



## **COT Security Alert – Web Browser Vulnerabilities**

---

Microsoft Internet Explorer and Google Chrome have been found to have vulnerabilities that could result in access by unknown third parties and remote code execution.

### **Microsoft Internet Explorer**

Exploitation of this reported vulnerability could allow an attacker to take control of the affected system and gain the same privileges as the logged-on user, including administrative tasks and access to sensitive data. All versions from Internet Explorer 6 through Internet Explorer 11 are affected and some targeted attacks have been reported by Microsoft. There is currently no patch available for this vulnerability. It is recommended to apply security patches when they are available after thorough testing. An option may be to use another approved browser, such as Mozilla supported versions of Firefox, until Microsoft Internet Explorer can be updated or increase Internet and Local Intranet security settings to “High” if an application is browser dependent, however, using alternate browsers or changing browser settings could have a potential impact on the ability to run some web applications and changes should be vetted and tested prior to broad implementation.

### **Google Chrome**

Multiple vulnerabilities in Google Chrome have been discovered which can be exploited on a user’s machine if they visit or are redirected to a specially crafted web page. Successful exploitation could result in an attacker gaining the same privileges as the logged-on user, including administrative tasks and access to sensitive data. Google Chrome versions prior to 34.0.1847.131 are affected. It is recommended to update this software if it resides on your machine.

### **Other Recommendations**

1. Run all software as a non-privileged user (one without administrative privileges) to diminish the effects of a successful attack.
2. Remind users not to visit un-trusted websites or follow links provided by unknown or un-trusted email or Internet sources.

### **Informational Links**

**Microsoft:** <https://technet.microsoft.com/en-US/library/security/2963983>

**Google:** [http://googlechromereleases.blogspot.com/2014/04/stable-channel-update\\_24.html](http://googlechromereleases.blogspot.com/2014/04/stable-channel-update_24.html)

NOTICE: COT is providing this information so that you are aware of the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, software patches, etc. You should consult with your network administrator or other technical resources to ensure that the appropriate actions for these alerts are followed. If you are a network administrator and need additional information, please call the Help Desk at 502.564.7576.

Office of Chief Information Security Officer  
Commonwealth Office of Technology  
120 Glenn's Creek Road, Jones Building  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
[technology.ky.gov](http://technology.ky.gov)

Technology-enabled Business Solutions for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Government