FortiWeb and Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect
Web Application Vulnerability Scanning and Virtual Patching

Scan. Protect. Patch. Fortinet and Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect have partnered to deliver a virtual web application patching solution to address vulnerabilities as soon as they’re found. Traditionally organizations would need to follow their development process to fix bugs and repair vulnerabilities discovered in their code. This can mean weeks, even months to address serious flaws that could lead to service disruptions and in severe cases, the loss of customer and proprietary data.

FortiWeb’s virtual patching uses a combination of sophisticated tools such as URLs, parameters, signatures, HTTP methods and others to create a granular rule that addresses specific vulnerabilities discovered by Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect. With this multi-faceted approach to rule creation, FortiWeb minimizes the possibility that a scanner-based rule will trigger false positives and prevents impact to overall WAF (Web Application Firewall) performance.

Virtual Patching won’t replace the traditional application development process; however, it can create a secure bridge between the time a vulnerability is discovered and the time a software release is issued to address it. In cases where it may not be possible or practical to change the application code, such as with legacy, inherited and third-party applications, FortiWeb’s virtual patching capabilities can provide a permanent security solution for vulnerabilities.

Using Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect to uncover application vulnerabilities provides a comprehensive threat assessment. FortiWeb can now import Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect results to create custom application protection rules, providing immediate mitigation of identified vulnerabilities. This virtual patching is able to maintain application security until the development teams are able to fully deploy permanent fixes in the application code. It can also extend the time window between security patches to minimize disruptions to the organization and its users.

Use Cases

The integration of FortiWeb with Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect provides two specific use cases to scan and protect applications from vulnerabilities, as described below.

Temporary Virtual Patching Use Case

In this use case, Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect scans a web-based application to identify vulnerabilities. The results of this scan are then imported into FortiWeb. FortiWeb analyzes the results of the scan and creates a custom rule for each vulnerability. Each rule is identified by FortiWeb as an Micro Focus Fortify WebInspect scanner result and is enabled automatically or can be disabled manually by the user. FortiWeb
uses these new rules in combination with its other Web Application Firewall services to protect the application until developers are able to release a permanent patch for the vulnerabilities through their normal software development process, eliminating the need for emergency fixes.

Permanent Virtual Patching Use Case

There are many instances where it is not possible or practical to repair vulnerabilities in the application. Third-party, legacy and inherited applications all pose challenges to organizations where they may not have the necessary skills and knowledge internally, or have to engage high-priced outside resources to patch the software. Similar to the first use case, Micro Focus FortiWeb Inspect scans the application for vulnerabilities and the results are imported into FortiWeb. FortiWeb automatically creates rules based on the reported vulnerabilities. These are combined with FortiWeb’s Web Application Firewall services to permanently protect the application using FortiWeb’s Virtual Patching feature.

Benefits

Using FortiWeb with Micro Focus FortiWeb Inspect gives organizations:

- Less disruptions from emergency fixes and test cycles by virtually patching vulnerabilities until they can be permanently fixed.
- Reduced risk of exposure to threats between the time a threat is discovered and when it is fixed by developers.
- Protection for legacy, inherited and third-party applications where development fixes aren’t an option or are impractical.
- More stability in application security patches as developers have more time to properly fix code versus issuing emergency patches that haven’t had time to be fully tested.
- Minimized false detections based on accurate and verified web application firewall alerts by FortiWeb Inspect.
- More accurate FortiWeb reporting and identification of attempts to exploit vulnerabilities discovered by FortiWeb Inspect.
- Additional flexibility and granular management of FortiWeb’s Web Application Firewall policies based on scanning results.
- A complete solution for PCI DSS 6.6 compliance.

About Micro Focus

Micro Focus is a global software company with 40 years of experience in delivering and supporting enterprise software solutions that help customers innovate faster with lower risk. Our portfolio enables our 20,000 customers to build, operate and secure the applications and IT systems that meet the challenges of change. We are a global software company, committed to enabling customers to both embrace the latest technologies and maximize the value of their IT investments. Everything we do is based on a simple idea: the fastest way to get results from new technology investments is to build on what you have—in essence, bridging the old and the new. Learn more at https://software.microfocus.com/es-es/home

About Fortinet

Fortinet secures the largest enterprise, service provider, and government organizations around the world by empowering its customers with intelligent, seamless protection across the expanding attack surface. Learn more at https://www.fortinet.com, the Fortinet Blog, or FortiGuard Labs.