



# BOB'S ENCRYPTED MAIL

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**European Cyber Security Challenge 2018**  
**London, United Kingdom**

## 1. Initial Write-Up

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Description:

The main idea of the challenge is the weakness of the software private keys protected using the password-based encryption. In the real world, there are still many production configurations using such a weak type of security.

## 2. Challenge specifications

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- Category: Crypto
- Difficulty : Easy

## 3. Questions and answers

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- 1) The flag: *This content is your critical flag, please make a copy of it!*
- 2) The PIN used to encrypt the private key is: **4531**

## 4. Tools needed

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Description:

Tools needed for the solution of the challenge:

- General Linux tools

## 5. Artifacts provided

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List of artifacts provided with checksums.

File name	Cheksums
Bob.prv	c48c3d4e0a70b31c8679615cb2bf650d
email.encrypted	c40ad798dc87b828a93736645876f8e4

## 6. Walkthrough (writeup)

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- The idea is to brute-force the PIN that encrypts the Bob's private key.
- It is quite simple to see that the encrypted form of the key has an older style format. You can use a tool like openssl trying to check the decryption of the key in a bash script.

Use the bash script **solution\_crack\_bob\_key.sh** to brute force the PIN used to protect the Bob.prv (Bob's private key). The script finds the PIN and then decrypts the file *email.encrypted* printing out the flag's content. The script outputs also the flag to file *flag.plaintext*.