



# Tenable Plugin Flaw Disrupts Nessus Agents Globally

## Description

### Tenable Nessus agents found or type unknown

Tenable has announced that customers must take the initiative to manually upgrade their software in order to restore the functionality of Nessus vulnerability scanner agents that were taken offline on December 31 due to problematic differential plugin updates.

In an [incident report](#) issued after halting plugin updates to prevent further complications, Tenable acknowledged that these agents went offline "for certain users across all locations."

This ongoing incident affects systems that were updated to Nessus Agent versions 10.8.0 and 10.8.1 across the Americas, Europe, and Asia. Tenable has subsequently removed the flawed versions and introduced Nessus Agent version 10.8.2 to rectify the issue that caused the agents to suspend operation.

According to a [recent update](#) on their status page, Tenable intends to resume the plugin feed by the day's end, allowing for plugin downloads to recommence.

"A known issue has emerged that can lead to Tenable Nessus Agent 10.8.0 and 10.8.1 going offline when a differential plugin update is initiated. To mitigate this, Tenable has disabled plugin feed updates for these two agent versions," Tenable noted in the Nessus Agent 10.8.2 release notes.

### Tenable Nessus outage (BleepingComputer)

## Manual Upgrades Essential for Restoration

Customers affected by this issue must either upgrade to agent version 10.8.2 or revert to 10.7.3 to bring their Nessus agents back online. However, if agent profiles are utilized for these changes, a plugin reset is necessary to recover those offline agents.

Moreover, restoring functionality involves manually upgrading agents using the Tenable Nessus Agent 10.8.2 install package while resetting the agent plugins as needed, either via a script or using the nessuscli reset command.

It is worth noting that a similar situation occurred in July 2024, involving a faulty CrowdStrike Falcon update that led to significant outages, impacting numerous organizations worldwide, including banks, airlines, and hospitals.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Initiative** /ɪ'nɪʃ.ə.tɪv/ (noun): The ability to assess and initiate things independently.
2. **Functionality** /fʌŋk.ʃə'næl.ɪ.ti/ (noun): The quality of being able to produce a desired or intended result.
3. **Complications** /kəm.plɪ'keɪ.ʃənz/ (noun): Difficulties that make a situation more complicated.
4. **Rectify** /'rek.tɪ.fɪ/ (verb): To put something right; to correct.
5. **Mitigate** /'mɪt.ɪ.geɪt/ (verb): To make less severe serious or painful.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. What action must customers take to restore the functionality of Nessus vulnerability scanner agents?

Option: Upgrade their software manually  
Option: Request a refund  
Option: Wait for automatic updates  
Option: Ignore the issue

2. What version of the Nessus Agent was introduced to rectify the issue that caused the agents to suspend operation?

Option: 10.7.3  
Option: 10.8.0  
Option: 10.8.1  
Option: 10.8.2

3. What regions were affected by the ongoing incident with Nessus vulnerability scanner agents?

Option: North America and Africa  
Option: Asia and Australia  
Option: Americas, Europe, and Asia  
Option: Europe and South America

4. How can customers bring their Nessus agents back online if affected by the issue?

Option: Upgrade to agent version 10.8.3  
Option: Revert to 10.7.3  
Option: Do nothing and wait



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Option: Switch to a different software

5. What method is recommended for resetting agent plugins to recover offline agents?

Option: Automated reset

Option: Manual reset using nessuscli reset command

Option: Ignore the plugins

Option: Restart the system

6. When did the known issue with Tenable Nessus Agent 10.8.0 and 10.8.1 going offline arise?

Option: December 31

Option: January 1

Option: November 30

Option: February 14

### **True-False**

7. Customers affected by the issue can resolve it by doing nothing.

8. Tenable disabled plugin feed updates for Nessus Agent versions 10.8.0 and 10.8.1 to address the issue.

9. The faulty versions of Nessus Agent were 10.8.3 and 10.8.4.

10. Restoring functionality involves automatically upgrading agents to the latest version.

11. The similar outage situation in July 2024 involved a flaw in a Microsoft update.

12. Customers should not reset agent plugins during the restoration process.

### **Gap-Fill**

13. Customers must either upgrade to agent version 10.8.2 or revert to \_\_\_\_\_ to bring

their Nessus agents back online.

14. The flawed Nessus Agent versions that went offline were \_\_\_\_\_ and

15. A similar situation involving a faulty update occurred in \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

16. Restoring functionality involves manually upgrading agents using the Tenable Nessus Agent 10.8.2 install package while resetting the agent plugins as needed, either via a \_\_\_\_\_ or using the nessuscli reset command.

17. Tenable acknowledged that the agents went offline "for certain users across all \_\_\_\_\_".

18. Tenable intends to resume the plugin feed by the day's end, allowing for plugin downloads to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Upgrade their software manually 2. 10.8.2 3. Americas, Europe, and Asia 4. Revert to 10.7.3 5. Manual reset using nessuscli reset command 6. December 31

**True-False:** 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. False 11. False 12. False

**Gap-Fill:** 13. 10.7.3 14. 10.8.0, 10.8.1 15. July 16. script 17. locations 18. recommence

## Vocabulary quizzes

### **Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. Which term refers to the action of taking the first step or move?

- Option: Functionality
- Option: Initiative
- Option: Complications
- Option: Rectify

2. Which term describes the act of looking forward or foreseeing possible outcomes?

- Option: Purported
- Option: Anticipating
- Option: Maximize
- Option: Speculation

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3. Which term best describes a person who introduces new methods or ideas?

- Option: Programmatic
- Option: Bid
- Option: Innovator
- Option: Frontrunner

4. Which term refers to the quality of being easy to approach or enter?

- Option: Multilingual
- Option: Comprehends
- Option: Accessibility
- Option: Performance

5. Which term denotes the detailed examination or study of something?

- Option: Achievement
- Option: Specifications
- Option: Analysis
- Option: Competition

6. Which term refers to the process of setting something in position for use?

- Option: Traction
- Option: Longevity
- Option: Installation
- Option: Category

7. Which term is used to describe something innovative or revolutionary?

- Option: Revenue
- Option: Groundbreaking
- Option: Bid
- Option: Analysis

8. Which term refers to the quality of being suited for a designated role or purpose?

- Option: Performance
- Option: Functionality
- Option: Maximize
- Option: Speculation

9. Which term describes the forming of a theory without firm evidence?

- Option: Instalment
- Option: Programmatic
- Option: Bid
- Option: Speculation



10. Which term refers to the quality of being trusted or believed in?

- Option: Multilingual
- Option: Traction
- Option: Credibility
- Option: Analysis

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The project faced several \_\_\_\_\_ that delayed its completion.

12. To minimize risks the company implemented strategies to \_\_\_\_\_ potential issues.

13. The goal of the business is to \_\_\_\_\_ profits while reducing operational costs.

14. Several companies submitted their \_\_\_\_\_ for the construction project.

15. Winning the award was a great \_\_\_\_\_ for the talented actress.

16. The new product gained significant \_\_\_\_\_ in the market within a short period.

17. The company aims to ensure the \_\_\_\_\_ of its products by focusing on quality.

18. The organization implemented a \_\_\_\_\_ approach to streamline its operations.

19. The products are sorted into different \_\_\_\_\_ based on their features and functions.

20. The company reported a significant increase in \_\_\_\_\_ for the current fiscal year.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The software developer had to address and correct the coding errors to the application.

22. The article discussed the benefits of the new healthcare plan.

23. The tourist guide was fluent in multiple languages making him a valuable resource for international visitors.

24. The company that introduces cutting-edge technology is often regarded as a in the industry.

25. A good teacher ensures that every student the lesson before moving on to the next topic.



26. Artists use various forms of to convey their emotions and ideas through their work.

27. Before launching the new model the engineers finalized the design for the product.

28. The intense in the industry led to companies offering innovative solutions to stand out.

29. The payment was divided into several to make it more manageable for the buyer.

30. The athlete's consistent on the field earned him a spot on the national team.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Initiative 2. Anticipating 3. Innovator 4. Accessibility 5. Analysis 6. Installation  
7. Groundbreaking 8. Functionality 9. Speculation 10. Credibility

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Complications 12. Mitigate 13. Maximize 14. Bid 15. Achievement 16. Traction 17. Longevity  
18. Programmatic 19. Category 20. Revenue

**Matching sentence:** 1. Rectify 2. Purported 3. Multilingual 4. Frontrunner 5. Comprehends 6. Expression  
7. Specifications 8. Competition 9. Instalment 10. Performance

## CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL4

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