


SecureFTP for VSE

Connectivity Systems
Product Development
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FTP Protocol

- File Transfer Protocol
- Easy for transferring files between different platforms
- Widely Used
- Old and Reliable
- Efficient but not very secure
- Defined in RFC0959

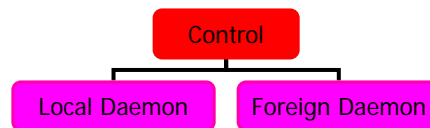


FTP Protocol

- What is a protocol?
 - Rules for communicating
 - Command syntax
- Control connection
- Separate and Independent Data Connection
- Control connections sends a command and receives 3 digit numbered reply



FTP Protocol





Sensitive Information

- Critical Files containing:
 - Customer Names
 - Product Ideas
 - Credit Card Numbers
 - Legal Contracts
 - Confidential Medical Information
 - Program Source Code
 - Asset Locations
 - Other sensitive data



It's the DATA!

- Ignorance of:
 - Legal liability for protecting
 - Who is allowed to get it
 - Keeping it private
 - Guaranteeing its integrity
- Naïve beliefs:
 - Data is inherently secure
 - Magically by default safe and secure
 - This is simply not true...



It's the DATA!

- The Truth is that the FTP protocol:
 - Transmits commands, responses, and data in the clear with no:
 - Authentication
 - Privacy
 - Integrity
 - Hey, wait a minute aren't the FTP USER and PASS commands good enough?
 - What about a truncation attack?



Sensitive Information

- So how can I ?
 - Authenticate sender/receiver
 - Guarantee Privacy of confidential data
 - Guarantee Integrity of the data



Secure FTP

- Internet Engineering Task Force(IETF) draft document:
- "Securing FTP with TLS"
- Widely accepted de-facto standard for securely transmitting files with the FTP protocol.



Secure FTP

- Secure FTP provides:
 - User authentication
 - Privacy
 - Integrity
- By using industry standard cryptographic functions :
 - RSA digitally signed certificates
 - DES encryption
 - SHA-1 secure hash functions.



Secure FTP

- Protection for commands and data transmitted for the FTP protocol
- By implementing the SSL protocol for FTP clients and servers running on the VSE platform
- Secure FTP implements both the SSL 3.0 and TLS 1.0 standards for security



Secure FTP

- Allow interoperation across platforms
 - RFC-959 defines the FTP protocol
 - RFC-2228 FTP Security Extensions
 - RFC-2389 Feature Negotiation Mechanism for FTP
 - RFC-2246 defines the TLS protocol
 - RFC-2577 FTP Security Considerations



Secure FTP

- New FTP commands:
 - FEAT
 - AUTH
 - PBSZ
 - PROT



Secure FTP

- FEAT command
 - RFC2389 allows clients to find out what features the FTP daemon supports
 - 211-Extensions supported
 - AUTH SSL
 - PBSZ
 - PROT
 - 211 END



Secure FTP

- AUTH SSL command
 - Issued by client
 - Causes a SSL session to be negotiated
 - Must be first command after OPEN
 - All other commands rejected until SSL enabled FTP daemon gets this!
 - Protects the control/command connection to the foreign FTP daemon
 - AUTH TLS also allowed as synonym
 - SSL is self-negotiating...



Secure FTP

- PBSZ command
 - RFC2228 Protection Buffer Size
 - Required Prior to PROT command
 - Not coded by end-user
 - Like when you do a PUT, internally FTP issues PORT, RETR, STOR
 - Not really used for anything but is still required...because...



Secure FTP

- RFC2246 TLS/SSL protocol max buffer size is 32k, because...
 - has 2 byte length in its record header
 - Cryptos use block ciphers DES-CBC, etc.
 - DEFINE FTPD transfer buffer size
 - 1.4A-E = 32k shared buffers
 - 1.5A = 128k shared buffers
 - 1.5B = 64k dedicated buffers
 - But user defineable, BUFCNT=, BUFSIZE=



Secure FTP

- PROT command
 - Defines security for the data connection
 - You can just secure command connection
 - Data Connection can be:
 - PROT C – Clear No Privacy or Integrity
 - PROT P – Private Privacy and Integrity
 - PROT S – Safe No Privacy, but Integrity
 - PROT E – Confidential Privacy, but no Integrity



Secure FTP

- All controlled be Server Policy that may:
 - Deny any commands before SSL negotiation
 - Define level of SSL/TLS to be used
 - Define cipher suites to be used
 - Allow SSL/TLS client authentication instead of USER/PASS, or require both!
 - Insist on data connection security



Secure FTP

- OEM Products that I have tested with
 - IPSwitch WS-FTP
 - Client works well
 - Server works well
 - Jolly Giant
 - Client working on problems, but should be resolvable
 - Taxis Imperial Software WFTPD
 - Server works well
 - Client coming soon
 - Microsoft Win2000 FTP Server
 - Not supported

