

First Secure List Server bi-monthly project report

Joost van Baal <joostvb.ad1810.com>

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Introduction

As agreed upon in the June 13, 2008 document “Memorandum of Understanding Secure List Server Project”, this report documents work done by the author for the Secure List Server project (<http://non-gnu.uvt.nl/mailman-pgp-smime/>), as funded by the NLnet Foundation. It also lists the current plans for the project.

1 Completed tasks

Work on the project was started on 2008-06-24. This was ahead of schedule: the start was planned for 2008-07-01.

Here’s a condensed overview of the progress made thus far.

Task	Planned	Delivered
Announce the project	08-07-15	08-07-03
Create a bzd repository	08-07-15	08-06-25
Merge the latest patch update	08-08-01	08-06-25
Port patch to latest release	08-08-01	08-07-26
Discuss Auditor’s report	08-08-15	08-08-09
Publish first project report	08-09-01	08-08-31

The project was announced in `Message-ID: <20080703145455.GQ12960@bruhat.mdcc.cx>`, posted Thu, 3 Jul 2008 on the Mailman Developers list (<http://www.mail-archive.com/mailman-developers%40python.org/msg11056.html>) as well as on the PGP/SMIME Mailman devel list (<http://ulm.ccc.de/pipermail/ssls-dev/2008-July/000019.html>).

The public Bazaar Revision Control repository is available from <https://code.launchpad.net/~joostvb/mailman/2.1-pgp-smime>.

A patch for the latest Mailman release is available from http://non-gnu.uvt.nl/pub/mailman/mailman-2.1.11-pgp-smime_2008-07-26.patch.gz.

Some extra time was spent on giving user support (using the PGP/SMIME Mailman devel list) and setting up a test system.

2 Planned tasks

Task	Planned
Bug: Implement test suite	08-12-15
Publish second project report	08-11-01
Bug: Enforce confidentiality	08-12-15
Bug: Better user interface	08-12-15
Publish third project report	09-01-01
Write and publish documentation	09-01-15
Create a package of SLS	09-03-01
Publish fourth project report	09-03-01
Disseminate results	09-03-01
Try get SLS shipped w/ distros	09-03-01
Act upon auditors final report	09-04-01
Fifth and final project report	09-04-01

The 3 Bug-tasks are the critical open bugs as found by Security Auditor Guus Sliepen and published in “Security Audit of the Secure List Server, Part I”, August 1, 2008. While fixing these bugs, the patch will be kept as non-intrusive and minimal as possible.

The implementation of a test suite currently is in progress.

The documentation will be written for users, for list admins, for site admins, as well as for developers.

Both a Debian and an RPM package for SLS will get build and published.

The dissemination of results will be done by announcing the achievements on relevant mailing lists, and by giving a presentation at e.g. the FOSDEM conference (will probably happen february 2009 in Brussels).

In order to get SLS shipped with Free Software operating system distributions, maintainers of Mailman packages for e.g. GNU/Linux distributions will get asked (and offered help) to include the patch. The author will work with the Debian Mailman package maintainer to try to get the patched Mailman shipped with Debian and Ubuntu, as discussed in a private conversation with the maintainer, Tilburg, 2008-06-06. The decision on wether or not to include this patch is under control of the package maintainer (not the patch author).