

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF VANUATU

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

CERTVU  
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BUREAU DU PREMIER MINISTRE

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DEPARTMENT DE  
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8 October 2025

## Advisory 103: Microsoft Windows Privilege Escalation Vulnerability

**Release Date:** 06<sup>th</sup> of October 2025

**Impact:** HIGH / CRITICAL

**TLP:** CLEAR

The Department of Communication and Digital Transformation (DCDT through CERT Vanuatu (CERTVU), provides the following advisory.

This alert is relevant to Organizations and System/Network administrators that utilize the above products. This alert is intended to be understood by technical users and systems administrators.

## What is it?

**CVE-2021-43226** is an **Elevation of Privileged (EoP) vulnerability in the Windows Common Log File System (CLFS) driver** that can allow a local attacker to gain higher privileges on a vulnerable system.

## What are the Systems affected?

Affected:

It affects multiple Windows client and server releases (Microsoft listed this as a Windows CLFS driver vulnerability disclosed in December 2021 and addressed as part of Microsoft December 2021(See Below Link)

<https://isc.sans.edu/diary/28132>

## What does this mean?

An attacker must already have some level of access to run code or commands on the target. By Exploiting the CLFS driver flaw, the attacker can escalate privileges to a higher level (e.g., SYSTEM), enabling further actions on the host.

## Mitigation process

CERTVU recommend:

Apply Microsoft patching updates.

Also monitor for and suspicious local privilege escalation activities.

## Reference

1. <https://www.cisa.gov/known-exploited-vulnerabilities-catalog>
2. <https://www.cve.org/CVERecord?id=CVE-2021-43226>
3. <https://isc.sans.edu/diary/28132>