Security Bulletin: Apache Log4j2 Remote Code Execution Vulnerability (CVE-2021-44228)

Summary

Appeon is aware of the recently disclosed security vulnerability CVE-2021-44228 relating to the Apache Log4j Java logging framework. The vulnerability makes some protocols unsafe and can allow remote code execution.

Appeon has promptly launched an investigation. This Security Bulletin summarizes the results of our investigation to date and our recommendations for our PowerBuilder customers.

PowerBuilder versions affected?

Appeon PowerBuilder 2017 - 2021 are affected, regardless of product edition.

Appeon's investigation results?

The PowerBuilder installation folder contains version 1.2.8 of Log4j, which is NOT listed as an affected version in CVE-2021-44228; however, this obsolete version may contain other security vulnerabilities.

The \WEB-INF\lib folder contains "log4j-1.2.8.jar" file, and the \WEB-INF\classes folder contains the "log4j.properties" file.

Appeon has kept such outdated version of Log4j in the PowerBuilder installation in case customers are using obsolete Java features that rely on it.

What should you do?

Immediately delete the following two files in the PowerBuilder installation directory:

- The "log4j-1.2.8.jar" file in the \WEB-INF\lib folder
- The "log4j.properties" file in the \WEB-INF\classes folder

Then follow your company's security policies and procedures to ensure your computer has not been compromised.

If you are using an obsolete PowerBuilder features that require Log4j, then you should migrate off those features as soon as possible.

What Appeon will do?

Obsolete features do not receive fixes/updates of any kind. So Appeon will not be updating Log4j to a newer version. Instead, Appeon plans to remove the two files, "log4j-1.2.8.jar" and "log4j.properties", in all the subsequent PowerBuilder releases (major releases, revisions, and MRs).

Questions?

If any questions regarding this Security Bulletin, please open a support ticket on the Appeon Website: https://www.appeon.com/standardsupport/newbug