GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN CABINET SECRETRIAT, CABINET DIVISION NATIONAL TELECOM & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECURITY BOARD (NTISB-II)

No. 1-5/2003 (NTISB-II)

Islamabad // September, 2018

Subject: Advisory - Prevention Against Foreshadow Attacks (Advisory No 159)

1. <u>Context.</u> Fax communication is very popular communication medium among **Defense** Organizations, Government Ministries, regulators, Bankers, and real estate firms. Security researchers have discovered a vulnerability that can compromise a network just by sending a malicious file using Fax. This unique type of attack is extremely dangerous as it only requires phone number of target organization

2. Technical Analysis

- a. Fax machines, if integrated into all-in-one printers or connected to a WI-FI network / PSTN phone line; remote attacker can simply send a specially crafted image. File via fax to exploit the vulnerabilities and seize control of an enterprise or home network.
 - b. A maliciously crafted file sent to an affected device can cause a stack or static buffer overflow, which may allow remote code execution.
 - c. The attack involves following buffer overflow vulnerabilities:-
 - (1) CVE-2018-5925 .Triggers while parsing COM markers.
 - (2) CVE-2018-5924 Stack-based issue occurs while parsing DHT markers, which leads to remote code execution.
 - d. The attacker can use any **exploit** to take over the **connected machines** and further spread the **malicious code** through the network.
- 3. <u>Affected Products.</u> The following models of **Hewlett Packard** (HP) printers are affected to these vulnerabilities:
 - a. Page wide Pro.
 - b. HP Design Jet.
 - c. HP Office jet.
 - d. HP DeskJet.
 - e. HP Envy.
- 4. <u>Mitigation Measures.</u> HP has provided **firmware updates** for impacted printers. To obtain the updated firmware, go to the **HP Software and Drivers page** and find the firmware update from the list of available software.

5. Recommendations

a. Strictly follow all mitigation measures mentioned at para 4.

- b. Update and install latest security patches for OS and all installed applications.
- c. Install firewall for network security and regularly check logs for any suspicious communication.

6. Forwarded for perusal and dissemination of information to all concerned, please.

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