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Microsoft releases out-of-band critical security update for Internet Explorer

Microsoft have now released their first out-of-band security update for 2013 - **Internet Explorer MS13-008 (KB2799329)**.

An out of band security update, means that they felt that they could not wait until their regular patching releases.

Blackfoot **VCO Customers** are advised to test and then deploy this critical security update to all affected PCs and Servers as soon as possible. This vulnerability is being actively exploited in the wild and could allow an attacker to perform remote code execution at the same privilege level as the compromised user. (PCI Requirement 6.1)

Mitigating Controls

The following mitigating controls will reduce the likelihood and/or effectiveness of attacks:

1. Disable Internet browsing from Servers. This will facilitate Server patching to follow the recommended 30-day patching cycle.
2. Do not allow business staff or technical administrators to browse the Internet with local administrative privileges.

External risk assessments from SANS:

<https://isc.sans.edu/diary.html?date=2013-01-14>

Oracle releases critical security update for JAVA

Oracle have also released a critical security update for JRE (Java Runtime Environment) version 7 update 11 **CVE-2013-0422**

Reported vulnerabilities may be remotely exploitable without authentication, i.e., they may be exploited over a network without the need for a username and password. To be successfully exploited, an unsuspecting user running an affected release in a browser will need to visit a malicious web page that leverages these vulnerabilities. Successful exploits can impact the availability, integrity, and confidentiality of the user's system. <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/7u11-relnotes-1896856.html>

We can offer some support to our VCO clients and should you have any questions please either call us or email qsa@blackfootuk.com.