



Bug 2437036 (CVE-2026-1961) - CVE-2026-1961 forman: Foreman: Remote Code Execution via command injection in WebSocket proxy

Keywords: Security

Reported: 2026-02-05 10:42 UTC by OSIDB Bzimport

Status: NEW

Modified: 2026-03-26 20:26 UTC ([History](#))

Alias: CVE-2026-1961

CC List: 12 users ([show](#))

Product: Security Response

Fixed In Version:

Component: vulnerability

Clone Of:

Environment:

Version: unspecified

Last Closed:

Embargoed:

Hardware: All

OS: Linux

Priority: high

Severity: high

Target Milestone: ---

Assignee: Product Security DevOps Team

QA Contact:

Docs Contact:

URL:

Whiteboard:

Depends On:

Blocks:

TreeView+ [depends on](#) / [blocked](#)

Attachments	(Terms of Use)

Links

System	ID	Private	Priority	Status	Summary	Last Updated
Red Hat Product Errata	RHSA-2026:5970	0	None	None	None	2026-03-26 20:25:59 UTC
Red Hat Product Errata	RHSA-2026:5971	0	None	None	None	2026-03-26 20:26:55 UTC

OSIDB Bzimport	2026-02-05 10:42:27 UTC	Description

Summary: A critical command injection vulnerability exists in Foreman's WebSocket proxy implementation (lib/ws_proxy.rb). The vulnerability occurs when constructing shell commands using unsanitized hostname values from compute resource providers. An attacker operating a malicious compute resource server (VMware vSphere, Libvirt, etc.) can achieve remote code execution on the Foreman server when an administrator accesses VM console functionality.

Requirements to exploit: An attacker needs to operate a malicious compute resource server (such as a fake vSphere server) that returns poisoned hostname values. The Foreman administrator must then configure this malicious server as a compute resource and attempt to access the VM console through the normal workflow.

Component affected: foreman

Version affected: Foreman <= 3.17.0 (confirmed), likely all versions from the past 4+ years (ws_proxy.rb unchanged since 2020)

Patch available: Yes (need to be reviewed and verified)

```
#
Line 44 - Sanitize host parameter
safe_host
= Shellwords.escape(host)
#
Use array form to prevent shell injection
cmd_array
= [
  'websocketify',
  '--daemon',

"--idle-timeout=#{idle_timeout}",

"--timeout=#{timeout}",
  port.to_s,

"#{safe_host}:#{host_port}"
]
#
Add SSL options
cmd_array
+= ['--ssl-target'] if ssl_target
if
Setting[:websockets_encrypt]
  cmd_array
+= ['--cert', Setting[:websockets_ssl_cert]] if
Setting[:websockets_ssl_cert]
  cmd_array
+= ['--key', Setting[:websockets_ssl_key]] if
Setting[:websockets_ssl_key]
end
#
Execute without shell interpretation
Open3.popen3(*cmd_array)
do |stdin, stdout, stderr|
  #
```

```
... existing error handling
End
Version fixed (if any already): N/A
```

CVSS: Proposed by reporter -
CVSS:3.1/AV:N/AC:L/PR:N/UI:R/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H (Base Score: 8.8 High)

My understanding of the situation (6.8 Medium/High; Still serious, but not "internet critical" -
CVSS:3.1/AV:A/AC:H/PR:H/UI:R/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H)
Impact (optional): This vulnerability allows remote code execution as the foreman user, providing direct access to Foreman's database credentials and encryption keys. This enables decryption of all stored infrastructure credentials (vCenter, AWS, SSH keys, API tokens), allowing the attacker to pivot and compromise the entire managed infrastructure. Based on Red Hat's classification, this would be considered Critical impact due to the potential for complete infrastructure compromise.

Embargo needed: Yes

Reason: Given it is command injection

Public date: Need to set default 90-days. There is no date received from the reporter.

Acknowledgement: Houssam Sahli

Steps to reproduce if available:

1. Start malicious vSphere server (attacker system):
python3 malicious_vsphere_server.py
2. Configure Foreman compute resource (Foreman UI):
 - Navigate to: Infrastructure → Compute Resources → Create Compute Resource
 - Provider: VMware
 - vCenter/Server: <attacker_ip> (malicious server address)
 - Username: user
 - Password: pass
 - Load Datacenters (it will load EvilDatacenter)
 - Display Type: VNC
 - Uncheck "VNC Console Passwords" and "Enable Caching"
 - Click "Submit"
3. Trigger exploitation:
 - Navigate to Virtual Machines tab
 - Locate "TestVM" in the list
 - Click Actions → Console
4. Verify RCE (Foreman server):
find /tmp -name "vsphere_rce.txt" 2>/dev/null
cat /tmp/systemd-private-*/tmp/vsphere_rce.txt
Expected output: foreman

errata-xmlrpc 2026-03-26 20:25:57 UTC

[Comment 2](#)

This issue has been addressed in the following products:

Red Hat Satellite 6.17 for RHEL 9

Via RHSA-2026:5970 <https://access.redhat.com/errata/RHSA-2026:5970>

errata-xmlrpc 2026-03-26 20:26:52 UTC

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This issue has been addressed in the following products:

Red Hat Satellite 6.16 for RHEL 8
Red Hat Satellite 6.16 for RHEL 9

Via RHSA-2026:5971 <https://access.redhat.com/errata/RHSA-2026:5971>

Note

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