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# FortiGate SSL VPN Certificate Vulnerability

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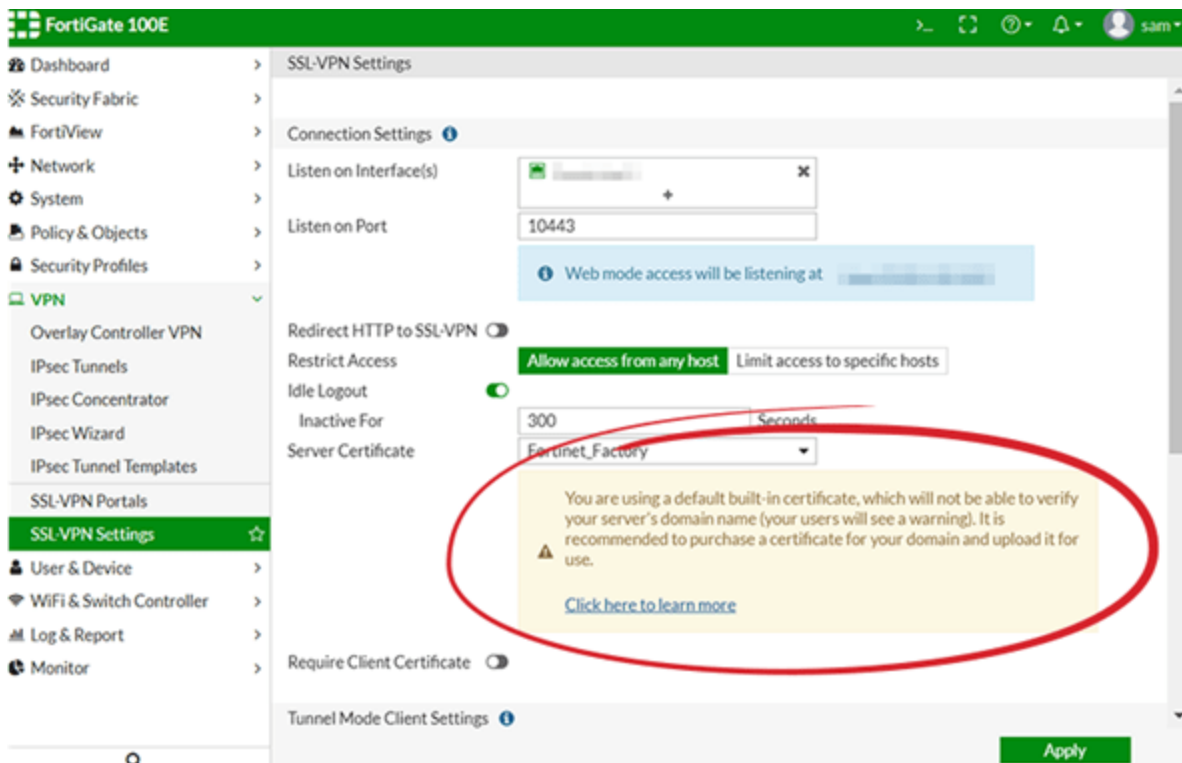
Written by  
**John Headley**

Filed under  
[Cybersecurity, Fortinet, VPN](#)

A new article detailing an [SSL VPN certificate vulnerability](#) in FortiGate firewalls is making its rounds in cybersecurity circles. The article details how a FortiGate, if left with its default settings, could allow a man-in-the-middle attack to take place for SSL VPN users.

The article mentions that potentially 200,000 FortiGates are deployed in the wild with the “major security flaw” that this attack exploits.

Fortinet’s response is that they already provide a warning to IT administrators not to use this default configuration, so they will take no action on their part at this time. As of this blog post, no unique CVE number has been assigned to this vulnerability, and the article itself has drawn criticism for reporting as new an [already well-known vulnerability](#) that applies to this default configuration.



If you are using the default, self-signed certificate for your SSL VPN as shown in

the photo above, VPLS recommends purchasing and installing a valid SSL certificate to use for the SSL VPN to mitigate this vulnerability.

Please [reach out to us](#) if you would like more information on if this vulnerability applies to your environment and what mitigation steps are required.

Additionally, VPLS would be happy to assist you with the mitigation steps mentioned above, including assistance with [purchasing and installing a valid SSL certificate](#) for your VPN, for a \$500 flat fee.

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### John Headley

John Headley, CISSP and Fortinet NSE8 #003155, is a Senior Security Engineer at VPLS where he splits his time between both pre-sales and post-sales engagements. His expertise is in security architecture and engineering, security assessment and compliance, and security operations. During his time at VPLS, he has led many security-related professional services projects, including a 35-location international firewall deployment for a publicly-traded social media company.

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