Unauthorized login vulnerability in MELSEC iQ–R Series CPU Module

Overview
An unauthorized login vulnerability exists in MELSEC iQ–R series CPU modules due to Insufficiently Protected Credentials (CWE-522). A remote attacker could be able to login to the CPU module unauthorizedly by sniffing network traffic and obtaining credentials (CVE-2021-20597).
The product models and firmware versions affected by this vulnerability are listed below.

CVSS

Affected products
The following modules are affected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model name</th>
<th>Firmware Version</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R08/16/32/120SFCPU</td>
<td>all versions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R08/16/32/120PSFCPU</td>
<td>all versions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description
An unauthorized login vulnerability due to Insufficiently Protected Credentials(CWE-522) exists in MELSEC iQ–R series CPU modules.

Impact
When registering user information in the CPU module or changing the password, a remote attacker can sniff network traffic and obtain the credentials, and could be able to login to the CPU module unauthorizedly.

Countermeasures
Mitsubishi Electric will release a fixed version of the firmware to fix this vulnerability in the near future.

Mitigations/Workarounds
Mitsubishi Electric recommends that customers take the following mitigation measures to minimize the risk of exploiting this vulnerability:

- Use a firewall or virtual private network (VPN), etc. to prevent unauthorized access when Internet access is required.
- Use within a LAN and block access from untrusted networks and hosts through firewalls.
- Use the IP filter function※1 to restrict the accessible IP addresses.
- Register user information or change the password via USB. If you have already registered user information or changed the user’s password via the network, change the password once via USB.


Acknowledgement
Mitsubishi Electric would like to thank Ivan Speziale of Nozomi Networks Labs who reported this vulnerability.

Contact information
Please contact your local Mitsubishi Electric representative.

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