

CheckSuspiciousPhysicalPath issue in ASP.Net Framework 1.1 SP1 fix

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2005-09/msg00187.html>

- *From:* "Leon" <Leon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 31 Aug 2005 23:43:31 -0700
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Hello all,

I have come across an issue with the fix KB886903 – <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/Bulletin/MS05-004.mspx> which is to do with the ASP.Net path validation vulnerability. This fix is included automatically in SP1 for Windows Server 2003 also, and I have been unable to remove it until we can find out how to fix this problem.

The error message is below,

The path contains illegal characters.

Description: An unhandled exception occurred during the execution of the current web request. Please review the stack trace for more information about the error and where it originated in the code.

Exception Details: System.ArgumentException: The path contains illegal characters.

Source Error:

An unhandled exception was generated during the execution of the current web request. Information regarding the origin and location of the exception can be identified using the exception stack trace below.

Stack Trace:

```
[ArgumentException: The path contains illegal characters.]
System.IO.Path.nGetFullPathHelper(String path, Char[] invalidPathChars,
Char[] whitespaceChars, Char directorySeparator, Char altDirectorySeparator,
Char volumeSeparator, Boolean fullCheck, String& newPath) +0
System.IO.Path.GetFullPathInternal(String path) +165
System.IO.Path.GetFullPath(String path) +19
System.Web.HttpApplication.CheckSuspiciousPhysicalPath(String
physicalPath) +19
System.Web.Configuration.HttpConfigurationSystem.ComposeConfig(String
reqPath, IHttpMapPath configmap) +175
System.Web.HttpContext.GetCompleteConfigRecord(String reqpath,
```

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IHttpMapPath configmap) +434
System.Web.HttpContext.GetCompleteConfig() +49
System.Web.HttpContext.GetConfig(String name) +195
System.Web.CustomErrors.GetSettings(HttpContext context, Boolean canThrow) +20
System.Web.HttpResponse.ReportRuntimeError(Exception e, Boolean canThrow) +39
System.Web.HttpRuntime.FinishRequest(HttpWorkerRequest wr, HttpContext context, Exception e) +486

The issue lies with the request we send within a frame. The requested url is in the form <http://.../page.aspx/foldera/folderb/|/pic0001>

The pipe "|" character is causing us grief. If we put in %7c we still get the same error. If you install the KB886903 patch on WinXP or Server2003 this error occurs and IIS throws a HTTP500 error. If you uninstall it, it works perfectly.

There is little on the internet about this error, and why we are getting it, especially since we are not doing anything nasty with the path. Is it because the "|" char is in System.Path.IO.InvalidPathChars array? Does this mean that any character in this array that is in a request will throw this exception?

Any help would be fantastic, ideas ect – I'm lost as to how to deal with this, considering we don't even get to our page before this is throw by System.Web.dll. Can we get around it at all? Or will we be forced to change the url itself (and how, especially since "|" is fundamental to our webapp)

Thank you – Leon

• **Follow-Ups:**

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◇ From: Leon

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