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VULNERABILITIES

Newly Disclosed Vulnerability Exposes EOL Arris Routers to Attacks

Malwarebytes warns of a remote code execution vulnerability impacting Arris G2482A, TG2492, and SBG10 routers, which have reached end-of-life (EOL).



By [Ionut Arghire](#)
February 17, 2023



Malwarebytes warns of a remote code execution vulnerability impacting several Arris routers, for which proof-of-concept (PoC) exploit code has been released.

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Tracked as CVE-2022-45701, the bug exists because the router firmware does not properly neutralize special characters in requests, which allowed security researcher Yerodin Richards to perform shell script command injection.

The impacted models have reached end-of-life (EOL) and are no longer supported by CommScope (the company that acquired Arris), meaning that they are unlikely to receive patches.

The security defect impacts G2482A, TG2492, and SBG10 routers running firmware version 9.1.103, which are commonly found in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

Although login credentials are required to exploit the vulnerability, users often leave default usernames and passwords on their devices, either because the process of changing or removing them is too complicated or because they are not explicitly told to modify them during the setup process.

Not only are these routers susceptible to attacks that rely on brute-forcing default credentials, but, because they do not secure

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credentials in transit using HTTPS, they are also prone to exposing them to attackers able to intercept traffic.

To mitigate the risks, users are advised to secure their devices with strong passwords, albeit an experienced attacker able to eavesdrop on the unprotected traffic could intercept the password.

Changing the router firmware would be a better solution, but “providers are lax about pushing updates and there is no easy way for an end user to do this themselves,” Richards says.

According to the security researcher, users “could run the exploit to gain a root shell and try to patch it from there but this is by no means a simple solution”.

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