



Advice on Pulse Connect Secure RCE Vulnerability

NCSC has issued advice for UK organisations using Pulse Connect Secure (PCS) VPN appliances.

FireEye has [published a blog](#) today saying that APT actors are actively exploiting vulnerabilities in Pulse Connect VPN appliances.

The NCSC is aware of an unauthenticated remote code execution vulnerability affecting Pulse Connect Secure (PCS) version 9.0R3 and higher (CVE-2021-22893). [Pulse Secure says it recently discovered that a limited number of customers have experienced evidence of exploit behaviour on their Pulse Connect Secure \(PCS\) appliances.](#)

Pulse Secure has published a workaround that should be implemented immediately. However, Pulse have said that the workaround does not work for PCS versions 9.0R1 - 9.0R4.1 or 9.1R1-9.1R2. Therefore, an upgrade of PCS will need to be undertaken before implementing the workaround. The NCSC recommends following vendor best practice advice in the mitigation of vulnerabilities.

The workaround is a temporary measure until Pulse Connect Secure server version 9.1R.11.4 has been released. Read the [Pulse Secure advisory](#) for more information.

The NCSC strongly advises UK customers using Pulse Connect Secure VPN devices to regularly run the [integrity tool checker provided by the vendor](#). This tool checks the integrity of the complete file system and finds any additional/modified file(s). This will help identify possible activity resulting from the exploitation of Pulse Secure Connect vulnerabilities. The US Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has [published an Emergency Directive on this issue](#). For further information provided by NCSC please click [here](#).

Reporting a compromise

You can report suspicious emails by forwarding the original message to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) at report@phishing.gov.uk

If you receive a suspicious text you can forward this to 7726 which spells SPAM on your phone keypad.

If you have been a victim of crime, and it is not an ongoing emergency, you can report this to Police Scotland on 101. For all emergency calls, dial 999.

*This alert was sent out for your information by Police Scotland
Cybercrime Harm Prevention Unit - PPCWCyberHarmPrevention@scotland.pnn.police.uk
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