

Claromentis Update: February 3rd, 2015

Protecting Cloud Servers against the Ghost Vulnerability

A vulnerability in a widely used component of most Linux distributions was recently discovered by security researchers during a code audit. This bug could allow an attacker to take remote control of a Linux system without having any knowledge of the system's log-ins or passwords.

This vulnerability, which has been nicknamed "Ghost", is similar to the previously reported Shellshock bug in terms of its seriousness due to the large number of systems affected worldwide.

Given the potential implications of this security weakness, our team has implemented a security patch to all cloud systems; we're happy to confirm that this work has been completed without issue.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this a Claromentis Vulnerability?

No, Claromentis hasn't caused this vulnerability. The vulnerability is associated with a core part of the Linux operating systems called the GNU C Library (glibc). Without this library, a Linux system will not function.



What is the vulnerability?

The flaw in Glibc exposes a buffer overflow that can be triggered locally and remotely in the “gethostbyname” functions. Applications using Glibc get access to a DNS resolver, which converts hostnames into an IP address.

We host and manage our intranet internally, do these vulnerabilities still affect me?

For customers who have chosen cloud deployment, it’s our support team’s responsibility to manage all aspects of the cloud server, we’ve therefore implemented patches to each customer’s system to safeguard it against the “Ghost” vulnerability. For customers who host the intranet internally, we’d recommend that you consult with your IT team to see if they’ve taken measures to patch affected servers. Given the fact that an attacker who exploits this issue can gain complete control of the compromised system, it’s certainly worth involving those who are responsible for managing your internal servers.

Why is Claromentis informing me of this vulnerability?

We understand that you may have questions and concerns and so keeping you updated and letting you know the actions we’ve taken is really important to us.

Who can I contact from Claromentis if I have questions?

We’re happy to answer any questions you may have; you can get in touch with our support team - support@claromentis.com

