Pwnie Award Winners 2023



Best Desktop Bug

@b2ahex

CountExposure! (Local PrivilegeEscalation in Windows PerformanceCounters): CVE-2022-22036

Best Cryptographic Attack

Ben Nassi

Video-based Cryptanalysis: Extracting Cryptographic Keys from Video Footage of a Device's Power LED: https://eprint.iacr.org/2023/923

Best Song

Ohm-I

Clickin' by Ohm-I (https://mcohmi.bandcamp.com/track/clickin)

Most Innovative Research

@ghidraninja

INSIDE APPLE'S LIGHTNING: JTAGGING THE IPHONE FOR FUZZING AND PROFIT (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8p3Oi4DL0el&t=1s)

Most Under-hyped Research

Simon Zuckerbraun at Trendmicro

Activation Context Cache Poisoning: A new class of Window LPE bugs (https://www.thezdi.com/blog/2023/1/23/activation-context-cache-poisoning-exploiting-c srss-for-privilege-escalation)

Best Privilege Escalation

@danis_jiang and @0x140ce

URB Excalibur: Slicing Through the Gordian Knot of VMware VM Escapes

(CVE-2022-31705, https://www.vmware.com/security/advisories/VMSA-2022-0033.html)

Best RCE Bug

@scannell_simon

ClamAV RCE (CVE-2023-20032): ASLR bypass technique enabling 0 click server side exploits

Lamest Vendor Response

Threema

Three Lessons From Threema: Analysis of a Secure Messenger (A new canonical example for "blog post of butthurt":

https://threema.ch/en/blog/posts/news-alleged-weaknesses-statement)

Most Epic Fail

The Transportation Security Administration
TSA Leaving the entire no fly list exposed on a server

Most Epic Achievement

Clement Lecigne

0-days hunter world champion: Clement Lecigne burning dozens of 0-days in the wild