

Re: Terminal Services Security using Remote Desktop Client

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Cláudio Rodrigues wrote:

- > *Although there were some DoS available through the RDP protocol, after*
- > *years of experience deploying TS, I am still to see one single case*
- > *where a TS was hacked using the RDP protocol only.*
- > *The RDP encryption is enough for sure and more than that is needed if*
- > *your company is paranoid.*
- > *A VPN is way a bigger, huge risk these days than a terminal server.*

Since I generally agree with Cláudio, I'm piggybacking on his post. :)

I tend to prefer using VPN/SSH, but the reasons for that have nothing to do with specifics of TS security; it's simply because those connections allow me to tunnel in remotely and access many different points on a LAN, with only one external configured connection.

This brings us around to the reason why a VPN might be a security risk. The single most significant vulnerability that is exploited is not someone decrypting your traffic: it's brute force attacks succeeding against poorly selected passwords. In that scenario, you can argue that a VPN is LESS secure simply because the attacker would have direct access to anything on your LAN accessible from the VPN.