For your information:

National Cyber Alert System

Cyber Security Alert SA09-133B

Adobe Reader and Acrobat Vulnerabilities

  Original release date: May 13, 2009
  Last revised: --
  Source: US-CERT

Systems Affected

    * Adobe Reader versions 9.1, 8.1.4, 7.1.1 and earlier

    * Adobe Acrobat Standard, Pro, and Pro Extended versions 9.1,
      8.1.4, 7.1.1 and earlier

Overview

  Vulnerabilities in Adobe Reader and Acrobat may allow an attacker
  to take control of your computer. Adobe has released Security
  Bulletin APSB09-06, which describes these issues.

Solution

  Update

    Adobe has released updates to address this issue. Users are
    encouraged to read Adobe Security Bulletin APSB09-06 and update
    vulnerable versions of Adobe Reader and Acrobat.

  Disable JavaScript in Adobe Reader and Acrobat

    Disabling JavaScript prevents these vulnerabilities from being
    exploited and reduces attack surface. If this workaround is
    applied to updated versions of the Adobe Reader and Acrobat, it

may protect against future vulnerabilities.

To disable JavaScript in Adobe Reader:

1. Open Adobe Acrobat Reader.
2. Open the Edit menu.
3. Choose the Preferences... option.
4. Choose the JavaScript section.
5. Uncheck the Enable Acrobat JavaScript check box.

Disabling JavaScript will not resolve the vulnerabilities, it will only disable the vulnerable JavaScript component. When JavaScript is disabled, Adobe Reader and Acrobat prompt to re-enable JavaScript when opening a PDF that contains JavaScript.

Disable the display of PDF documents in the web browser

Preventing PDF documents from opening inside a web browser reduces attack surface. If this workaround is applied to updated versions of the Adobe Reader and Acrobat, it may protect against future vulnerabilities. To prevent PDF documents from automatically being opened in a web browser with Adobe Reader:

1. Open Adobe Acrobat Reader.
2. Open the Edit menu.
3. Choose the preferences option.
4. Choose the Internet section.
5. Un-check the "Display PDF in browser" check box.

Do not access PDF documents from untrusted sources

Do not open unfamiliar or unexpected PDF documents, particularly those hosted on web sites or delivered as email attachments. Please see Cyber Security Tip ST04-010.

Description

In Security Bulletin APSB09-06, Adobe announces updates for two JavaScript vulnerabilities that affect Adobe Reader and Acrobat. By convincing a user to visit a web site and opening a malicious Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) file, an attacker could execute code and take control of your computer. Note that web browsers are typically configured to open PDF files automatically