

Servers - Housekeeping #2880

consider re-wording the privacy policy, regarding logs

2020-08-28 12:45 PM - sdfijsaodif

Status:	open	% Done:	0%
Priority:	discussion		
Assignee:			
Category:			
Description			
https://wiki.parabola.nu/ParabolaWiki:Privacy_policy but you collect them			

History

#1 - 2020-09-22 06:54 AM - bill-auger

- Priority changed from bug to discussion

im not sure what this is referring to; but nothing is being "collected" - some rogue requests are being filtered and some IPs are being blocked - that was hoped to be temporary; but if the noise does not cease, then the policy may need to be changed

#4 - 2020-09-25 12:30 PM - freemor

It should be noted the the SYN flood protection pays attention to half connections in which the TCP 3 way handshake is never completed (SYN flood attack). Only very rarely would it catch an actual connection attempt. Also the Logging was primarily for Debugging the protection (making sure it wasn't catching actual connections) and would be trivial to turn off.

It also should be noted that that protection is not even active as the threat has passed.

#5 - 2020-10-09 04:25 PM - sdfijsaodif

This is about someone reported scam post on Redmine and administrator checked some Redmine logs to check whether or not they are that scammer.

#6 - 2020-10-10 02:57 PM - bill-auger

i do not recall any event of that sort

this ticket is a great idea in theory; but it was not necessary
- it is not a new concern - the same intention is already expressed in the privacy policy; and it is not forgotten - it is a fine ideal, which is upheld whenever possible - in practice however, any network service which is totally anonymous, will inevitably become a magnet for trash, which can over-whelm the admins, and the service becomes useless for any intended purpose

even if all connections were logged permanently, and the sentence about logging IPs were deleted from privacy policy, still, that is not an invasion of anyone's privacy; because that information would not be publicly accessible, nor divulged to any third-party - also, even if full logging were an implicit privacy concern, no one ever needs to connect to the parabola servers, in order to use parabola, download packages, nor to communicate with the dev team - all of those things can be accomplished via mirrors, email, and IRC

the important thing to note, is that every user of any distro, who installs a binary package from any source, trusts the packager implicitly by doing so - reading server logs would be among the least fruitful ways to to collect information about users and their computing activity - the IP address of any legitimate user, or which packages are downloaded, is simply not interesting

#7 - 2020-10-11 05:59 PM - sdfijsaodif

I have found exact log messages on my IRC logs.

T 1586544140 loaken-source1> I will check the redmine logs. and if I find out that the IP that created the account matches the IP that created the issue, you're in trouble.

and after some time

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T 1586544415 loaken-source1> I bluffed. that's different :)
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But if these logs are useful to catch scammers if they reveal their IP by mistake, it is better to change privacy policy.

#8 - 2020-10-11 09:14 PM - bill-auger

- *Subject changed from Stop logging IPs! to consider re-wording the privacy policy, regarding logs*

#9 - 2020-11-01 06:02 PM - oaken-source

Hey, sorry for the confusion. when I made that statement on IRC, I was bluffing, meaning I didn't know whether there were logs or not. The statement was made partly in jest, and partly to provoke the person I was communicating with into admitting that they were indeed themselves responsible for the spam they were reporting, by claiming that I had proof of that while I clearly didn't.

In other words, there never were logs. Any claims otherwise from my side were just plain false.