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Subject: Re: [PATCH] capabilities: introduce per-process capability bounding set (v2)

Posted by [serge](#) on Fri, 28 Sep 2007 19:45:41 GMT

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Quoting Serge E. Hallyn ([serue@us.ibm.com](mailto:serue@us.ibm.com)):

> Two comments on this patch.

>

> One issue that is buggine me is when capabilities are not in the  
> kernel, we get no warning of that. You can do PR\_SET\_CAPBSET,  
> and PR\_GET\_CAPBSET shows the right results after. But you are in  
> no way constrained by that bset.

>

> It's not clear how to fix that, because of the weird ways in which  
> commoncap.c is included in the kernel. There is no config variable  
> you can rely on to know whether it is included or not. All values  
> for cap\_bset are valid so I can't rely on an invalid value to mean  
> we're not using it. So the only options that come to mind are to  
> create a a global variable using \_capabilities, and define an  
> \_\_init function in security/commoncap.c that sets that to one. That,  
> or really tweak security/Kconfig so we can in fact know when commoncap  
> will be defined.

>

> Secondly, after setting the bcaps, the current process'  
> capabilities are not reduced. It takes effect after future  
> execs. Is that deemed counterintuitive? Or will it be  
> sufficient to properly document that in the prctl manpage?

>

> thanks,

> -serge

fwiw if anyone was actually thinking about these, I've  
addressed both in a new patchset. Unfortunately adequate  
testing will have to wait until next week so I'll send the  
set out after that.

thanks,

-serge

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