

2.1.7 Ensure talk server is not enabled (Scored)

Profile Applicability

```
Level 1 - Server  
Level 1 - Workstation
```

Description

The talk software makes it possible for users to send and receive messages across systems through a terminal session. The talk client (allows initiate of talk sessions) is installed by default.

Rationale

The software presents a security risk as it uses unencrypted protocols for communication.

Audit

Verify the talk service is not enabled. Run the following commands and verify results are as indicated:

```
grep -R "^talk" /etc/inetd.*  
grep -R "^ntalk" /etc/inetd.*
```

No results should be returned

check /etc/xinetd.conf and /etc/xinetd.d/* and verify all talk services have disable = yes set.

Remediation

Comment out or remove any lines starting with talk or ntalk from /etc/inetd.conf and /etc/inetd.d/*.

Set disable = yes on all talk and ntalk services in /etc/xinetd.conf and /etc/xinetd.d/*.

From:

<https://secscan.acron.pl/> - **SecScan**

Permanent link:

<https://secscan.acron.pl/ubuntu1604/2/1/7>

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