

# [HCSEC-2026-02 - Consul Vulnerable to Arbitrary File Reads Through the Vault Kubernetes Authentication Provider](#)

[security-consul](#)

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[dduzgun-security](#) 1 March 11, 2026, 11:07pm

**Bulletin ID:** HCSEC-2026-02

**Affected Products / Versions:**

Consul Community Edition up to 1.22.4, fixed in 1.22.5.

Consul Enterprise up to 1.18.20, 1.21.10 and 1.22.4 fixed in 1.18.21, 1.21.11 and 1.22.5.

**Publication Date:** March 11, 2026

**Summary**

HashiCorp Consul and Consul Enterprise 1.18.20 up to 1.21.10 and 1.22.4 are vulnerable to arbitrary file read when configured with Kubernetes authentication. This vulnerability, CVE-2026-2808, is fixed in Consul 1.18.21, 1.21.11 and 1.22.5.

**Background**

The [Consul kubernetes auth method](#) type allows for a Kubernetes service account token to be used to authenticate to Consul within a Kubernetes pod.

**Details**

When the Connect CA provider uses Vault with Kubernetes authentication method, it reads a ServiceAccount token from a file path specified by the `token_path` configuration parameter. A privileged attacker with the operator write permission can set the token\_path to any file on the Consul server node. The file contents are then returned as `token` data and sent to Vault as part of the Kubernetes authentication request. This leads to potential arbitrary file read and exfiltration from the Consul server host and can result in sensitive data leak. Consul will now only read Kubernetes service accounts tokens from a [defined subset of directories](#).

**Remediation**

Customers using Consul's should evaluate the risk associated with this issue and consider upgrading to Consul Community Edition 1.22.5 or Consul Enterprise 1.18.21, 1.21.11 and 1.22.5.

See Consul's [Upgrading](#) documentation for general guidance on this process.

**Acknowledgement**

This issue was identified by Defang Bo.

*We deeply appreciate any effort to coordinate disclosure of security vulnerabilities. For information about security at HashiCorp and the reporting of security vulnerabilities, please see*

<https://hashicorp.com/security>.

1 Like

## Related topics

Topic	Replies	Activity
<a href="#">ANN: Consul 1.8.6, 1.7.10 and 1.6.10 Released</a>	0	November 20, 2020
<a href="#">HCSEC-2020-22 - Consul Operator Read ACL Enables Connect Service Masquerading</a> <a href="#">security-consul</a>	0	November 25, 2020
<a href="#">HCSEC-2021-07 - Consul API KV Endpoint Vulnerable to Cross-Site Scripting</a> <a href="#">security-consul</a>	0	April 19, 2021
<a href="#">HCSEC-2022-19 - Consul Auto-Config JWT Authorization Missing Input Validation</a> <a href="#">security-consul</a>	0	September 21, 2022
<a href="#">Consul 1.6.6 and 1.7.4 Released (security)</a>	1	June 10, 2020