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# Patch Detection for Security-only Quality Update and Security Monthly Quality Rollup

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**Product:** Ivanti Endpoint Security (fka HEAT Endpoint Management and Security Suite (EMSS))

**Version:** All product versions

**Summary:** This article describes how Microsoft patches are detected and displayed in Ivanti Endpoint Security. It also addresses a known patch detection issue and provides some recommended practices as a workaround. Ivanti will address this issue in a future product update. This problem cannot be corrected via a content change.

## Background

Microsoft began issuing their *Security-only Quality Updates* and their *Security Monthly Quality Rollup* in October 2016. There were supersedence issues between these two sets of patches in October through December 2016 as Microsoft rolled out the new patches and adjusted the rules. As of December 2016, the rules have remained the same.

Each month's security-only quality update patches do not supersede the previous month's patches. Each month's release is a self-contained set of patches. Each month's security monthly quality rollup supersedes the entire previous release of the rollup because it contains all the patches from the previous month. A complete description of this history is available in the [Update to Supersedence Behavior](#) blog.

This article also explains that if the security monthly quality rollup is installed (which contains the security updates), the security-only quality update will not be applicable when using Microsoft update methods. However, there is a detection issue when using Ivanti Endpoint Security.

## Detection Issues

### Security-only Quality Updates Installations

Applying the security-only quality update each month ensures you are applying the latest security patches to your systems. These patches DO NOT supersede each other and must be applied each month. If you are applying only the security-only quality update each month, the Ivanti Endpoint Security system **properly detects and displays** the applicability and installed status of all like patches. Any month's security-only quality update which was not installed will show as applicable and missing.

NOTE: The security monthly quality rollup patches will **properly display** as applicable in this situation because they contain both security and quality updates beyond what is included in the monthly security-only quality update.

## Security Monthly Quality Rollup Installations

Applying the security monthly quality rollup each month ensures you are applying the latest security patches and quality updates to your systems. These patches are cumulative month-to-month superseding all previous rollups. If you are applying the security monthly quality rollup each month, the Ivanti Endpoint Security system **properly detects and displays** the applicability and installed status of all like patches. After the current month's security monthly quality rollup is installed all previous months' rollups will show as installed and applicable.

NOTE: The security-only quality update patches will **improperly display** as applicable in this situation because the Endpoint Security detection engine does not recognize the security-only patches are included in the security monthly quality rollup.

## Recommended Practices

### Install the Security-only Quality Updates Each Month

If you are concerned about the size and overall impact of the rollup patches, you should deploy the security-only quality update every Patch Tuesday. This will ensure you address the latest vulnerabilities. The latest security-only quality update **MUST** be deployed every month or vulnerabilities will be left unfixed for the missed month(s). Ivanti Endpoint Security will **properly display** the status of your security-only quality update patches. **DO NOT** apply the security monthly quality rollup when using this recommended approach.

### Install the Security Monthly Quality Rollup

If you are concerned about getting the latest security and quality updates, patch infrequently, or if you have new systems to patch, you should deploy the security monthly quality rollup. Using this patch ensures you have the latest set of all updates. An additional benefit is they are applied in one single process. Closely monitor the impact of

this approach in your environment because this rollup will grow in size over time and may impact both network usage and the time it takes to scan and remediate your endpoints. Ivanti Endpoint Security will **properly display** the status of your security monthly quality rollup patches. DO NOT apply the security-only quality updates when using this recommended approach.

## Disable the Unused Patches

Based on the recommended practice you choose from the previous two options, you can disable the patches you are not going to deploy. This will prevent them from displaying and being accidentally deployed. In the Patch View window of Ivanti Endpoint Security, use the Search feature to display the desired patches. For example, you can search for 'Security Only' or 'Security Monthly' to display patches to disable. Once they are displayed, select the patches to disable using the checkbox and click on Disable at the top of page. Provide a reason in the Disable Content dialog box that appears. Clicking the Disable button in this dialog removes the patches from the Patch View window. If you want to see the patches again, you will have to change the filter to include Disabled patches. You should disable patches each month following the Patch Tuesday release.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What happens if I deploy both the security-only and security rollup updates?

If you have applied the latest security monthly quality rollup, your systems will be patched to the latest release and will be secure. However, it may be difficult to interpret the results shown in Ivanti Endpoint Security. The order of applying the patches and actions taken will affect the displayed results. If the security-only quality update patches are applied and the system rebooted, followed by the security monthly quality rollup being applied, Ivanti Endpoint Security will **correctly display** both as applicable and installed. As mentioned previously, if the security-only quality updates are applied after the security monthly quality rollup, the detection engine does not recognize the security-only patches are included in the security monthly quality rollup and will **incorrectly display** as applicable. Applying the two types of patches in varying orders will result in varying display results, but applying the security monthly quality rollup will result in secure systems.

### I don't understand the current patch state of my systems. What should I do?

Apply the latest security monthly quality rollup to ensure your system is fully patched. From this point forward, you can continue to apply the security monthly quality rollup

each month or you can switch back to applying the security-only quality update each month per the recommended practices previously described. However, in the latter case you should ignore all displayed results prior to the time you applied the initial security monthly quality rollup to get your systems into a known state.