VMSA-2025-0005: VMware Tools for Windows update addresses an authentication bypass vulnerability (CVE-2025-22230)

Product/Component

VMware vSphere ESXi

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Notification Id	Last Updated	Initial Publication Date
25518	**25 March 2025**	**25 March 2025**
Status	**Severity**	**CVSS Base Score**
OPEN	**HIGH**	**7.8**
WorkAround	**Affected CVE**	
	CVE-2025-22230	

Advisory ID:	VMSA-2025-0005
Advisory Severity:	Important
CVSSv3 Range:	7.8
Synopsis:	VMware Tools for Windows update addresses an authentication bypass vulnerability (CVE-2025-22230)
Issue date:	2025-03-25
Updated on:	2025-03-25 (Initial Advisory)
CVE(s)	CVE-2025-22230

1. Impacted Products

- VMware Tools

2. Introduction

An authentication bypass vulnerability in VMware Tools for Windows was privately reported to VMware. Updates are available to remediate this vulnerability in the affected VMware products.

3. VMware Tools authentication bypass vulnerability (CVE-2025-22230)

Description:
VMware Tools for Windows contains an authentication bypass vulnerability due to improper access control. VMware has evaluated the severity of this issue to be in the Important severity range with a maximum CVSSv3 base score of 7.8.

Known Attack Vectors:
A malicious actor with non-administrative privileges on a Windows guest VM may gain ability to perform certain high-privilege operations within that VM.

Resolution:
To remediate CVE-2025-22230 apply the patches listed in the 'Fixed Version' column of the 'Response Matrix' found below.

Workarounds:
None

Additional Documentation:
None

Acknowledgements:
VMware would like to thank Sergey Bliznyuk of Positive Technologies for reporting this issue to us.

Notes:
[1] VMware Tools 12.4.6 which is part of VMware Tools 12.5.1 addresses the issue for Windows 32-bit .
[2] This issue affects only VMware Tools for Windows.

Response Matrix:

VMware Product	Version	Running On	CVE	CVSSv3	Severity	Fixed Version	Workarounds	Additional Documentation
VMware Tools [2]	12.x.x, 11.x.x	Windows	CVE-2025-22230	7.8	Important	12.5.1 [1]	None	None
VMware Tools	12.x.x, 11.x.x	Linux	CVE-2025-22230	N/A	N/A	Unaffected	None	None
VMware Tools	12.x.x, 11.x.x	macOS	CVE-2025-22230	N/A	N/A	Unaffected	None	None

4. References:

Fixed Version(s) and Release Notes:

VMware Tools 12.5.1
Downloads and Documentation:
https://support.broadcom.com/group/ecx/productfiles?subFamily=VMware%20Tools&displayGroup=VMware%20Tools%2012.x&release=12.5.1&os=&servicePk=&language=EN&freeDownloads=true
https://techdocs.broadcom.com/us/en/vmware-cis/vsphere/tools/12-5-0/release-notes/vmware-tools-1251-release-notes.html

Mitre CVE Dictionary Links:
https://cve.mitre.org/cgi-bin/cvename.cgi?name=CVE-2025-22230

FIRST CVSSv3 Calculator:
CVE-2025-22230: https://www.first.org/cvss/calculator/3-1#CVSS:3.1/AV:L/AC:L/PR:L/UI:N/S:U/C:H/I:H/A:H

5. Change Log:

2025-03-25 VMSA-2025-0005
Initial security advisory.

6. Contact:

E-mail: vmware.psirt@broadcom.com

PGP key
https://knowledge.broadcom.com/external/article/321551

VMware Security Advisories
https://www.broadcom.com/support/vmware-security-advisories

VMware External Vulnerability Response and Remediation Policy
https://www.broadcom.com/support/vmware-services/security-response

VMware Lifecycle Support Phases
https://support.broadcom.com/group/ecx/productlifecycle

VMware Security Blog
https://blogs.vmware.com/security

X
https://x.com/VMwareSRC

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