

14:13 Tithe us your Alms of Oday!

*from the desk of Pastor Manul Laphroaig,
International Church of the Weird Machines*

Dearest neighbor,

A man once was walked into a talent agent's with his whole family: himself, his wife, two young children, a shaggy dog, and Grandma. "We have a vaudeville act," he said, "and we'd like representation."

So the agent, figuring it to be the fastest way to evict these intruders from his office, let them perform the act, even though he expected it might be a bit extreme for his tastes.

The man began by eliminating textfile logging from a nearby server, while his wife installed `NetworkManager` and removed all traces of `ifconfig`. Then the two of them installed `ModemManager` and configured it to fight with `logind` for all available serial ports.

And then the kids got involved, working together to place a privesc vuln by writing SUID files with 07777 permissions for `touch()` whenever the mode type is invalid!

And then while the talent agent keeps watching, Grandma and the dog come out, and they exploit the bug by dropping an SUID file owned by `root`!

And the poor talent agent, he's just sitting there with his jaw dropped, so he asks the only question he can think to ask.

"That's some act." he says, "What do you call it?"

"We call it, `systemd`!"



Do this: write an email telling our editors how to reproduce *ONE* clever, technical trick from your research. If you are uncertain of your English, we'll happily translate from French, Russian, Southern Appalachian, and German. If you don't speak those languages, we'll draft a translator from those poor sods who owe us favors.

Like an email, keep it short. Like an email, you should assume that we already know more than a bit about hacking, and that we'll be insulted or—WORSE!—that we'll be bored if you include a long tutorial where a quick reminder would do.

Just use 7-bit ASCII if your language doesn't require funny letters, as whenever we receive something typeset in OpenOffice, we briefly mistake it for a ransom note. Don't try to make it thorough or broad. Don't use bullet-points, as this isn't a damned Powerpoint deck. Keep your code samples short and sweet; we can leave the long-form code as an attachment. Do not send us \LaTeX ; it's our job to do the typesetting!

Don't tell us that it's possible; rather, teach us how to do it ourselves with the absolute minimum of formality and bullshit.

Like an email, we expect informal (or faux-biblical) language and hand-sketched diagrams. Write it in a single sitting, and leave any editing for your poor preacherman to do over a bottle of fine scotch. Send this to `pastor@phrack.org` and hope that the neighborly Phrack folks—praise be to them!—aren't man-in-the-middling our submission process.

Yours in PoC and Pwnage,
Pastor Manul Laphroaig, T.G. S.B.

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