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CYBER GUIDANCE ISSUE 00154

MULTIPLE VULNERABILITIES IN ANDROID

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IMPACT	LOW	MEDIUM	[✓ HIGH]
EASE OF EXPLOIT	HARD	MEDIUM	[✓ EASY]

OVERVIEW

Numerous vulnerabilities have been discovered in Google's Android operating system, with the most critical having the potential to allow for Remote Code Execution (RCE) attacks.

BREAKDOWN

39 vulnerabilities have been disclosed that affect the popular Google Operating System (OS) – Android, a Linux based OS for mobile devices including smartphones, tablets, watches and many more device types. A number of the vulnerabilities allow attackers to elevate privileges in the system which could lead to the exfiltration of sensitive data, unintentional disclosure of information or RCE attacks. Depending on the level of privilege or access granted to the compromised application, attackers could have the ability to install further applications on the system, alter data, read information, or create new user accounts with full administrative privileges. At this stage, none have been reported as being under active attack in the wild. All Android partners have been notified and will release further updates within the next 48hours. A summary of each vulnerability and the corresponding CVE can be found in the source listed below.

REMEDIATION STEPS

- Install updates to devices using Android OS to apply available security patches. New patches are available from 05-June-2021.
- Install device specific updates when prompted, ensure they are legitimate before proceeding.
- Be wary of downloading new applications and only from the Google Play Store with trusted developers.
- Restrict users from being able to download new applications on to company owned devices through Mobile Device Management (MDM) systems.
- Containerise company applications when installed on user's personal devices.
- Use URL filtering to prevent access to known malicious sites on corporate networks.

REFERENCES & RESOURCES

Android Security Bulletin	https://source.android.com/security/bulletin/2021-06-01