



# Abysssec Research

## 1) Advisory information

Title : Adobe Acrobat and Reader "pushstring" Memory Corruption  
Version : Adobe Reader 9.3.2  
Analysis : <http://www.abyssec.com>  
Vendor : <http://www.adobe.com>  
Impact : Med/High  
Contact : shahin [at] abyssec.com , info [at] abyssec.com  
Twitter : @abyssec  
CVE : CVE-2010-2201

## 2) Vulnerable version

S.u.S.E. SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 11 SP1  
+ Linux kernel 2.6.5  
S.u.S.E. SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 11  
S.u.S.E. SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop 10 SP3  
S.u.S.E. openSUSE 11.2  
S.u.S.E. openSUSE 11.1  
S.u.S.E. openSUSE 11.0  
RedHat Enterprise Linux WS Extras 4  
RedHat Enterprise Linux Supplementary 5 server  
RedHat Enterprise Linux Extras 4  
RedHat Enterprise Linux ES Extras 4  
RedHat Enterprise Linux Desktop Supplementary 5 client  
RedHat Enterprise Linux AS Extras 4  
RedHat Desktop Extras 4  
Adobe Reader 9.3.2  
Adobe Reader 9.3.1  
Adobe Reader 9.1.3  
Adobe Reader 9.1.2  
Adobe Reader 9.1.1

**Adobe Reader 8.2.2**  
**Adobe Reader 8.2.1**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.7**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.6**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.5**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.4**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.3**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.2**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.1**  
**Adobe Reader 7.1.4**  
**Adobe Reader 7.1.3**  
**Adobe Reader 7.1.2**  
**Adobe Reader 7.1.1**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.9**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.8**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.7**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.6**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.5**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.4**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.3**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.2**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0.1**  
**Adobe Reader 7.0**  
**Adobe Reader 9.3**  
**Adobe Reader 9.2**  
**Adobe Reader 9.1**  
**Adobe Reader 9**  
**Adobe Reader 8.2**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1.2 Security Updat**  
**Adobe Reader 8.1**  
**Adobe Reader 8.0**  
**Adobe Reader 7.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.3.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.3.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.1.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.1.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.2.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.2.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1.7**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1.6**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1.4**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.1.4**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.1.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.1.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.8**

**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.7**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.6**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.5**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.4**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.0**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 9**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 8.0**  
**Adobe Acrobat Standard 7.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.3.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.3.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.1.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.1.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.2.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.2.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.7**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.6**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.4**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.1.4**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.1.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.1.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.9**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.8**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.7**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.6**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.5**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.4**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.0**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.3**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9.1**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 9**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.2**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1.2 Security Updat**  
**Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.1**

Adobe Acrobat Professional 8.0  
Adobe Acrobat Professional 7.1  
Adobe Acrobat Professional 6.0  
Adobe Acrobat 9.3.2  
Adobe Acrobat 9.3.1  
Adobe Acrobat 9.1.1  
Adobe Acrobat 8.2.2  
Adobe Acrobat 7.0.9  
Adobe Acrobat 7.0.3  
Adobe Acrobat 7.0.2  
Adobe Acrobat 7.0.1  
Adobe Acrobat 7.0  
Adobe Acrobat 6.0.5  
Adobe Acrobat 6.0.4  
Adobe Acrobat 6.0.3  
Adobe Acrobat 6.0.2  
Adobe Acrobat 6.0.1  
Adobe Acrobat 6.0  
Adobe Acrobat 9.3  
Adobe Acrobat 9.2

### 3) Vulnerability information

Class

#### 1- Code Execution

Impact

**Attackers can exploit this issue to execute arbitrary code or cause denial-of-service conditions.**

Remotely Exploitable

**Yes**

Locally Exploitable

**Yes**

## 4) Vulnerabilities detail

This vulnerability show itself through the processing of flash contents in pdf files. The authplay.dll module which is responsible for processing flash contents in pdf during the processing of pushstring(bytecode 0x2c) face a memory corruption problem.

By executing the pushstring command , a string value is pushed on the stack. This command take an argument. The value of this argument is an index of string in the constant pool structure. (for further information about this command refer to ActionScript Virtual Machine 2 (AVM2) Overview)

Here is a part of the code that processes this command in the sub\_30292F10 function:

```
.text:30242AD2      mov     ecx, ds:off_303F8088[esi*4] ; jumtable 30242ACB cases 40,237
.text:30242AD9      mov     ebx, [esp+18h+arg_0]
.text:30242ADD      push   ecx
.text:30242ADE      mov     ecx, ebx
.text:30242AE0      call  sub_3025BF20
.text:30242AE5      lea   edx, [esp+18h+arg_4]
.text:30242AE9      push   edx
.text:30242AEA      call  sub_301C82B0
.text:30242AEF      mov   edi, [esp+1Ch+arg_10]
.text:30242AF3      mov   esi, eax
.text:30242AF5      mov   eax, [edi+38h]
.text:30242AF8      mov   eax, [eax+esi*4]
.text:30242AFB      add   esp, 4
.text:30242AFE      or    eax, 2
.text:30242B01      push  eax
```

In the beginning of this code sub\_301C82B0 is called. This function take an argument that is a pointer to buffer containing pushstring command argument:

```
.text:301C82B0      push  esi
.text:301C82B1      mov   esi, [esp+4+arg_0]
.text:301C82B5      mov   ecx, [esi]
```

```

.text:301C82B7      movzx  eax, byte ptr [ecx]
.text:301C82BA      test   al, al
.text:301C82BC      js     short loc_301C82C3
.text:301C82BE      inc    ecx
.text:301C82BF      mov    [esi], ecx
.text:301C82C1      pop    esi
.text:301C82C2      retn
.text:301C82C3
.text:301C82C3 loc_301C82C3:      ; CODE XREF: sub_301C82B0+Cj
.text:301C82C3      movzx  edx, byte ptr [ecx+1]
.text:301C82C7      shl    edx, 7
.text:301C82CA      and    eax, 7Fh
.text:301C82CD      or     edx, eax
.text:301C82CF      test   edx, 4000h
.text:301C82D5      jnz   short loc_301C82E0
.text:301C82D7      add    ecx, 2
.text:301C82DA      mov    [esi], ecx
.text:301C82DC      mov    eax, edx
.text:301C82DE      pop    esi
.text:301C82DF      retn
....

```

In this function first byte after the bytecode 0x2c equal to pushstring command is rad. If it is greater than zero next byte is read too. Value of the next byte is multiplied by 128 and added to the value of first byte. If the result is greater than 16384(4000h) go to the third byte. This procedure continues until the fifth byte after bytecode 0x2c.

Problem here is not properly checking this value. sub\_301C82B0 function return the above result. After executing of sub\_301C82B0 function the execution follows in the sub\_30292F10 function. And then value of eax register is added to the return value of sub\_301C82B0 and is stored in some buffer.

The stored value in the buffer is under our control and is used in the next instruction which can corrupt memory or calling and invalid address.

```

.text:30241E30      push   esi
.text:30241E31      mov    esi, [esp+4+arg_0]
.text:30241E35      push   edi
....
.text:30241E47      cmp    eax, 6      ; switch 7 cases
.text:30241E4A      ja     loc_30241EE2 ; default
.text:30241E4A      ; jumtable 30241E50 case 2
.text:30241E50      jmp    ds:off_30241F00[eax*4] ; switch jump
.text:30241E57
.text:30241E57 loc_30241E57:      ; DATA XREF: .text:off_30241F00o
.text:30241E57      mov    ecx, esi    ; jumtable 30241E50 case 0
.text:30241E59      and    ecx, 0FFFFFF8h

```

```
.text:30241E5C    mov  edx, [ecx]
.text:30241E5E    mov  eax, [edx+84h]
.text:30241E64    push edi
.text:30241E65    call eax
```

## Exploit

Exploiting this bug is difficult but possible because of the DEP (permanent) in Adobe Reader. According to the above explanation I will present the way of exploitation.

As we discussed sub\_301C82B0 function return some controllable value:

```
.text:30242AEA    call sub_301C82B0
.text:30242AEF    mov  edi, [esp+1Ch+arg_10]
.text:30242AF3    mov  esi, eax
.text:30242AF5    mov  eax, [edi+38h]
.text:30242AF8    mov  eax, [eax+esi*4]
```

We should set values after bytecode 0x2c which in result the return value of sub\_301C82B0 and finally result of `[eax+esi*4]` expression direct us to our controllable code. Then take the advantages of other codes that use this value to gain control of the program. After gaining control of the execution we should take the stack and bypassing the DEP by implementing the ROP method to execute the shellcode.