr.Peanut - May 12, 2014, 2:59 pm

(May 12, 2014 02:55 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You may be perfect right now but in 12 hours or at some point when your cache expires the problem may occur. I'm sure you'll see threads in the next couple days about this. Anyone complaining please point them to this thread.
I can see this happening, i'll do so as well.

Diabolic - May 12, 2014, 3:01 pm

I guess I'll wait and see if my cache resets, thanks for the heads up though.

Marney - May 12, 2014, 3:03 pm

Thanks Omni bro, when we going bun that fat cheese spliff?

InspectorGadget - May 12, 2014, 3:03 pm

I allow everything anyway so doubt I'll see any changes.

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 3:05 pm

(May 12, 2014 02:57 PM)Snorlax Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Sweet! Another CDN never hurts. May I ask.. Where is this CDN located?

Our CDN serving is just as complex as our regular php serving. We're running behind multiple setups and proxies.

Only the top layer was effected by the attacks and as intended the second layer stayed intact. I've now fixed the top layer and added another layer on top of that. Plus I'm going to setup another layer this week.

Personally at this point I don't care if HF is served through 5 proxies before it gets to the end-user in a browser. I'm going to do what I gotta do to serve this site no matter how hard people try to disrupt that.

Endou - May 12, 2014, 3:05 pm

(May 12, 2014 02:55 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You may be perfect right now but in 12 hours or at some point when your cache expires the problem may occur. I'm sure you'll see threads in the next couple days about this. Anyone complaining please point them to this thread.
will do thanks for the heads up! ill clear my cache now and check it out

Vinnie - May 12, 2014, 3:06 pm

I'm happy that we got past those DDoS attacks, do you remember 2013? Jesus Christ, 2013 was the cancer of DDoS attacks, a thousands skids let loose just hitting HF every opportunity they got, it was an absolute joke. I'm glad we're past that point now and HF is stronger than ever.

Mitchell_H - May 12, 2014, 3:08 pm

Good to see something's being done to counter and tackle these attacks/issues, nice work.

'Snorlax - May 12, 2014, 3:08 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:05 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Our CDN serving is just as complex as our

regular php serving. We're running behind multiple setups and proxies.

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I don't really care neither. Even if page load takes twice or even triple the time now, I don't really care. It loads insanely fast for me nonetheless.

Cole ??? - May 12, 2014, 3:09 pm

(May 12, 2014 02:40 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thank you.

No Omni, thank you. For everything you do for this site and us members. From keeping us safe to making amazing features and improving a perfect forum. I believe you are a god.

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 3:10 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:06 PM)Vinnie Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm happy that we got past those DDoS attacks, do you remember 2013? Jesus Christ, 2013 was the cancer of DDoS attacks, a thousands skids let loose just hitting HF every opportunity they got, it was an absolute joke. I'm glad we're past that point now and HF is stronger than ever.

Actually 2011 imho was much worse. We would sometimes have hours of downtime. Now we have some slowdowns and maybe 5-10 minutes at a time.

Krew - May 12, 2014, 3:11 pm

I know you all like this and that there will be less downtime and such, but going ballsdeep is a tad to much.

Great work nonetheless.

??ph??l - May 12, 2014, 3:12 pm

I am glad to see that the CDN is now more secure.

Fox™ - May 12, 2014, 3:16 pm

Glad to see this is in place. Explains some errors where some images didn't load on my phone however. Nonetheless, it'll be nice with the improved uptime of the CDN. As always, thanks.

ZuGgY - May 12, 2014, 3:16 pm

Thank you for the information, Omniscient.

Vinnie - May 12, 2014, 3:17 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:10 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Actually 2011 imho was much worse. We would sometimes have hours of downtime. Now we have some slowdowns and maybe 5-10 minutes at a time. I was slightly inactive back then so I can only remember last year, it was chaotic, this year I haven't noticed anything, HF has been running great for me without any issues, sure it's been down a few times but none of them have been huge downtimes imho, it's good like this, these are probably one of the few changes that I really agree with on HF, stuff like this helps the site much more.

Good work.

InspectorGadget - May 12, 2014, 3:20 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:05 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Only the top layer was effected by the attacks

and as intended the second layer stayed intact. I've now fixed the top layer and added another layer on top of that. Plus I'm going to setup another layer this week.
It's too late for me to even think of the networking behind this..
You're a smart man Omni.
But right now, you're hurting my head.

Although, if you or anybody else gets a spare 5 or so minutes, a PM to my inbox on an explained example of this type of set up would be nice for me to read tomorrow - I'm trying to look in to networks ect.

Cyrus - May 12, 2014, 3:27 pm

What is it that has changed? Is it something we can view?

InspectorGadget - May 12, 2014, 3:29 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:27 PM)Cyrus Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What is it that has changed? Is it something we can view?

It's some security to the Content Delivery Network - basically, it's the server(s) that provide your browser with the site design, images ect.

Omni made some changes to stop attacks from abusing a weakness that allowed the site to be knock offline.

He's pretty much warning you that when your cache renews (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cache_%28computing%29) you may see some errors.

Chances are - if you're not tech savvy with all this stuff, you won't have made any changes which will cause any errors :)

Please correct me if I am wrong or missed anything.

Generic Username - May 12, 2014, 3:33 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:29 PM)SirGravzy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It's some security to the Content Delivery Network - basically, it's the server(s) that provide your browser with the site design, images ect.

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He's pretty much warning you that when your cache renews (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cache_%28computing%29) you may see some errors.

Chances are - if you're not tech savvy with all this stuff, you won't have made any changes which will cause any errors :)

Please correct me if I am wrong or missed anything.Thanks, I was a bit clueless while reading this thread, but this clears it up! :)

Edit: I also just noticed, but your link includes the closing parentheses (parenthesis?), so the corrected one is http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cache_%28computing%29

Cyrus - May 12, 2014, 3:34 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:29 PM)SirGravzy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It's some security to the Content Delivery Network - basically, it's the server(s) that provide your browser with the site design, images ect.

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He's pretty much warning you that when your cache renews (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cache_%28computing%29) you may see some errors.

Chances are - if you're not tech savvy with all this stuff, you won't have made any changes which will cause any errors :)

Please correct me if I am wrong or missed anything.
Oh okay, thanks for explaining mate.

InspectorGadget - May 12, 2014, 3:36 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:34 PM)Cyrus Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Oh okay, thanks for explaining mate.
My pleasure buddy. The more you know :) Hopefully it helps some others who are confused also.

@The guy below my post - You're welcome too buddy.

Skorp - May 12, 2014, 3:41 pm

Thanks for the update Omniscient.

Omniscient Wrote: You may be perfect right now but in 12 hours or at some point when your cache expires the problem may occur. I'm sure you'll see threads in the next couple days about this.
Anyone complaining please point them to this thread. Note taken. :)

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 3:57 pm

I have about 3 CDN servers that I can switch between at any time and they each proxy through each other. So taking one offline is going to do nothing. And I can easily serve all content from HF servers as well.

Happeh - May 12, 2014, 4:09 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:10 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Actually 2011 imho was much worse. We would sometimes have hours of downtime. Now we have some slowdowns and maybe 5-10 minutes at a time.

2011 was fucking bad. Felt like every other day people were attacking HF - sometimes if you were offline (sleeping etc.) it wouldn't be fixed for hours upon hours. Everything this year has been a blessing for oldies compared to the old days.

webdev77 - May 12, 2014, 5:08 pm

Seems this has been one of the few attacks notable in a long time now. It's nice that the site seems to be up pretty much all the time now. I appreciate the work. Thanks for keeping everything in order.

Sennheiser - May 12, 2014, 5:14 pm

(May 12, 2014 03:09 PM)?xile Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) No Omni, thank you. For everything you do for this site and us members. From keeping us safe to making amazing features and improving a perfect forum. I believe you are a god.

you so deserve the asskisser reward, like holy fuck that was the most ass kiss post i've ever seem.

On topic: It's good too see that donations and upgrades went to improve the site which makes members not regret their donation decisions ?

Cole ??? - May 12, 2014, 6:01 pm

(May 12, 2014 05:14 PM)Incereon Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) you so deserve the asskisser reward, like holy fuck

that was the most ass kiss post i've ever seem.

On topic: It's good too see that donations and upgrades went to improve the site which makes members not regret their donation decisions ?

I dont want that dirty award. I just want to make Omni smile. It was like a sentence I've seen some true ass kissers. The only down time I've experienced this week was just today for like 5 mins. I must have missed some.

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 6:23 pm

Quote:Seems this has been one of the few attacks notable in a long time now.

Not really notable. I was offline for the weekend otherwise I would have killed this attack before anyone even noticed. And this thread is just an update for the cache changes. Realistically the attack was fairly lame overall. We're attacked all the time but less than 1% of attacks even effect us to the point where members notice.

BoomShot - May 12, 2014, 6:40 pm

(May 12, 2014 06:23 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Not really notable. I was offline for the weekend otherwise I would have killed this attack before anyone even noticed. And this thread is just an update for the cache changes. Realistically the attack was fairly lame overall. We're attacked all the time but less than 1% of attacks even effect us to the point where members notice.

Are the attacks mainly from competitors?

Or, do you think it's just from people who got banned?

Tenaxium - May 12, 2014, 6:47 pm

(May 12, 2014 06:40 PM)BoomShot Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Are the attacks mainly from competitors?

Or, do you think it's just from people who got banned?

All wrong, its from me and my 7 cmd windows.

Look at dem h4x.

cyberducky - May 12, 2014, 6:49 pm

Nice to see these updates Omni. Good work.

Omniscient - May 12, 2014, 6:56 pm

Quote:Are the attacks mainly from competitors? Or, do you think it's just from people who got banned?

I don't care who it is. I just mitigate and go back to working.

RDCA - May 12, 2014, 7:08 pm

Good to see, and I guess you got a two for one, since it hurts user scripts which alter site layout.

?Ñâzg?! - May 12, 2014, 7:41 pm

Ok so I dont send a referer

so if I visit <http://www.whatismyreferer.com/> it will respond with

No referer / Hidden

How can I still access this forum but block my referer for other sites

right now the forum is missing images and scripts

RDCA - May 12, 2014, 7:44 pm

(May 12, 2014 07:41 PM)?Ñåzg?l Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Ok so I dont send a refere

so if I visit <http://www.whatismyreferer.com/> it will respond with

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How can I still access this forum but block my referer for other sites

What are you using to block referral data? Some plugins allow you to only apply to certain sites.

?Ñåzg?l - May 12, 2014, 7:48 pm

(May 12, 2014 07:44 PM)RDCA Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) What are you using to block referral data? Some plugins allow you to only apply to certain sites.

Im using refcontrol

A firefox Add on

<http://www.stardrifter.org/refcontrol/>

Yea some sites have issues with this

RDCA - May 12, 2014, 7:58 pm

(May 12, 2014 07:48 PM)?Ñåzg?l Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Im using refcontrol

A firefox Add on

<http://www.stardrifter.org/refcontrol/>

Yea some sites have issues with this

Press add site, add a entry for Hack Forums, and put the referral as: www.HackForums.net

That should work. Or, select Normal, and it will send real referral data.

?Ñåzg?l - May 12, 2014, 8:08 pm

(May 12, 2014 07:58 PM)RDCA Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Press add site, add a entry for Hack Forums, and put the referral as: www.HackForums.net

That should work. Or, select Normal, and it will send real referral data.

Oh nice I didnt think about changing to referal to www.HackForums.net

looks like its working so far

but changing it to normal didnt work

for some reason the referral was still reported hidden

Oh and THANKS for the help :)

RDCA - May 12, 2014, 8:10 pm

(May 12, 2014 08:08 PM)?Ñåzg?l Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Oh nice I didnt think about changing to referal to www.HackForums.net

looks like its working so far

but changing it to normal didnt work

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Well, as long as you get by you should be fine. If it stops working send me a private message and I will try to help you out. :)

'Snorlax - May 13, 2014, 7:13 am

If you face this problem: (images won't load), then right click on the image and press the "Open image in a new tab".