

Advanced Attacks Against PocketPC Phones

Collin Mulliner
collin[AT]trifinite.org

the trifinite group

SyScan '07
July 2007

Advanced Attacks Against PocketPC Phones

Owned by an MMS

About Myself

- Collin Mulliner
 - Handheld computing freak
 - Bluetooth hacker
 - Security researcher (mostly PDA/smart phone stuff)
 - Contact:
 - email: [collin\[AT\]trifinite.org](mailto:collin@trifinite.org)
 - web: <http://www.mulliner.org/blog/>

What this Talk is about

- Attacking and exploiting PocketPC smart phones
- Vulnerability analysis of smart phones
 - Apply fuzzing to mobile/smart phones
- The Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS)
 - The User Agent/client side of MMS
- **Analyzing and attacking the PocketPC MMS User Agent**

Agenda

- Mobile Phone Attacks State of the Art
- PocketPC Overview
- The Multimedia Messaging Service
- Mobile Phone Vulnerability Testing
- Ownd by an MMS
- Conclusions

Mobile Phone Attacks

State of the Art

- Bluetooth-based attacks
 - Initiate calls and send SMS (text messages)
 - Steal phonebook and/or other files
 - Denial-of-service
- Third-party application vulnerabilities
 - Code injection/execution
 - Denial-of-service

Mobile Phone Attacks

SMS/MMS

- Symbian MMS worms
 - Do not utilize vulnerabilities in applications or the OS
 - Require quite some amount of user interaction in order to infect a target
 - Examples: CommWarrior and Mabir
- SMS-based denial-of-service attacks
 - Nokia 6210: vCard format string vulnerability
 - Siemens 3568i: crash because of “unusual characters”

PocketPC Attacks

- Third-party applications vulnerabilities
 - For example: FTP servers
- Bluetooth stack remote code execution exploit
 - Non-public, because it will never be fixed (Tim Hurman)
- Bluetooth OBEX push attack (bypass authentication)
 - Full access to all files on the device
- ActiveSync denial-of-service
- Some “local” attacks

PocketPC

- Is the WindowsCE version for PDAs and smart phones
 - WindowsCE: Windows for **C**onsumer **E**lectronics
- Supports many platforms (x86, SH, ARM)
 - Most PocketPC devices are ARM-based
- Current version of WinCE is 5.x, we are looking at **4.2x**
 - WinCE 4.2 and 5.0 share many similarities
 - Still many WinCE 4.2x devices out there
- Are there any Windows Mobile 6 devices yet?

PocketPC Phones

- i-mate PDA2k
 - PocketPC 2003 SE (WinCE 4.21)
 - GSM, WLAN, Bluetooth, IrDA
- HP iPAQ h6315
 - PocketPC 2003 (WinCE 4.2)
 - GSM, WLAN, Bluetooth, IrDA
- Many more...



The WindowsCE 4.2x OS

- One single 4GB virtual address space
 - Divided into 32 so-called slots (each slot is 32MB/64MB)
 - All processes share the virtual address space
- Limited to 32 concurrent processes
 - Basically no thread limit

WindowsCE OS Security

- Single user OS
 - No real login, just an optional 'device lock'
- Any process can access everything
 - Once you are in ... you are in
- Full access to everything...
 - All files in file system
 - Bluetooth
 - Mobile phone interface (GSM/CDMA/UMTS/...)

WindowsCE Exploitation

- Buffer overflow/stack smashing
 - Overwrite return address, take control of program flow
- WindowsCE/ARM shellcode and exploit development
 - Covered quite well by now
 - 2004 Seth Fogie (at Defcon-12)
 - 2005 San (in Phrack #63)
 - 2005 Collin Mulliner (at WhatTheHack!)
 - 2005 Tim Hurman (pentest.co.uk)

WindowsCE Exploit Issues

- No “command shell”
 - Need to hard code everything the exploit is supposed to do
- Return address depends on slot used by process
 - Slots are dynamically assigned
 - Need to “guess” slot part of return address
- WinCE 5.x is build with stack protection
 - → Attack 3rd party applications

The Multimedia Messaging Service

- Messaging service for mobile phones
 - Commonly known as MMS and Picture Messaging
- Designed for multimedia content (pictures, audio, video,..)
 - But basically supports any kind of data
- Messages are sent in a store and forward manner
 - Service requires infrastructure to function
- Pay-per-use service
 - Per message fee

MMS

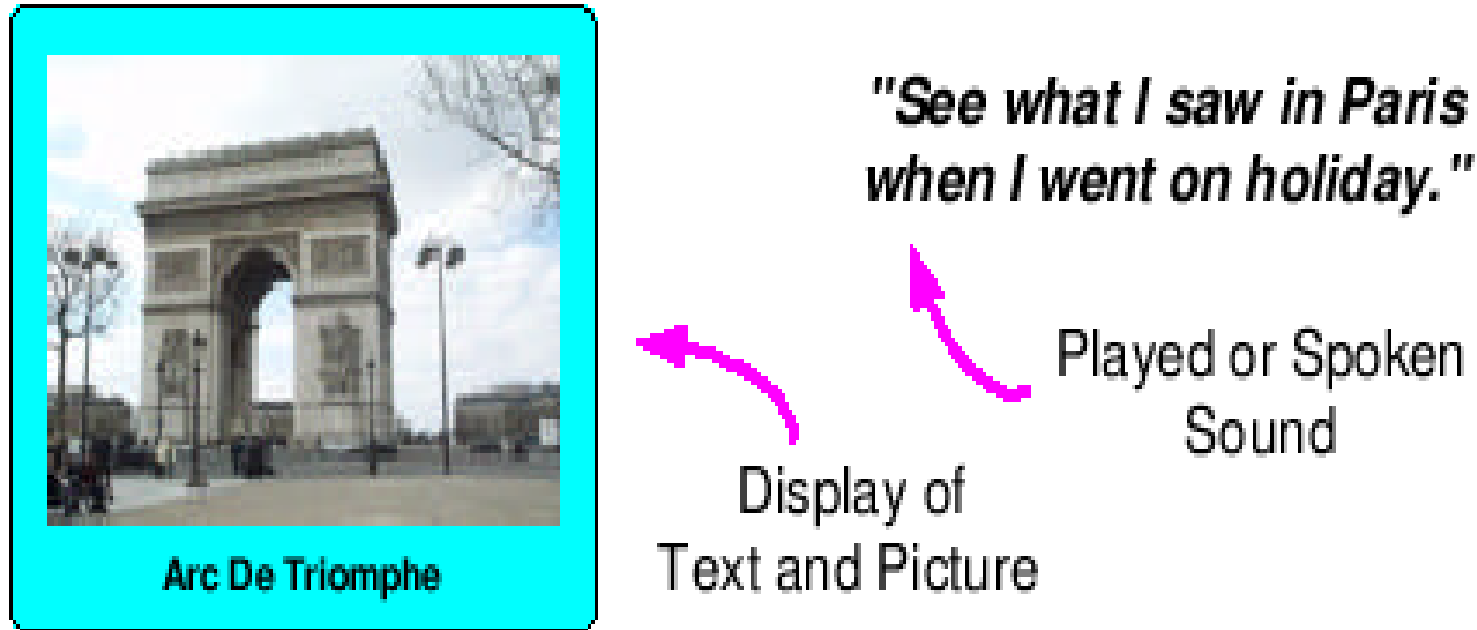


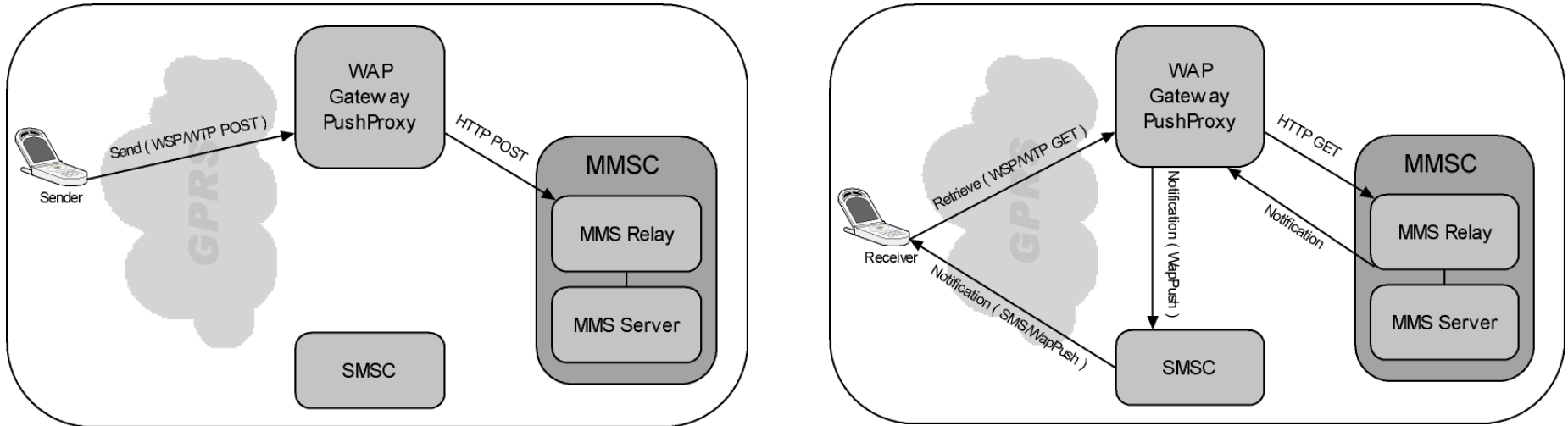
Figure 1 Example Message with Multimedia Content

From: WAP-205-MMSArchOverview

The MMS Architecture

- IP-based service
 - Utilizes HTTP and WAP (Wireless Application Protocol)
 - Transported by GPRS and friends
- Message delivery is carried out by four components
 - MMS Server
 - MMS Relay
 - WAP Gateway/PushProxy
 - SMSC (Short Message Service Center)

MMS Message Delivery



- Sender submits message to MMS Relay
 - Sender (WTP/WSP) → WAP Gateway (HTTP) → MMS Relay
- Recipient retrieves message after notification
 - MMS Relay → WAP PushProxy/SMSC (SMS) → Recipient
 - Recipient (WTP/WSP) → WAP Gateway (HTTP) → MMS Relay

MMS Messages

- Structured like Internet email messages
 - Messages are split into header and body
 - Header contains control information
 - Body contains message content (MIME multi-part)
- Messages are in binary form when transferred to and from mobile phone user agents
 - Reduce size for over-the-air transport

MMS Message Types

Transaction	Request Type	Result Type
Sending a message	M-Send.req	M-Send.conf
Receiving a message	WTP/WSP/HTTP Get.req	M-Retrieve.conf
New message notification	M-Notification.ind	M-NotifyResp.ind
Delivery Report	M-Delivery.ind	
Acknowledgment	M-Acknowledge.ind	

The MMS User Agent

- Represents the sending and receiving end-point
- Handles multiple different network types and protocols
 - SMS-based WAPPush
 - IP-based WAP GET/POST
- Processes and displays multiple media types
 - SMIL and WML for the presentation part
 - SMIL (Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language)
 - GIF, JPEG, BMP, AMR, MV4, ... for the content part
- → A lot of things to mess up

The PocketPC MMS User Agent

- The **Inbox** application
 - Also handles SMS and email (POP3 and IMAP)
- ArcSoft MMS Composer
 - Version 1.5.5.6 (HP iPAQ h6315 WinCE4.2)
 - Version 2.0.0.13 (i-mate PDA2K WinCE 4.21)
- Application binary: tmail.exe

Analyzing the MMS User Agent

- Identify the inputs to the user agent
 - Possible attack vectors
- Determine message sanitization by the MMS infrastructure
 - Avoid testing sanitized parts of a message
- Implement a virtual MMS infrastructure
 - Testing is done using fuzzing

MMS User Agent Inputs

- New message notification (*M-Notification.ind*)
 - Header fields
 - Delivered via WAPPush (SMS)
- Message header (*M-Retrieve.conf*)
 - Delivered via WAP/HTTP GET
- Message body (*M-Retrieve.conf*)
 - MIME multipart
 - Delivered via WAP/HTTP GET

Sanitization in the MMS Infrastructure

- MMS messages are sanitized by the MMS Relay
 - Sanitization is performed during message submission
 - Messages failing the checks are rejected
- Sanitization has to be avoided
 - Vulnerabilities may not be exploitable if the message part used to deliver the attack is sanitized
 - Need to determine sanitization rules of MMS Relay

Testing the Sanitization Rules

- Fuzzing-like testing procedure
 - Test each message part to determine if it is affected by the sanitization
- Findings:
 - Message header is heavily sanitized
 - Most header fields not usable for attacks
 - Message body is not sanitized
 - Body parts are suitable for attacks

A Closer Look at MMS Delivery

- New Notification is sent to receiver as WAPPush via SMS
 - Binary SMS from port 9200 to port 2948 (SMS ports!)
- PushRouter forwards WAPPush to MMS User Agent
 - If content-type is: application/vnd.wap.mms-message
- MMS User Agent retrieves message via WAP/HTTP
 - The message URL is part of the notification message
- PocketPC also accepts WAPPush via UDP port 2948
 - Also on the wireless LAN interface!!!

MMS New Message Notification

- Encapsulated in a WAPPush message

pos	hex	ascii
0000	0006 2261 7070 6C69 6361 7469 6F6E 2F76	.."application/v
0010	6E64 2E77 6170 2E6D 6D73 2D6D 6573 7361	nd.wap.mms-messa
0020	6765 00AF 848C 8298 3233 3432 3235 3437	ge.....23422547
0030	3839 3233 008D 9089 1080 0E83 2B31 3535	8923.....+155
0040	3531 3233 3435 3637 0097 1083 2B31 3535	51234567.....+155
0050	3534 3232 3334 3232 3335 0096 1E83 4772	5422342235....Gr
0060	6565 7469 6E67 7320 746F 2074 6865 2044	eetings to the D
0070	4546 434F 4E20 6372 6577 008E 0202 9A83	EFCON crew.....
0080	6874 7470 3A2F 2F79 6F75 726D 6D73 7365	http://yourmmsse
0090	7276 6572 2E63 6F6D 2F6D 6D73 3F72 6566	rver.com/mms?ref
00A0	3D34 3232 3330 3831 3500	=42230815.

wappush, transaction id, subject, message url

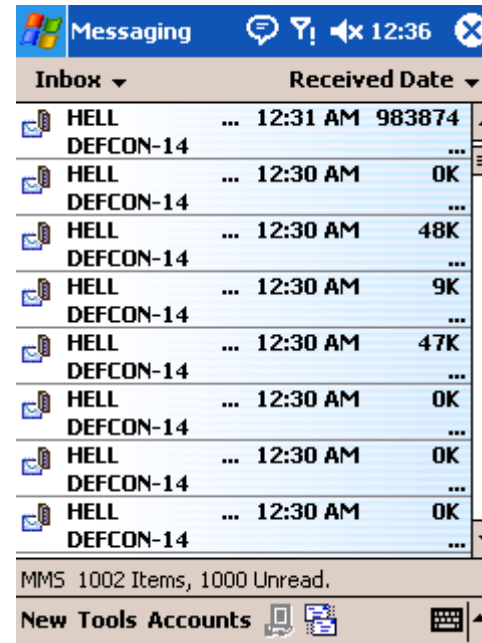
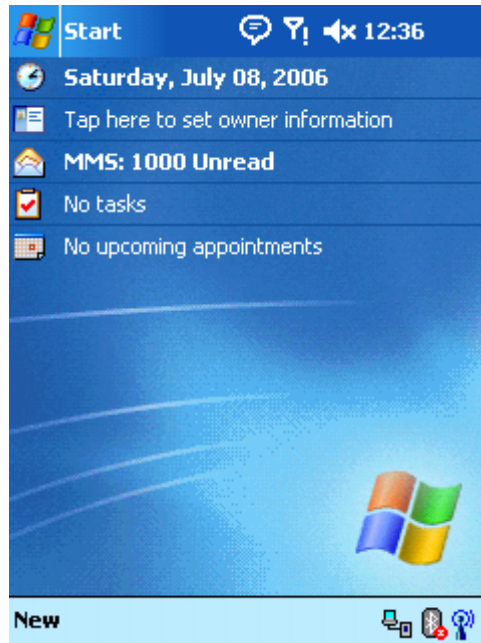
Notification Attack

- Flood phone with notifications via WLAN (UDP:2948)
 - Phone tries to dial-up GPRS to retrieve message
 - New message “sound” is very annoying
- Sending hundreds of messages DoSs the phone
 - Phone becomes slow (lots of memory is used)
- Messages fill up MMS inbox and filesystem
 - Messages have to be deleted one by one
 - It's not fun to delete +1000 messages

Proof-of-Concept: NotiFlood

- PocketPC accepts notifications sent to **broadcast address**
 - We don't even need to scan for devices!
- Each notification needs to be unique
 - This means unique *Transaction ID* and *ContentLocation*
- NotiFlood Proof-of-Concept is available online at:
 - <http://www.mulliner.org/pocketpc/feed/notiflood.tar.gz>

You have 1000 New Messages



Fuzzing

- Feed target application half way valid input in order to find bugs and exploitable vulnerabilities
 - Fuzzing maybe is the best method for cases with only access to application binary
- Fuzzing requires sending a lot of messages
 - Sending thousands of messages is expensive
 - → Use own MMS infrastructure for fuzzing

Virtual MMS System

- MMS infrastructure
 - MMS Relay/Server (Apache Web server)
 - WAP Gateway (Kannel WAP Gateway)
 - MMS Message Generator (customized MMSLib)
- GSM infrastructure simulated using wireless LAN
 - New message notification sent via UDP (port 2948)
- Configure User Agent to use virtual infrastructure
 - WAP Gateway and MMS Relay and Server

Fuzzing the User Agent

- Focused on triggering basic buffer overflows
 - Mainly modified string length or replaced variable size binary data with string
- The fuzzing process
 - Attach debugger to tmail.exe
 - Generate message and dump into directory accessible by web server
 - Send notification to phone
 - Phone retrieves message from web server
 - Watch out for exceptions caught by the debugger

MMS Message

- Message type is: *M-Retrieve.conf*

pos	hex	ascii
000	8C84 9838 3135 3437 3131 3432 3335 008D	...81547114235..
010	9089 1080 0E83 2B31 3830 3532 3539 3233+180525923
020	3432 0097 0E83 2B31 3830 3532 3539 3432	42.....+180525942
030	3233 0096 0783 4865 6C6C 6F00 8A80 841B	23....Hello.....
040	B38A 3C53 4D49 4C3E 0089 6170 706C 6963	..<SMIL>..applic
050	6174 696F 6E2F 736D 696C 0002 1017 83C0	ation/smil.....
060	223C 7465 7874 3E00 8E74 7874 3100 4869	"<text>..txt1.Hi
070	204A 6F68 6E2C 2068 6F77 2061 7265 2079	John, how are y
080	6F75 3F20 0A21 8267 6170 706C 6963 6174	ou?applicat
090	696F 6E2F 736D 696C 00C0 223C 534D 494C	ion/smil.."<SMIL
0A0	3E00 8E73 6D69 6C31 003C 736D 696C 3E0A	>..smil1.<smil>.
0B0	3C68 6561 643E 0A3C 6C61 796F 7574 3E3C	<head>.<layout><
0C0	726F 6F74 2D6C 6179 6F75 742F 3E3C 7265	root-layout/><re
...		
200	3C2F 626F 6479 3E0A 3C2F 736D 696C 3E0A	</body>.</smil>.

subject, multi-part entry header, text file, SMIL file

Advantages of Simulated Testing

- Full control over all parts of the delivery process
 - Deterministic testing
 - More possibilities for testing
 - For example, message parts that would otherwise be sanitized
- Increased testing speed
 - Testing is much faster (about 10 times)
- Avoidance of usage fees (~0.49€ per message)
 - Extensive testing not possible otherwise

Bugs Found 1/3

- **M-Notification.ind**

- Buffer overflows in parsers for:
 - Transaction ID (~264 bytes ☠ MMS Composer 2.0)
 - Subject
 - ContentLocation
 - ~267 bytes ☠ MMS Composer 1.5
 - ~406 bytes ☠ MMS Composer 2.0
- Non of these are exploitable for code injection
- NotiFlood can now also crash tmail.exe
 - **Actively prevent victim from using the Inbox application while using wireless LAN (prevents usage of email/SMS/MMS)**

Bugs Found 2/3

- **M-Retrieve.conf** (header)
 - Buffer overflows in parsers for:
 - Subject (crash only; non-exploitable)
 - Content-Type (overwrites return address; potentially exploitable)
 - Start-info parameter of Content-Type (non-exploitable)

Bugs Found 3/3

- **M-Retrieve.conf** (body - in the Multipart Entry Header)
 - Buffer overflows in parsers for:
 - Content-Type
 - Content-ID
 - ContentLocation
 - All are string length based bugs
 - All allow overwriting the return address (potentially exploitable)
- M-Retrieve.conf bugs are not exploitable in the real-world due to sanitization by MMS infrastructure ...or are they?
 - → Avoid sanitization through running our own MMS Server

Rogue MMS Server

- Use setup like the *Virtual MMS System*
- Send notification via SMS to target devices
 - ContentLocation in notification points to rogue MMS Server
- Unfortunately not possible with mobile phone service provider that operates closed WAP Gateway
 - Tested major U.S. and German mobile phone service providers, some seem to block this!
 - **Test your service provider!**

SMIL

- Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language
 - XML-based presentation language
 - Specifies how MMS content is displayed to user
 - Basically the HTML for MMS
- SMIL files are transported in the message body and therefore are not sanitized
 - → Perfect attack vector!

SMIL File

```
<smil>
  <head>
    <meta name="title" content="mms"/>
    <layout>
      <root-layout width="229" height="226" />
      <region id="Image" left="4%" top="2%" width="92%" height="80%" fit="hidden" />
      <region id="Text" left="4%" top="81%" width="87%" height="16%" fit="hidden" />
    </layout>
  </head>
  <body>
    <par dur="5000ms" >
      <text src="1.txt" region="Text"/>
    </par>
  </body>
</smil>
```

id parameter of region tag, region parameter of text tag

SMIL Parser Vulnerabilities

- REGION tag, buffer overflow for ID parameter
 - Exploitable (can be used to overwrite return address)
- TEXT tag, buffer overflow for REGION parameter
 - Exploitable (can be used to overwrite return address)
- In both cases the content enclosed by double-quotes is just copied to a stack based variable
 - Probably the same parser code for both tags

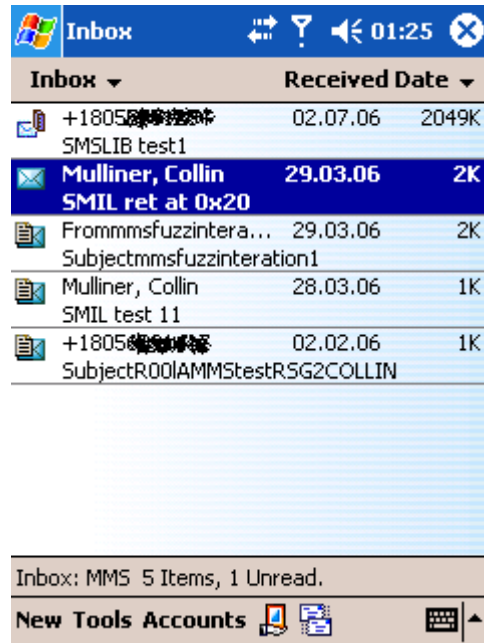
Building an MMS User Agent

- We need our own User Agent in order to send the exploit to target device
- The User Agent basically is:
 - Message generator (based on MMSLib)
 - WAP Client to send message (based on jWAP)
- MMS Message type to send is: *M-Send.req*
- Use mobile phone for GPRS dial-up
 - MMS Relay is not reachable from the Internet or is on private IP-range

MMS / SMIL Exploit

- The first mobile phone remote code execution exploit
 - MMS as the attack vector
- Real code injection/execution
 - User only needs to view the message to trigger exploit
- WindowsCE exploit complications apply
 - Return address guessing is tricky ...but works!

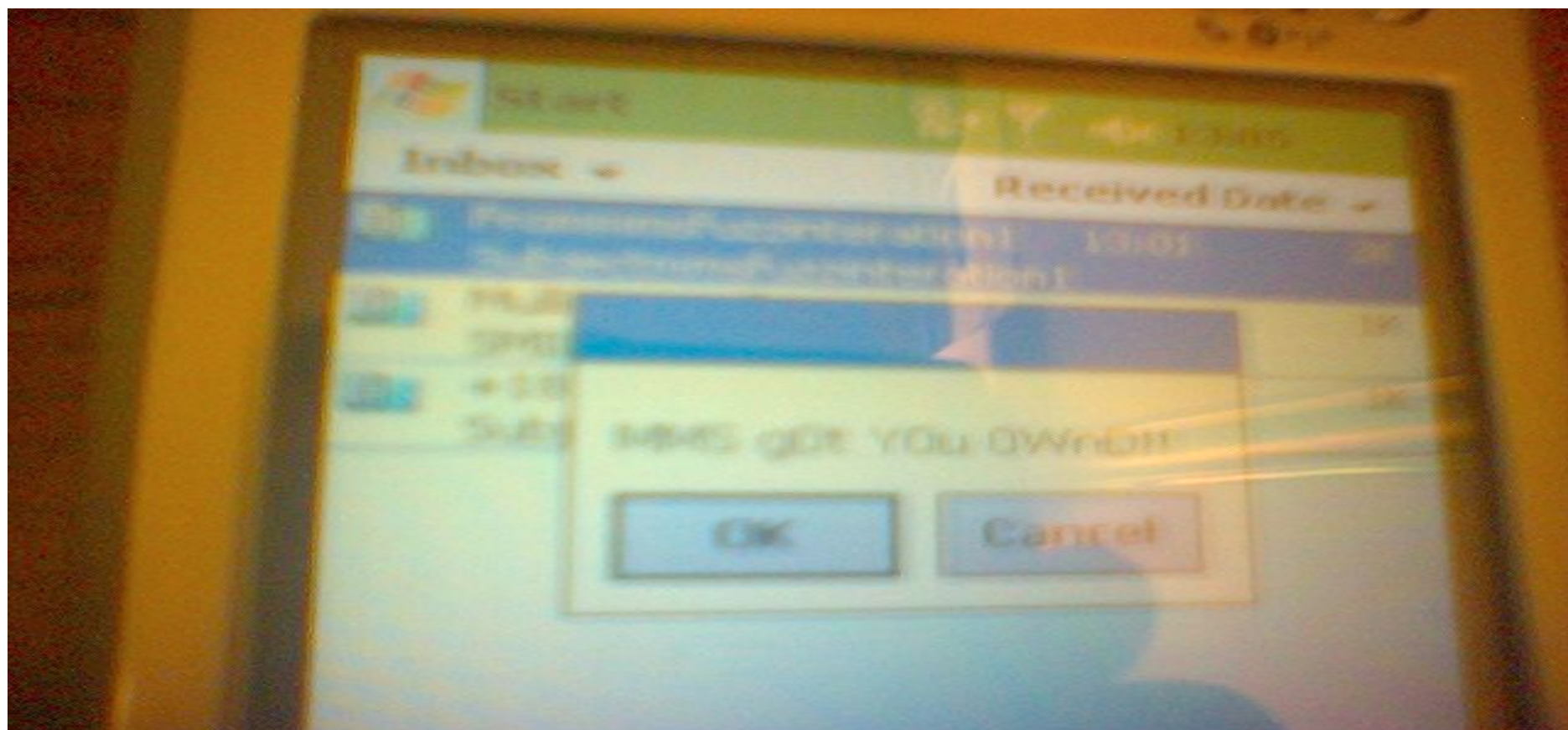
MMS g0t Y0u 0wnd



Exploit Details

- Return address and stack size
 - i-mate PDA2k
 - Return address 0x??05EE40 (?? ⇒ slot address prefix)
 - Stack size 400 bytes
 - iPAQ h6315
 - Return address 0x??05EE9C
 - Stack size 300 bytes
- Common slots used by tmail.exe: 14, 16, 20, 24

The Exploit in Action ... 0WND



Vendors have been Notified

- Microsoft and ArcSoft have been notified in July 2006
 - Both companys told me that they take this seriously
- I was told that a security fix should be available within the next weeks
 - “The OEMs just need to test it before they can release it”
- **Sofar I haven't seen a patch or firmware update for my devices. I guess they are considered OLD by now.**

NotiFlood and WinCE 5.x

- People report that NotiFlood is 100% lethal to WinCE 5.x devices
 - NotiFlood's *crash* option (-c) doesn't only crash the Inbox application **but the whole device!**
 - Recovery using either soft-reset or battery removal
- WinCE 5.x should have become more secure but here we see the opposite :-)
- (DoS is lame, I know)

Defense

- WLAN notification flooding denial-of-service
 - Packet filter / firewall on phone
- MMS message based attacks (the SMIL exploit)
 - IDS / “Anti-Virus” on phone
 - Mobile phone service provider based IDS / “Anti-Virus”
- General SMS/MMS Service Provider Measures
 - Filter binary SMS that carry MMS M-Notification.ind
- *Install firmware updates when available!!!*

DIY Defense

- Prevent MMS-notification delivery by the PushRouter
 - Attacker can't reach MMS Composer anymore
- Change value of one registry key (any value will do)
 - Works on WinCE 4.x and 5.x

```
\HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Security\PushRouter\Registrations\  
ByCTAndAppId\application\vnd.wap.mms-message;
```

- This will prevent both the SMIL and NotiFlood attack
- **WARNING:** this will completely disable receiving MMS messages

Conclusions

- Security analysis of smart phones is complicated
 - One has to deal with the service infrastructure
 - One application two attack vectors
 - WiFi → MMS User Agent ← SMS/MMS
- Found +10 bugs in the PocketPC MMS implementation
 - Full advisory was published in early August 2006
- First code injection against a mobile/smart phone
 - Stuff like this will become a major problem in the future!

Future Work

- Look at other parts of MMS messages
 - Especially the multimedia content should be interesting
- Find bugs in other MMS User Agents
 - Symbian, PalmOS, or even Linux
- Abuse/attack the MMS Infrastructure
 - Highly complex system ...many different things to play with

Questions

Thank you for your attention,
any questions?

References

- Microsoft PocketPC <http://www.microsoft.com/pocketpc/>
- MMS <http://www.wapforum.com> (Documents WAP-[205,206,209,210,230]-WSP)
- jWAP <http://jwap.sourceforge.net> (Java WAP Library)
- SMSLib <http://smslib.sourceforge.net> (Java SMS Library)
- MMS Lib <http://www.hellkvist.org/software/> (PHP MMS Library)
- Kannel <http://www.kannel.org> (Free/OpenSource WAP Gateway)
- Reliable Software Group <http://www.cs.ucsb.edu/~seclab/>
- The trifinite group <http://www.trifinite.org>
- My PocketPC stuff <http://www.mulliner.org/pocketpc/>
- Mobile Security Information <http://www.mulliner.org/mobilesecurity/>