

The following security alert was issued by the Information Security Division of the Mississippi Department of ITS and is intended for State government entities. The information may or may not be applicable to the general public and accordingly, the State does not warrant its use for any specific purposes.

DATE(S) ISSUED:

9/14/2010

SUBJECT:

New Vulnerability in Adobe Flash Player, Adobe Reader, and Adobe Acrobat Could Allow For Remote Code Execution

OVERVIEW:

A new vulnerability has been discovered in the Adobe Flash Player, Adobe Acrobat, and Adobe Reader applications which could allow attackers to execute arbitrary code on affected systems. Adobe Flash Player is a widely distributed multimedia and application player used to enhance the user experience when visiting web pages or reading email messages. Adobe Reader allows users to view Portable Document Format (PDF) files while Adobe Acrobat offers users additional features such as the ability to create PDF files. This vulnerability may be exploited if a user visits or is redirected to a specially crafted web page or when a user opens a specially crafted PDF file. Successful exploitation will result in an attacker gaining the same privileges as the logged on user. Depending on the privileges associated with the user, an attacker could then install programs; view, change, or delete data; or create new accounts with full user rights. Failed exploit attempts will likely cause denial-of-service conditions.

There are reports of active exploitation of this vulnerability. There is currently no patch/update available for this vulnerability.

SYSTEMS AFFECTED:

- Adobe Flash Player 10.1.82.76 and earlier
- Adobe Reader 9.3.4 and earlier
- Adobe Acrobat 9.3.4 and earlier

RISK:

Government:

- Large and medium government entities: **High**
- Small government entities: **High**

Businesses:

- Large and medium business entities: **High**
- Small business entities: **High**

Home users: High

DESCRIPTION:

Adobe Flash, Adobe Reader, and Adobe Acrobat are prone to a remote code execution vulnerability when handling specially crafted flash files or PDF files that include specially crafted flash files.

This new vulnerability may be exploited if a user visits or is redirected to a specially crafted web page or opens a specially crafted flash file. Exploitation may also occur when a user opens a specially crafted PDF file.

There are reports of active exploitation of this vulnerability. There is currently no patch/update available for this vulnerability.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following actions should be taken:

- Install the patch/update from Adobe as soon as it becomes available after appropriate testing.
- Run all software as a non-privileged user (one without administrative privileges) to diminish the effects of a successful attack.
- Remind users not to visit un-trusted websites or follow links provided by unknown or un-trusted sources.
- Do not open email attachments from unknown or un-trusted sources.

REFERENCES:

Adobe:

<http://www.adobe.com/support/security/advisories/apsa10-03.html>

Secunia:

<http://secunia.com/advisories/41434>

Security Focus:

<http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/43188>

CVE:

<http://www.cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=2010-2884>

Brian Krebs:

<http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/09/adobe-warns-of-attacks-on-new-flash-flaw/>

SANS Diary:

<http://isc.sans.edu/diary.html?storyid=9544>