

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Beware! Subtitle Files Can Hack Your Computer While You're Enjoying Movies](#)

heremit - May 26, 2017, 6:46 am

A team of researchers at Check Point has discovered vulnerabilities in four of the most popular media player applications, which can be exploited by hackers to hijack "any type of device via vulnerabilities; whether it is a PC, a smart TV, or a mobile device" with malicious codes inserted into the subtitle files. These four vulnerable media players (mentioned below) have been downloaded more than 220 million times:

VLC — Popular VideoLAN Media Player

Kodi (XBMC) — Open-Source Media Software

Popcorn Time — Software to watch Movies and TV shows instantly

Stremio — Video Streaming App for Videos, Movies, TV series and TV channels

The vulnerabilities reside in the way various media players process subtitle files and if exploited successfully, could put hundreds of millions of users at risk of getting hacked.

As soon as the media player parses those malicious subtitle files before displaying the actual subtitles on your screen, the hackers are granted full control of your computer or Smart TV on which you ran those files.

How to Protect Your Computer ?

Check Point has already informed the developers of VLC, Kodi, Popcorn Time and Stremio applications about the recently discovered vulnerabilities. All of them have patched the flaws, with Stremio and VLC releasing the patched versions of their software: Stremio 4.0 and VLC 2.2.5 that has been out for two weeks.

However, Kodi developer Martijn Kaijser said the official version 17.2 release would arrive later this week, while users could get a fixed version online. A patch for Popcorn Time is also available online. So, users are advised to update their media player as soon as possible.

link to the sources: thehackernews.com/2017/05/movie-subtitles-malware.html

Mr. Robot - May 26, 2017, 6:49 am

Shit I use VLC and never update it because oh wait never mind. My raspberry pi doesn't connect to the net.

Anywho thanks for the share. Checked VLC on my partners PC and it was 2.2.4 (now 2.2.6) and she watches shit in the middle of the night with subtitles on.

Do you have any example srt files I can check out?

heremit - May 26, 2017, 7:00 am

(May 26, 2017 06:49 AM)Mr. Robot Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Shit I use VLC and never update it because oh wait never mind. My raspberry pi doesn't connect to the net.

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Nope sorry ? This is a brand new attack vector, I do not have any files for the moment if i find

something i will let you know

can't post link but that's the news: blog.checkpoint.com/2017/05/23/hacked-in-translation/

Mr. Robot - May 26, 2017, 7:01 am

(May 26, 2017 07:00 AM)heremit Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nope sorry ? This is a brand new attack vector, I do not have any files for the moment if i find something i will let you know
I think i'm going to start grabbing as many files as I can and just only download the subs and see if I can find something.

heremit - May 26, 2017, 7:04 am

(May 26, 2017 07:01 AM)Mr. Robot Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think i'm going to start grabbing as many files as I can and just only download the subs and see if I can find something.
Let me know if you find something ?

T?kki - May 26, 2017, 7:07 am

(May 26, 2017 07:01 AM)Mr. Robot Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think i'm going to start grabbing as many files as I can and just only download the subs and see if I can find something.
lol no idea why I find this funny. Just picturing some crazy looney going all conspiracy-mental-batshit-crazy, and decides to take on the internet on his own.