



CERT-EU Security Advisory 2017-025

Critical Vulnerabilities Affecting Intel Firmware

November 21, 2017 — v1.0

History:

- 21/11/2017 — v1.0: Initial publication

Summary

On the 20th of November 2017, Intel reported that it *has identified security vulnerabilities that could potentially impact various product families of processors* [1].

The following components are affected:

- Intel® Management Engine (Intel® ME)
- Intel® Trusted Execution Engine (Intel® TXE)
- Intel® Server Platform Services (SPS)

Technical Details

The vulnerabilities received several CVEs: CVE-2017-5705, CVE-2017-5708, CVE-2017-5711, CVE-2017-5712, CVE-2017-5711, CVE-2017-5712, CVE-2017-5706, CVE-2017-5709, CVE-2017-5707, CVE-2017-5710 [2].

As the result of the above mentioned vulnerabilities, an attacker could gain unauthorized access to platforms by impersonating the Intel Engines and platforms, it can **execute arbitrary code** or **cause system crash**. Apparently, the **attacks can be conducted even when a computer is powered off** [5].

Products Affected

Systems using Intel ME Firmware versions 11.0.0 through 11.7.0, SPS Firmware version 4.0, and TXE version 3.0 are impacted. Specific firmware versions on certain Intel processors families:

- 6th, 7th, and 8th generation Intel® Core™ Processor Family
- Intel® Xeon® Processor E3-1200 v5 and v6 Product Family
- Intel® Xeon® Processor Scalable Family
- Intel® Xeon® Processor W Family
- Intel Atom® C3000 Processor Family

- Apollo Lake Intel Atom® Processor E3900 series
- Apollo Lake Intel® Pentium® Processors
- Intel® Celeron® N and J series Processors

Recommendations

- Follow the detection and mitigation procedure described in the *Recommendations* section of the original Intel advisory [2].
- Use Intel detection tool to analyze your systems for the vulnerabilities [3].
- Follow Intel recommendations on checking with system OEMs for updated firmware [4].

References

- [1] <https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/support/articles/000025619/software.html>
- [2] <https://security-center.intel.com/advisory.aspx?intelid=INTEL-SA-00086&languageid=en-fr>
- [3] <https://downloadcenter.intel.com/download/27150>
- [4] <http://www.intel.com/sa-00086-support>
- [5] <https://www.wired.com/story/intel-management-engine-vulnerabilities-pcs-servers-iot/>