

erlang / otp Public

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# ScriptAlias CGI targets bypass `directory` auth (mod\_auth vs mod\_cgi path mismatch)

**High** Whaileee published GHSA-3vhp-h532-mc3f last week

## Package

### OTP

#### Affected versions

&gt;= 17.0

#### Patched versions

28.4.2, 27.3.4.10, 26.2.5.19

### inets (OTP)

&gt;= 5.10

9.1.0.6, 9.3.2.4, 9.6.2

## Description

### Impact

The Erlang/OTP `inets` HTTP server (`httpd`) is vulnerable to an authentication bypass when `script_alias` is used to map a URL prefix to a CGI script directory located outside `DocumentRoot`, and directory-based access controls (`mod_auth`) are configured to protect that directory.

The `mod_alias` module fails to include `script_alias` entries when resolving request paths. This causes `mod_auth` to evaluate authorization rules against an incorrect `DocumentRoot`-relative path, while `mod_cgi` independently resolves and executes the script at the correct `script_alias` target path — without authentication.

#### You are affected if all of the following apply:

- You use the Erlang/OTP `inets` HTTP server (`httpd`)
- You have configured `script_alias` mapping a URL prefix to a directory **outside** `DocumentRoot`
- You have configured `mod_auth` directory-based access controls to protect that external directory

#### You are NOT affected if:

- You do not use `script_alias`, or your `script_alias` targets reside inside `DocumentRoot`
- You use `erl_script_alias` (`mod_esi`) instead — it maps to Erlang modules, not filesystem paths
- You do not use `mod_auth` directory-based access controls on `script_alias` targets
- You use an external reverse proxy for authentication enforcement

## Workarounds

- Move CGI scripts inside `DocumentRoot` and use `alias` instead of `script_alias` to ensure `mod_auth` resolves the correct path
- Apply URL-based access controls at a reverse proxy layer to block unauthenticated access to the `script_alias` URL prefix
- Remove `mod_cgi` from the `httpd` modules chain if CGI functionality is not required

## Affected/Unaffected Versions

A version larger than or equal to one of the listed *patched versions* is **unaffected**; *otherwise*, a version that satisfies an expression listed under *affected versions* is **affected**, and if it does not, it is **unaffected**.

The documentation of the new [OTP version scheme](#) describes how versions should be compared. Note that versions used prior to OTP 17.0, when the new *OTP version scheme* was introduced, are never listed since it is not well defined how to compare those versions.

In the case of this vulnerability, versions prior to OTP 17.0 are likely also affected.

## Credits

Thanks to ([imorgenstern](#)) for finding and responsibly disclosing this vulnerability to the Erlang/OTP project.

### Severity

High 8.3 / 10

#### CVSS v4 base metrics

#### Exploitability Metrics

Attack Vector	Network
Attack Complexity	Low
Attack Requirements	Present
Privileges Required	None
User interaction	None

#### Vulnerable System Impact Metrics

Confidentiality	High
Integrity	Low
Availability	None
<b>Subsequent System Impact Metrics</b>	
Confidentiality	None
Integrity	None
Availability	None
<a href="#">Learn more about base metrics</a>	

CVSS:4.0/AV:N/AC:L/AT:P/PR:N/UI:N/VC:H/VI:L/VA:N/SC:N/SI:N/SA:N

**CVE ID**

CVE-2026-28808

**Weaknesses**

▶ CWE-863

**Credits**

 imorgenstern

Reporter