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<center>
The "hxxp" and "hxxps" URI Schemes
draft-salgado-hxxp-01
</center>

Abstract

   This document describes the "hxxp" and "hxxps" URI schemes, which are
   widely used by the security community to obfuscate an http or https
   URI to avoid being accidentaly interpreted and loaded by a web
   browser or user-agent.

Status of This Memo

   This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the
   provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

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   time. It is inappropriate to use Internet-Drafts as reference
   material or to cite them other than as "work in progress."

   This Internet-Draft will expire on November 9, 2017.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

   This document describes the "hxxp" and "hxxps" URI schemes, which are
   widely used by the security community to obfuscate an http or https
   URI to avoid being accidentaly interpreted and loaded by a web
   browser or user-agent.

   These schemes are used in case the resource is dangerous and there is
   security risks on being automatically processed by an application,
   such a pre-loading mechanism in web user agents. It also prevents
   the creation of "clickables" areas in user interfaces, which could
   detect http or https URIs automatically.

   The purpose of this registration is to document its use, prevent any
   registration of this scheme in the future, explicitly recommend to
   web application developers to never act with this URI schemes in any
   way, and provide a safe method for the security community to share
   malicious information. These schemes must not be treated as an http
   or https schemes, and must not be identified as web resources. Its
   consumption is only for humans and documentation, and should be
   handled with caution by security professionals.

1.1. Requirements Language

   The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT",
   "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this
   document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

[2](#). URI Scheme Specification

[2.1](#). URI Scheme Syntax

   The "hxxp" URI syntactically conforms to the <hxxp-uri> rule below,
   expressed using the Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF) [[RFC5234](#)]:

       hxxp-uri = "hxxp:" hxxp-token [hxxp-query] [hxxp-fragment]
       hxxp-token = *pchar
       hxxp-query = "?" query
       hxxp-fragment = "#" fragment
       pchar   = <as specified in [RFC 3986, Appendix A](#)>
       query   = <as specified in [RFC 3986, Appendix A](#)>
       fragment = <as specified in [RFC 3986, Appendix A](#)>

   The "hxxps" URI syntactically conforms to the <hxxps-uri> rule below,
   expressed using the Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF) [[RFC5234](#)]:

     hxxps-uri = "hxxps:" hxxps-token [hxxps-query] [hxxps-fragment]
     hxxps-token = *pchar
     hxxps-query = "?" query
     hxxps-fragment = "#" fragment
     pchar   = <as specified in [RFC 3986, Appendix A](#)>
     query   = <as specified in [RFC 3986, Appendix A](#)>
     fragment = <as specified in [RFC 3986, Appendix A](#)>

[2.2](#). URI Scheme Semantics

   The resource that is referenced by a particular "hxxp" or "hxxps" URI
   is NOT meant to be interpreted or parsed in any way for applications,
   or any automated means. The resource MUST be interpreted and
   consumed by human security professionals.

[2.3](#). Encoding Considerations

   "hxxp" and "hxxps" URIs are subject to encoding rules as defined in
   [RFC 3986](#) [[RFC3986](#)].

[3](#). Acknowledgements

   The author acknowledges the suggestions and comments made by Fernando
   Gont and Harlan Lieberman-Berg, for the first revision.

4. IANA Considerations

4.1. URI Scheme Registration

The IANA is requested to register "hxxp" and "hxxps" URI schemes in
the "Provisional URI Schemes" registry. The information below is
provided according to the guidelines from RFC 7595 [RFC7595]:

Scheme name: hxxp

Status: Provisional

Applications/protocols that use this scheme name: "hxxp" URIs are
forbidden to be used by applications.

Contact: Hugo Salgado <hsalgado@nic.cl>

Change controller: Hugo Salgado <hsalgado@nic.cl>

References: "The "hxxp" and "hxxps" URI Schemes" Internet Draft,
https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-salgado-hxxp/

Scheme name: hxxps

Status: Provisional

Applications/protocols that use this scheme name: "hxxps" URIs are
forbidden to be used by applications.

Contact: Hugo Salgado <hsalgado@nic.cl>

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References: "The "hxxp" and "hxxps" URI Schemes" Internet Draft,
https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-salgado-hxxp/

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5. Security Considerations

   As stated in the Introduction, the "hxxp" and "hxxps" schemes are
   forbidden to be used or interpreted by applications. These schemes
   must be consumed only by humans.

   Application developers are encouraged to forbid "hxxp" and "hxxps"
   schemes URIs inside HTML anchors or tags.

6. References

6.1. Normative References

   [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate
              Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119,
              DOI 10.17487/RFC2119, March 1997,
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   [RFC3986] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., and L. Masinter, "Uniform
              Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax", STD 66,
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   [RFC5234] Crocker, D., Ed. and P. Overell, "Augmented BNF for Syntax
              Specifications: ABNF", STD 68, RFC 5234,
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6.2. Informative References

   [RFC7595] Thaler, D., Ed., Hansen, T., and T. Hardie, "Guidelines
              and Registration Procedures for URI Schemes", BCP 35,
              RFC 7595, DOI 10.17487/RFC7595, June 2015,
              <http://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc7595>.

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