

HERMES SSL Extensions, version 7.8 gamma

including OpenSSL for Windows, version 1.0.2p

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Introduction

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This is an extension to QUALCOMM Eudora that brings back easy, secure authentication of electronic mail servers with the help of the Secure Sockets Layer. You are strongly advised to read and understand this file FULLY before you begin to install this software.

The SSL Extensions now support Transport Layer Security 1.2 connections to Zimbra, Comcast, DoveCot and Office 365 servers. Furthermore, a copy of the Microsoft Visual C++ 32-Bit Redistributable is now included.

Nature of the Problem

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Eudora 7.1 has trouble accepting and validating Secure Sockets Layer certificates. There are two reasons for this issue: first, its list of trusted certificate issuers is out of date. Imagine the various paper, plastic, cardboard, and even organic "symbols" that you're prepared to accept as identification. You may be inclined to trust, for example, a driving licence issued by the DVLA in England, if the photo matches the man who's holding it.

You might also trust the real grip of a Master Mason, combined with a dues card issued by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alabama. You might trust a student identification card from Harvard University. You will most probably NOT be inclined to trust someone who waves a playing card that he signed and on which he drew a picture of himself.

The notional list of "authorities" you trust is your root certificate store - in the case above, the English DVLA, the Grand Lodge in Alabama, and Harvard University. To know that you can trust these authorities, you first have to know about their existence. Eudora was last refreshed in 2005, so it trusts only institutions that existed as of that time.

Second, it doesn't matter whether a certificate is on the root certificate store in your head if you can't understand it. For example, you won't accept a Harvard student card if you can't read English, you won't accept a Masonic grip if you're not a Mason, and you won't accept a fingerprint if you haven't a fingerprint reader. Eudora works the same way. It understands the SSL "language", but only a version "spoken" in 2005---and, like all languages, SSL has changed in the meantime.

The Solution

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To bring Eudora up to date, perform the following:

1. Establish whether you are using a 32- or 64-bit version of Windows.

Follow steps A for 32-bit versions, B for 64-bit versions.

2. Extract this .ZIP file into a directory of your choice.
3. Run the file vcredist.exe. Follow the instructions.
4. Click Start > Run...
5.
 - a. Enter the text "%ProgramFiles%\Qualcomm\Eudora" (without the "inverted commas") into the box.
 - b. Enter the text "%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Qualcomm\Eudora" (without the "inverted commas") into the box.
6. Click the OK button. In the directory window that opens, right-click on the file "QCSSL.DLL", click Rename, and type "QCSSL.OLD".
7. Open the directory into which you extracted this ZIP file.
8. Hold down the CONTROL key, type AX, release the CONTROL key. Switch to the "Eudora" directory that you opened in Step 4. Hold down the CONTROL key, type V, release the CONTROL key.
9. When Windows asks you if you want to replace files, click Yes to All.

NOTE: If you have Eudora installed in a different directory to Program Files, substitute that directory for %ProgramFiles%.