11.46 FrontPage Update Blocker

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IN PROGRESS   This article is still under investigation and will be updated as new information is available. Check back often for the most current information.

Background Information

Microsoft® deprecated the FrontPage® extensions for Linux in 2006. Since this time, the FrontPage® extensions have received no security support.

cPanel & WHM continued to install Microsoft FrontPage extensions by default until February, 2014. At that time, FrontPage was removed from EasyApache. In August, 2014 with the 11.44 release, cPanel provided tools for removing the FrontPage® extensions and announced that FrontPage would no longer be supported in future releases.

The 11.46 release is the first where all FrontPage functionality has been removed. To ensure that this change does not interrupt service for end users, upgrades to 11.46 are blocked when the FrontPage extensions are still installed. They must be removed before an update to 11.46 is allowed.

Impact

Customers that do not remove Microsoft FrontPage extensions from their servers will continue to run the 11.44 release of cPanel & WHM. All major releases of cPanel & WHM recieve one year of security support once the next major release is issued. Customers that do not remove the FrontPage® extensions during this timeframe will cease to recieve updates to their server.

The usage of FrontPage extensions is limited. Microsoft ended client support in April 2014 with FrontPage 2003.

How to determine if your server is affected

You can determine if the FrontPage extensions are installed on cPanel & WHM version 11.44 and earlier by running the following command:

```
if [ -e /usr/local/frontpage/version5.0/bin/owsadm.exe ] ; then echo
"Frontpage installed"; else echo "Frontpage not installed"; fi
```

You can get a list of the specific cPanel accounts on your server that have used the FrontPage extensions in the past by running the following command:

```
find /home/ -wholename '*/_vti_cnf/*' -type f | grep -E -v
'htaccess|virtfs' | cut -d '/' -f 3 | sort | uniq
```

> If you have different, or multiple /home partitions you will want to replace /home/ noted in the above command with any different or additional home partitions

Resolution

If your system has no users that appear to be using the FrontPage extensions, you can remove them by running the below command via command line as root:

```
/scripts/unsetupfp4 --all
```

If there are users on the system that have used the FrontPage® extensions recently, cPanel recommends you contact them and migrate to WebDAV instead.

For Microsoft FrontPage, this can be done by the recommend article:

http://www.iis.net/learn/publish/using-webdav/how-to-migrate-fpse-sites-to-webdav

Workarounds

If users are unwilling or unable to migrate off the FrontPage extensions, cPanel recommends transferring the account to a system locked to the 11.44 LTS release.

With cPanel & WHM 11.44 and earlier, FrontPage functionality will break whenever EasyApache is recompiled. If you wish to maintain this functionality, you should perform the following steps on the command line as the `root` user:

1. Download and unzip the custom module into the `/var/cpanel/easy/apache/custom_opt_mods/` directory.
2. On the command line, run the following commands:

```
wget
http://documentation.cpanel.net/download/attachments/362562/custom_opt_m
od-frontpage-20140912.tar.gz
tar -C /var/cpanel/easy/apache/custom_opt_mods -xzf
custom_opt_mod-frontpage-20140912.tar.gz
```

3. Run EasyApache via WHM >> EasyApache

More information about cPanel's Custom OptMods can be found here:

http://documentation.cpanel.net/display/EA/Custom+Modules

Automatic unused FrontPage installation removal in build 11.44.2.3

To help our customers stay on the most up-to-date version of cPanel & WHM, version 11.44.2.3 introduces an automatic removal system that automatically removes unused Microsoft FrontPage installations. This system should resolve blocker issues for most cPanel & WHM servers that this blocker affected.

We released this build on January 12, 2015.

> **Important:**
> This process will **only** affect servers that **do not** use the Microsoft FrontPage installation.

If, when you upgrade to cPanel & WHM version 11.44.2.3, the cPanel & WHM upgrade process determines that FrontPage is installed on your server, it invokes the FrontPage automatic removal feature. This feature determines whether the FrontPage installation is in active use.

To determine whether a Microsoft FrontPage installation is in use on a cPanel & WHM server, the system calls the `/scripts/unsetupfp4` script with the `--only-if-unused` flag.

This causes the script to run the following checks:

1. The system will check whether the `frontpage-2002-SR1.2` RPM is installed on the server.
2. The system will check any `*.cnf` files in the `/usr/local/frontpage/` directory, to determine which domains on the server currently use FrontPage.
3. The system will check whether the `/var/cpanel/dynamicui/fp` file exists. (If this file exists, FrontPage is already disabled.)

If the system determines that **any** of the server's domains use FrontPage, the upgrade process remains blocked and no change occurs. System administrators can use the following command to manually remove FrontPage from these servers:

```
    /scripts/unsetupfp4 --all
```

If the system determines that **none** of the server's domains use FrontPage, it uninstalls FrontPage from the system and performs the following actions to clean the system of FrontPage-related data:

- The system uninstalls and removes the FrontPage RPM.
- The system removes the FrontPage ACL from all of the server's ACL lists. This includes the reseller ACL lists in the `/var/cpanel/resellers/` directory.
- The system removes FrontPage options from all hosting plan (package) configurations.
- The system removes FrontPage options from all feature lists.
- The system deletes the `/usr/local/frontpage/` directory and its contents.
- The system removes the FrontPage related features from the WHM and cPanel user interfaces.
- The system deletes any FrontPage-related information in the `httpd.conf` file.
- The system deletes the `_vti_*` and `_private` directories, and their contents, from every user's `www` directory.
- The system removes all FrontPage-related directives from all of the server's `.htaccess` files.
- If the system's Apache configuration includes an installation of the `mod_frontpage` opt mod, a notification will display.

After Microsoft FrontPage is uninstalled and its files are removed, the system's FrontPage upgrade blocker will no longer block the upgrade to cPanel & WHM version 11.46.

Additional documentation

Suggested documentation For cPanel users For WHM users For developers

- Upgrade Blockers
- FrontPage
- 11.46 Release Notes about FrontPage Extensions

Error rendering macro 'contentbylabel' : parameters should not be empty

- 11.46 FrontPage Update Blocker

- cPanel API 1 Functions - FrontPage::addfp

- cPanel API 2 Functions - Frontpage::fpenabled

- cPanel API 1 Modules - FrontPage

- cPanel API 2 Modules - FrontPage

- cPanel API 2 Functions - Frontpage::list