

# Practical Threat Hunting

TOM UELTSCHI

CERT-EU 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



```
C:> whoami /all
```

- Tom Ueltschi
- Swiss Post CERT / SOC / CSIRT since 2007 (*over 12 years!*)
- Focus & Interests: Malware Analysis, Threat Intel, Threat Hunting, **Red** / **Purple** Teaming
- Member of many trust groups & infosec communities
- FIRST SIG member (malware analysis, red teaming, CTI)
- Twitter: @c\_APT\_ure

# Previous presentations including “Threat Hunting”

- “Advanced Incident Detection and Threat Hunting using Sysmon (and Splunk)”
  - BotConf 2016 (almost 3 years ago)
  - FIRST Annual Conference 2017
  - FIRST TC Amsterdam 2018
- “Hunting and Detecting APTs using Sysmon and PowerShell Logging”
  - BotConf 2018

# Previous presentations including “Threat Hunting”

My most recent area of interest has been increasing endpoint visibility using Sysinternals Sysmon and sending logs into Splunk for incident detection and threat hunting.

My first presentation was in December 2016 at BotConf:

*“Advanced Incident Detection and Threat Hunting using Sysmon (and Splunk)”*

Slides: <https://www.botconf.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/PR12-Sysmon-UELTSCHI.pdf>

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vv\\_VXntQTpE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vv_VXntQTpE)

In 2017 I gave an updated version on the same topic at the FIRST annual conference.

Slides: <https://www.first.org/resources/papers/conf2017/Advanced-Incident-Detection-and-Threat-Hunting-using-Sysmon-and-Splunk.pdf>

In April 2018 at FIRST TC Amsterdam, I gave an updated version from the FIRST 2017 talk.

Slides: [FIRST-TC-2018\\_Tom-Ueltschi\\_Sysmon\\_PUBLIC.pdf](#) (Github download)

## **!! NEW !!**

At BotConf 2018, I presented again on using Sysmon and Splunk, but also including Powershell Logging and MITRE ATT&CK as well.  
*“Hunting and Detecting APTs using Sysmon and PowerShell Logging”*

Slides: [2018-Tom-Ueltschi-Sysmon.pdf](#)

Video: *(was recorded and will be published soon)*

<https://c-apt-ure.blogspot.com/2017/12/is-this-blog-still-alive.html>

# Outline

- Introduction
- **New stuff:**
  - T1064: Scripting - **VBS Scripts**
  - T1060: Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder - **dropping VBS file in Startup**
  - T1071: Standard Application Layer Protocol - **Command and Control via DNS**

(T1234 = MITRE ATT&CK Technique #)
- **Quick review:** 3 techniques from MITRE ATT&CK
  - BotConf 2018 presentation  
**“Hunting and Detecting APTs using Sysmon and PowerShell Logging”**

# Threat Hunting with[out] (the right) data?

<https://cyberwardog.blogspot.com/2017/12/ready-to-hunt-first-show-me-your-data.html>

## Cyber Wardog Lab

Friday, December 15, 2017

by Roberto Rodriguez

Ready to hunt? First, Show me your data!

Home

Ready to hunt?

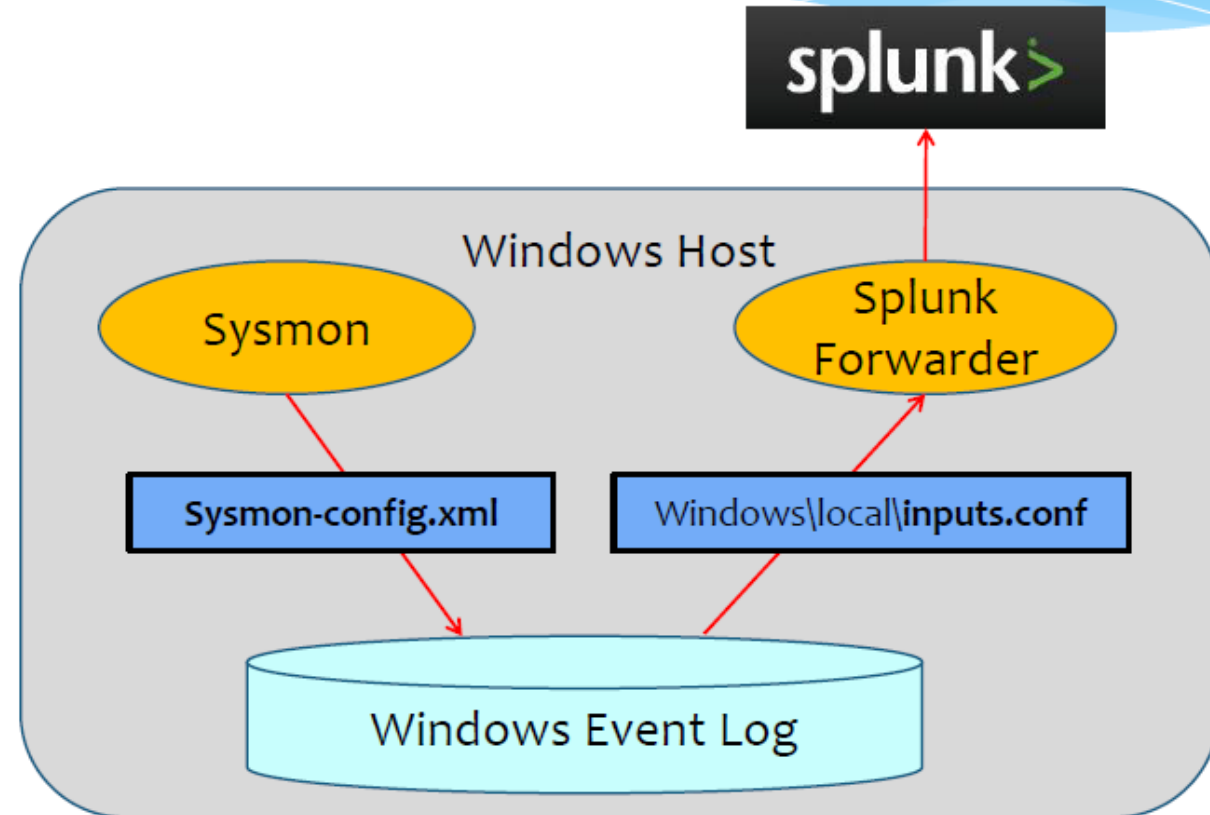
First, show me your data!



# Our setup

- ~25'000 hosts
- ~150 GB/day
- Event logs
  - Windows
  - Sysmon
  - Powershell

## Sysmon / Splunk Deployment





# Data Sources & Event Logs

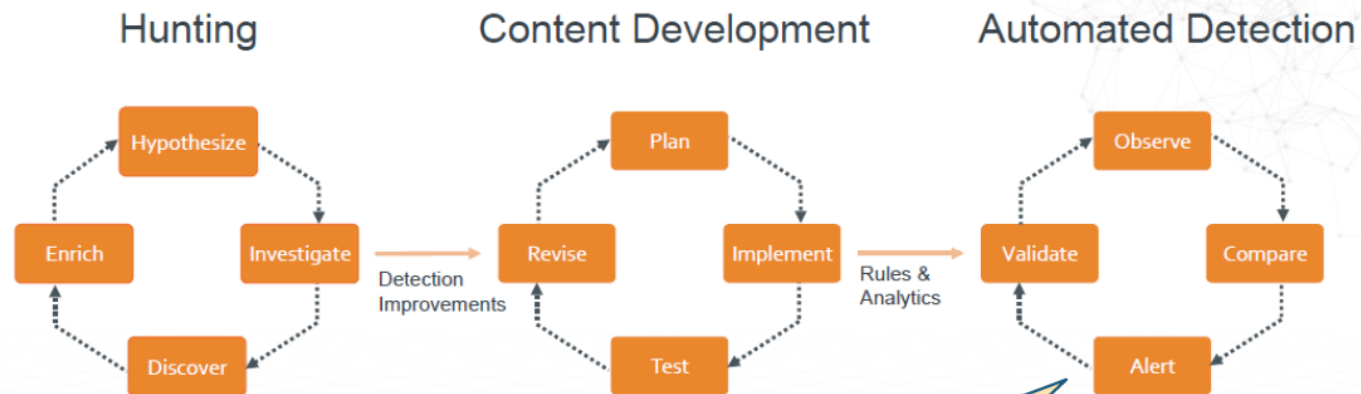
- Sysmon
- PowerShell ScriptBlock Logging
- Windows Event Logs
- Network
  - DNS, Web Proxy, Netflow, Firewalls



# Threat Hunting → Automated Detection

## Sqrrl on Threat Hunting

### SOC Detection Processes ("Loops")



Most examples are belong to here

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# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for 'The ThreatHunter-Playbook'. The URL in the browser is 'github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter-Playbook'. The repository title is 'The ThreatHunter-Playbook'. Below the title, there are buttons for 'launch binder', 'License GPLv3', 'Follow' (with 1.2k followers), and 'Open Source'. The repository features a logo of a dog wearing a cap and a soccer ball, with a sign that says 'THREAT HUNTER Playbook'.

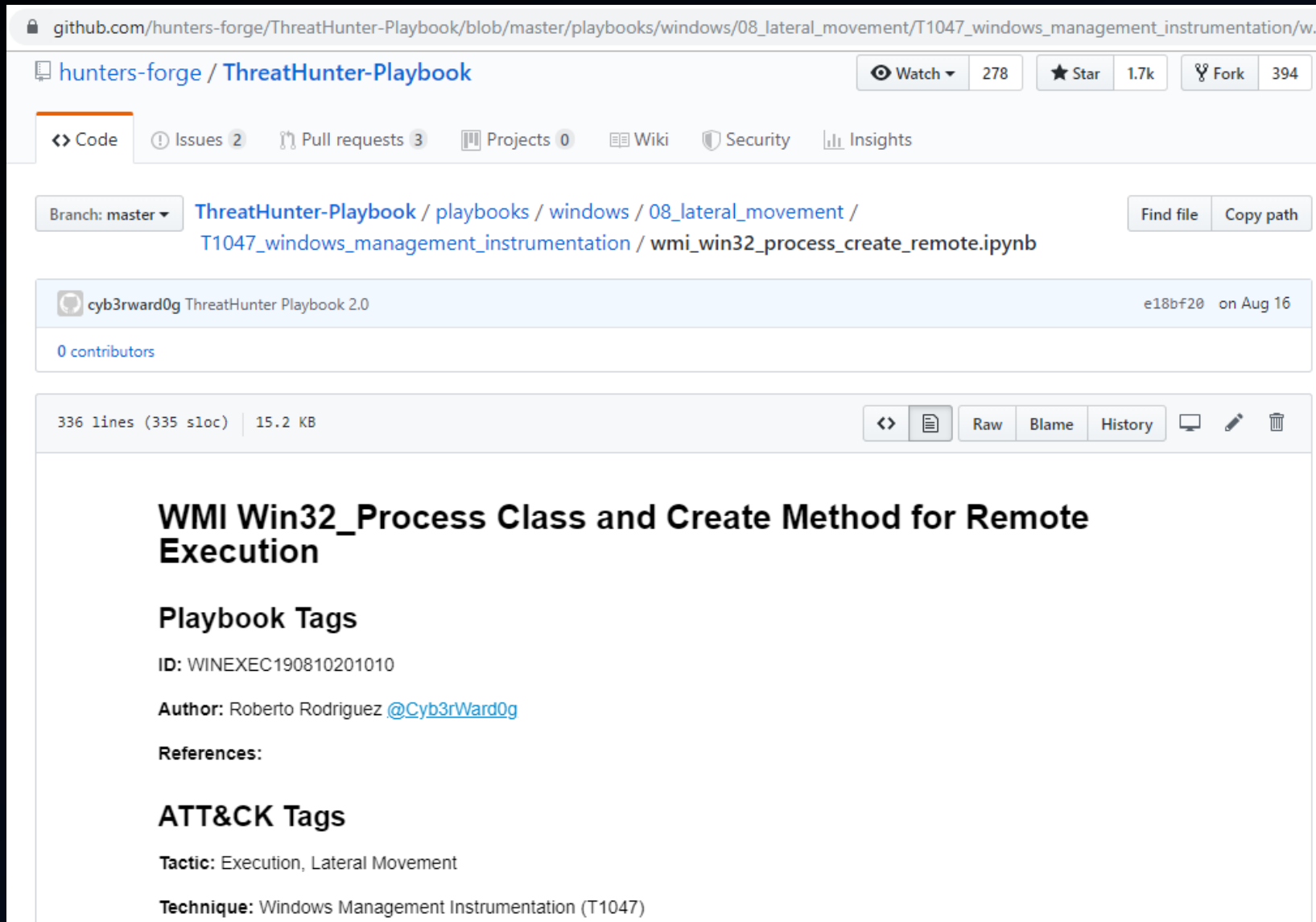
## Goals

- Expedite the development of techniques and hypothesis for hunting campaigns.
- Help Threat Hunters understand patterns of behavior observed during post-exploitation.
- Reduce the number of false positives while hunting by providing more context around suspicious events.
- Share real-time analytics validation examples through cloud computing environments for free.
- Distribute Threat Hunting concepts and processes around the world for free.
- Map pre-recorded datasets to adversarial techniques.

## Author

- Roberto Rodriguez @Cyb3rWard0g
- Jose Luis Rodriguez @Cyb3rPandaH

# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (Playbook)



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook'. The repository has 278 watchers, 1.7k stars, and 394 forks. The current view is for a file named 'wmi\_win32\_process\_create\_remote.ipynb' located at the path 'playbooks / windows / 08\_lateral\_movement / T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation /'. The file was committed by 'cyb3rward0g' on August 16, 2018, with commit hash 'e18bf20'. The file is 15.2 KB and contains 336 lines of code (335 sloc). The file's content is displayed as a JSON object with the following fields:

- WMI Win32\_Process Class and Create Method for Remote Execution**
- Playbook Tags**
  - ID: WINEXEC190810201010
  - Author: Roberto Rodriguez @Cyb3rWard0g
  - References:
- ATT&CK Tags**
  - Tactic: Execution, Lateral Movement
  - Technique: Windows Management Instrumentation (T1047)

# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (Playbook)

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook'. The URL is 'github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter-Playbook/blob/master/playbooks/windows/08\_lateral\_movement/T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation/w...'. The repository has 278 watches, 1.7k stars, and 394 forks. The page displays the 'Code' tab for a file named 'WMI Win32\_Process Execution'. The file size is 15.2 KB and it contains 336 lines of code. The 'Technical Description' section explains that WMI is the Microsoft implementation of WBEM and CIM, and that a lateral movement technique is performed via the WMI object class Win32\_Process and its method Create. It notes that the Create method allows a user to create a process either locally or remotely, and that when used on a remote system, the process is run under a host process named 'Wmiprvse.exe'. The description also mentions that the process WmiprvSE.exe is what spawns the process defined in the CommandLine parameter of the Create method, and that the new process created remotely will have Wmiprvse.exe as a parent. It further states that WmiprvSE.exe is a DCOM server and is spawned underneath the DCOM service host svchost.exe with the following parameters: C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost.exe -k DcomLaunch -p. From a logon session perspective, on the target, WmiprvSE.exe is spawned in a different logon session by the DCOM service host. However, whatever is executed by WmiprvSE.exe occurs on the new network type (3) logon session created by the user that authenticated from the network. The 'Additional Reading' section includes a link to 'Logon Session'.

github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter-Playbook/blob/master/playbooks/windows/08\_lateral\_movement/T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation/w...

hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook

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Code Issues 2 Pull requests

Branch: master ThreatHunter-Playbook T1047\_windows\_m

cyb3rward0g ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0

0 contributors

336 lines (335 sloc) 15.2 KB

## WMI Win32\_Process Execution

### Playbook Tags

ID: WINEXEC190810201

Author: Roberto Rodriguez

References:

### ATT&CK Tags

Tactic: Execution, Lateral

Technique: Windows Ma

## Technical Description

WMI is the Microsoft implementation of the Web-Based Enterprise Management (WBEM) and Common Information Model (CIM). Both standards aim to provide an industry-agnostic means of collecting and transmitting information related to any managed component in an enterprise. An example of a managed component in WMI would be a running process, registry key, installed service, file information, etc. At a high level, Microsoft's implementation of these standards can be summarized as follows: Managed Components Managed components are represented as WMI objects — class instances representing highly structured operating system data. Microsoft provides a wealth of WMI objects that communicate information related to the operating system. E.g. Win32\_Process, Win32\_Service, AntiVirusProduct, Win32\_StartupCommand, etc.

One well known lateral movement technique is performed via the WMI object — class Win32\_Process and its method Create. This is because the Create method allows a user to create a process either locally or remotely. One thing to notice is that when the Create method is used on a remote system, the method is run under a host process named "Wmiprvse.exe".

The process WmiprvSE.exe is what spawns the process defined in the CommandLine parameter of the Create method. Therefore, the new process created remotely will have Wmiprvse.exe as a parent. WmiprvSE.exe is a DCOM server and it is spawned underneath the DCOM service host svchost.exe with the following parameters C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost.exe -k DcomLaunch -p.

From a logon session perspective, on the target, WmiprvSE.exe is spawned in a different logon session by the DCOM service host. However, whatever is executed by WmiprvSE.exe occurs on the new network type (3) logon session created by the user that authenticated from the network.

### Additional Reading

- [Logon Session](#)

# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (Playbook)

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook'. The specific file being viewed is 'playbooks/windows/08\_lateral\_movement/T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation/w...'. The page includes navigation tabs for Code, Issues (2), and Pull requests (3). The repository has 278 watches, 1.7k stars, and 394 forks. The main content area displays the title 'WMI Win32\_Process Execution' and its tags: ID: WINEXEC190810201010, Author: Roberto Rodriguez (@Cyb3rv), and Technique: Windows Management In... The page also features a 'Hypothesis' section, an 'Attack Simulation Dataset' table, and a 'Recommended Data Sources' table.

## Hypothesis

Adversaries might be leveraging WMI Win32\_Process class and method create to execute code remotely across my environment.

## Attack Simulation Dataset

Environment	Name	Description
<a href="#">Shire</a>	<a href="#">empire_invoke_wmi</a>	A morder dataset to simulate the use of of WMI Win32_Process class and method Create to execute code remotely
<a href="#">Shire</a>	<a href="#">empire_wmic_add_user_backdoor</a>	A morder dataset to simulate the use of of WMI Win32_Process class and method Create to execute code remotely
<a href="#">Shire</a>	<a href="#">empire_invoke_wmi_debugger</a>	A morder dataset to simulate the use of of WMI Win32_Process class and method Create to execute code remotely

## Recommended Data Sources

Event ID	Event Name	Log Provider	Audit Category	Audit Sub-Category	ATT&CK Data Source
<a href="#">4688</a>	A new process has been created	Microsoft-Windows-Security-Auditing	Detailed Tracking	Process Creation	Windows Event Logs
<a href="#">4624</a>	An account was successfully logged on	Microsoft-Windows-Security-Auditing	Audit Logon/Logoff	Audit Logon	Windows Event Logs
<a href="#">1</a>	Process Creation	Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon			Process Monitoring

## WMI Win32\_Process Execution

### Playbook Tags

ID: WINEXEC190810201010

Author: Roberto Rodriguez [@Cyb3rv](#)

References:

### ATT&CK Tags

Tactic: Execution, Lateral Movement

Technique: Windows Management In



# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (Playbook)

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook'. The URL is 'github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter-Playbook/blob/master/playbooks/windows/08\_lateral\_movement/T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation/w...'. The repository has 278 watches, 1.7k stars, and 394 forks. The current branch is 'master'. The file being viewed is 'ThreatHunter-Playbook 2' by 'cyb3rward0g', with 0 contributors. The file size is 15.2 KB and it contains 336 lines (335 sloc). The file content is a playbook titled 'Data Analytics' with the following sections and code:

```
Data Analytics  
  
Initialize Analytics Engine  
  
In [1]: from openhunt.logparser import winlogbeat  
from pyspark.sql import SparkSession  
  
In [2]: win = winlogbeat()  
spark = SparkSession.builder.appName("Mordor").config("spark.sql.caseSensitive", "True").getOrCreate()  
print(spark)  
<pyspark.sql.session.SparkSession object at 0x7f0f4640ffd0>  
  
Prepare & Process Mordor File  
  
In [3]: mordor_file = win.extract_nested_fields("mordor/small_datasets/empire_wmic_add_user_2019-05-18231333.js  
n", spark)  
[+] Processing a Spark DataFrame..  
[+] Reading Mordor file..  
[+] Processing Data from Winlogbeat version 6..  
[+] DataFrame Returned !  
  
Register Mordor DataFrame as a SQL temporary view  
  
In [4]: mordor_file.createOrReplaceTempView("mordor_file")
```

**WMI Win32\_Execution**  
**Playbook Tags**  
ID: WINEXEC19081020  
Author: Roberto Rodriguez  
References:  
**ATT&CK Tags**  
Tactic: Execution, Lateral Movement  
Technique: Windows Management

# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (Playbook)

github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter

hunters-forge / ThreatHunter

<> Code Issues 2 Pull requests

Branch: master ThreatHunter-Playbook T1047\_windows\_m

cyb3rward0g ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0

0 contributors

336 lines (335 sloc) | 15.2 KB

## WMI Win32\_F Execution

### Playbook Tags

ID: WINEXEC1908102010

Author: Roberto Rodriguez

References:

### ATT&CK Tags

Tactic: Execution, Lateral

Technique: Windows Man

## Validate Analytic II

FP Rate	Source	Analytic Logic	Description
Medium	Sysmon	SELECT @timestamp, computer_name, User, Image, CommandLine FROM mordor_file WHERE channel = "Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" AND event_id = 1 AND lower(ParentImage) LIKE "%wmiprvse.exe" AND NOT LogonId = "0x3e7"	Look for wmiprvse.exe spawning processes that are part of non-system account sessions.

```
In [6]: sysmon_process_df = spark.sql(
...
SELECT `@timestamp`, computer_name, User, Image, CommandLine
FROM mordor_file
WHERE channel = "Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
AND event_id = 1
AND lower(ParentImage) LIKE "%wmiprvse.exe"
AND NOT LogonId = "0x3e7"
...
)
sysmon_process_df.show(10, False)
```

```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|@timestamp|computer_name|User|Image|CommandLine|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|2019-05-18T23:14:57.079Z|IT001.shire.com|SHIRE\pgustavo|C:\Windows\System32\net.exe|net user /add backdoor paw0rd1|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```



# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (Playbook)

github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter-Playbook/blob/master/playbooks/windows/08\_lateral\_movement/T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation/w...

hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook

Watch 278 Star 1.7k Fork 394

Code Issues 2 Pull requests 3

Branch: master ThreatHunter-Playbook / playbooks / T1047\_windows\_management\_instrumentation

cyb3rward0g ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0

0 contributors

336 lines (335 sloc) | 15.2 KB

## WMI Win32\_Process Creation Execution

### Playbook Tags

ID: WINEXEC190810201010

Author: Roberto Rodriguez @Cyb3rWard0g

References:

### ATT&CK Tags

Tactic: Execution, Lateral Movement

Technique: Windows Management Instrumentation (T1047)

## Detection Blind Spots

## Hunter Notes

- Stack the child processes of wmiprvse.exe in your environment. This is very helpful to reduce the number of false positive and understand your environment. You can categorize the data returned by business unit.
- Look for wmiprvse.exe spawning new processes that are part of a network type logon session.
- Enrich events with Network Logon events (4624 - Logon Type 3)

## Hunt Output

Category	Type	Name
Signature	Sigma Rule	<a href="#">sysmon_wmiprvse_spawning_process.yml</a>
Signature	Sigma Rule	<a href="#">win_wmiprvse_spawning_process.yml</a>

## References

- <https://posts.specterops.io/threat-hunting-with-jupyter-notebooks-part-4-sql-join-via-apache-sparksql-6630928c931e>
- <https://posts.specterops.io/real-time-sysmon-processing-via-ksql-and-helk-part-3-basic-use-case-8fbf383cb54f>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiaPeXEn5\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiaPeXEn5_E)

# The ThreatHunter Playbook Project (SIGMA Rules)

github.com/hunters-forge/ThreatHunter-Playbook/tree/master/signatures/sigma

hunters-forge / ThreatHunter-Playbook

Watch 278 Star 1.7k Fork 394

Code Issues 2 Pull requests 3 Projects 0 Wiki Security Insights

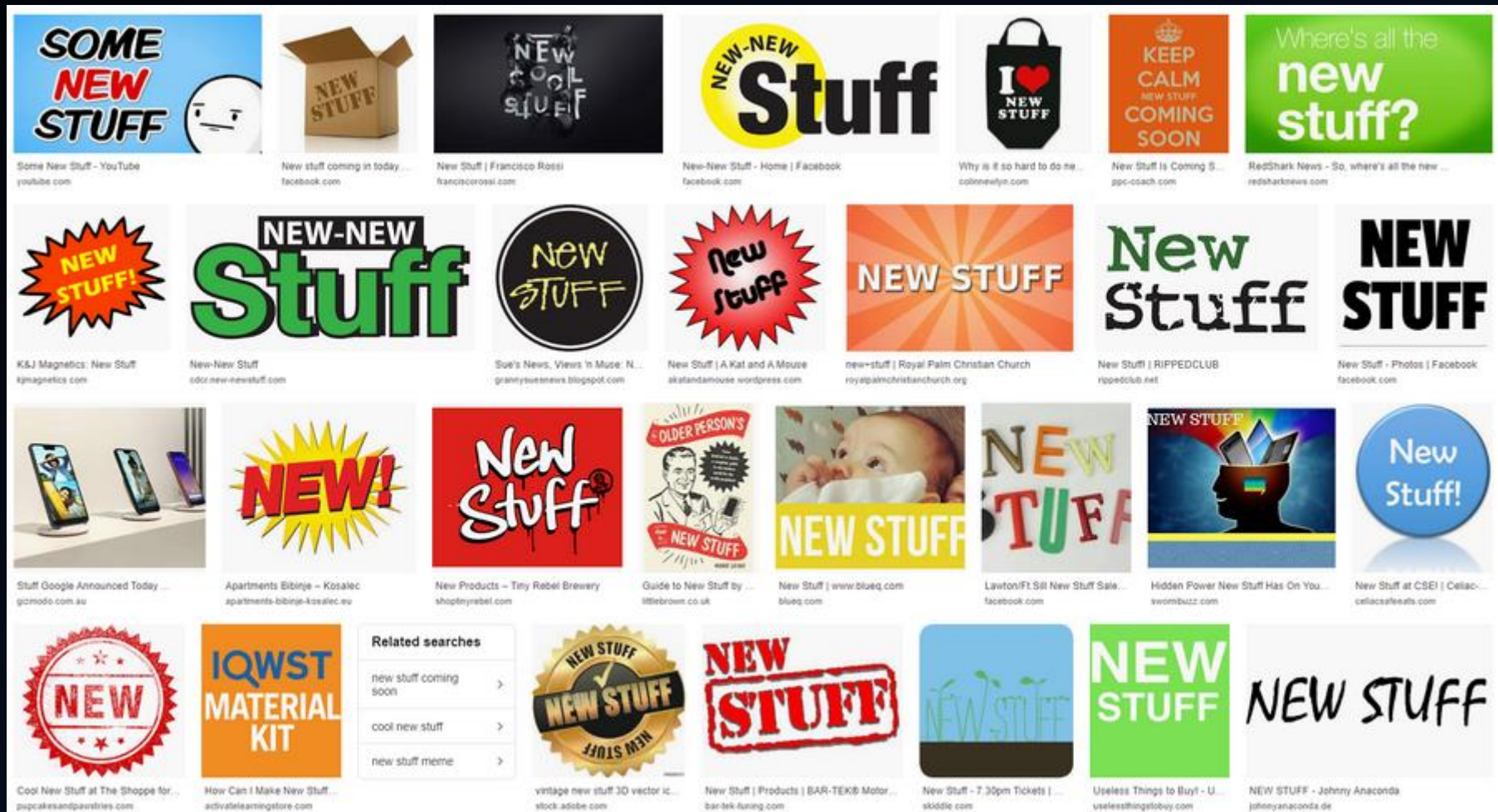
Branch: master ThreatHunter-Playbook / signatures / sigma /

Create new file Upload files Find file History

cyb3rward0g ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0 Latest commit e18bf20 on Aug 16

<a href="#">powershell_alternate_powershell_hosts.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_ad_object_writedac_access.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">powershell_remote_powershell_session.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_ad_replication_non_machine_account.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_alternate_powershell_hosts_moduleload.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_ad_replication_user_backdoor.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_alternate_powershell_hosts_pipe.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_dpapi_domain_backupkey_extraction.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_createremotethread_loadlibrary.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_dpapi_domain_masterkey_backup_attempt.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_non_interactive_powershell_execution.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_lsass_access_non_system_account.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_powershell_execution_moduleload.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_non_interactive_powershell.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_powershell_execution_pipe.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_protected_storage_service_access.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_rdp_registry_modification.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_remote_powershell_session.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_remote_powershell_session_network.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_sam_registry_hive_dump_via_reg_utility.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_remote_powershell_session_process.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_sam_registry_hive_handle_request.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_wdigest_registry_modification.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_scm_database_handle_failure.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_wmi_module_load.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_scm_database_privileged_operation.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
<a href="#">sysmon_wmiprvse_spawning_process.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0	<a href="#">win_syskey_registry_access.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0
		<a href="#">win_wmiprvse_spawning_process.yml</a>	ThreatHunter Playbook 2.0

# Outline – New Stuff



# Outline – New Stuff

- T1064 - Scripting  
VBS Scripts

## Scripting

Adversaries may use scripts to aid in operations and perform multiple actions that would otherwise be manual. Scripting is useful for speeding up operational tasks and reducing the time required to gain access to critical resources. Some scripting languages may be used to bypass process monitoring mechanisms by directly interacting with the operating system at an API level instead of calling other programs. Common scripting languages for Windows include VBScript and PowerShell but could also be in the form of command-line batch scripts.

Scripts can be embedded inside Office documents as macros that can be set to execute when files used in Spearphishing Attachment and other types of spearphishing are opened.

Malicious embedded macros are an alternative means of execution than software exploitation through Exploitation for Client Execution, where adversaries will rely on macros being allowed or that the user will accept to activate them.

ID: T1064

Tactic: Defense Evasion, Execution

Platform: Linux, macOS, Windows

Permissions Required: User

Data Sources: Process monitoring, File monitoring, Process command-line parameters

Defense Bypassed: Process whitelisting, Data Execution Prevention, Exploit Prevention

Version: 1.0



# Outline – New Stuff

- T1064 - Scripting  
VBS Scripts

## Scripting

Adversaries may use scripts to aid in operations and perform tasks that otherwise be manual. Scripting is useful for speeding up operations and the time required to gain access to critical resources. Some scripts can be used to bypass process monitoring mechanisms by directly interacting with the system API level instead of calling other programs. Common scripting languages include VBScript and PowerShell but could also be in the form of

Scripts can be embedded inside Office documents as macros or as files used in Spearphishing Attachment and other types of attacks. Malicious embedded macros are an alternative means of execution through Exploitation for Client Execution, where adversaries may trick the user or that the user will accept to activate them.

## Procedure Examples

Name	Description
JCry	JCry has used VBS scripts. [61]
JHUHUGIT	JHUHUGIT uses a .bat file to execute a .dll. [27]
jRAT	jRAT has been distributed as HTA files with VBScript+JScript. [54]
Ke3chang	Ke3chang has used batch scripts in its malware to install persistence mechanisms. [95]
KeyBoy	KeyBoy uses Python and VBS scripts for installing files and performing execution. [60]
Keydnab	Keydnab uses Python for scripting to execute additional commands. [22]
Koadic	Koadic performs most of its operations using Windows Script Host (Jscript and VBScript) and runs arbitrary shellcode. [8]
Lazarus Group	A Destover-like variant used by Lazarus Group uses a batch file mechanism to delete its binaries from the system. [13]
Leafminer	Leafminer infected victims using JavaScript code. [90]
Leviathan	Leviathan has used multiple types of scripting for execution, including JavaScript, JavaScript Scriptlets in XML, and VBScript. [31]
Magic Hound	Magic Hound malware has used .vbs scripts for execution. [68]
menuPass	menuPass has used malicious macros embedded inside Office documents to execute files. [78] [79]
MoonWind	MoonWind uses batch scripts for various purposes, including to restart and uninstall itself. [11]
MuddyWater	MuddyWater has used VBScript and JavaScript files to execute its POWERSTATS payload. MuddyWater has also used Microsoft scriptlets, macros, and PowerShell scripts. [69] [70] [71] [72] [21]
NanHaiShu	NanHaiShu executes additional Jscript and VBScript code on the victim's machine. [33]
NanoCore	NanoCore uses VBS and JavaScript files. [29]
NavRAT	NavRAT loads malicious shellcode and executes it in memory. [36]
OceanSalt	OceanSalt has been executed via malicious macros. [41]
OilRig	OilRig has used various types of scripting for execution, including .bat and .vbs scripts. The group has also used macros to deliver malware such as QUADAGENT and OopsIE. [75] [76] [25] [18] [77]
OopsIE	OopsIE creates and uses a VBScript as part of its persistent execution. [25] [26]

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- VBS based Malware & RAT families
  - vjWorm
  - H-Worm / Houdini RAT
  - WSH-RAT (let's call it "Wish-RAT")
- Persistence methods using VBS scripts
  - Dropping VBS to Startup Folder ----->
  - Dropping URL file to Startup Folder calling VBS
  - Used by many Malware families
    - NanoCore RAT
    - NetWire RAT
    - AdWind / JBifrost
    - ...

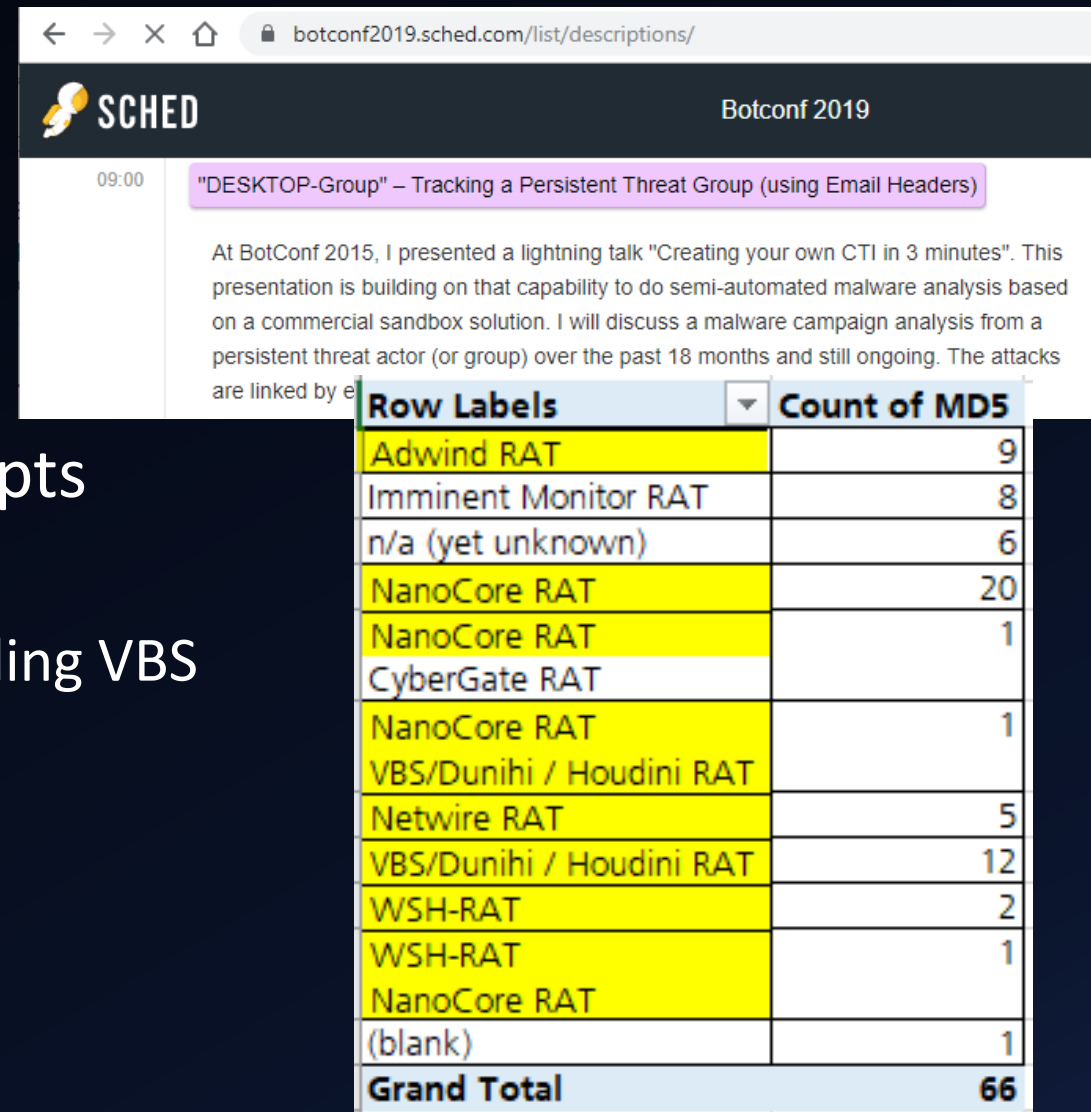
```
2 AveMaria_infostealer
30 crime_TrojanPSWFareit_mem

28 memstr_HawkEye_Keylogger
1 memstr_Predator_Pain
36 memstr_rat_houdini
85 memstr_rat_nanocore
38 memstr_rat_remc0s
6 memstr_rat_wshrat

1 pcap_java_rat_Luminosity_Link_p4ck3t
120 pcap_java_rat_adwind_JBifrost
11 pcap_rat_Revenge_RAT
16 pcap_rat_netwire
```

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- VBS based Malware & RAT families
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  - Used by many Malware families
    - NanoCore RAT
    - NetWire RAT
    - AdWind / JBifrost
    - ...



09:00 "DESKTOP-Group" – Tracking a Persistent Threat Group (using Email Headers)

At BotConf 2015, I presented a lightning talk "Creating your own CTI in 3 minutes". This presentation is building on that capability to do semi-automated malware analysis based on a commercial sandbox solution. I will discuss a malware campaign analysis from a persistent threat actor (or group) over the past 18 months and still ongoing. The attacks are linked by e

Row Labels	Count of MD5
Adwind RAT	9
Imminent Monitor RAT	8
n/a (yet unknown)	6
NanoCore RAT	20
NanoCore RAT	1
CyberGate RAT	
NanoCore RAT	1
VBS/Dunihi / Houdini RAT	
Netwire RAT	5
VBS/Dunihi / Houdini RAT	12
WSH-RAT	2
WSH-RAT	1
NanoCore RAT	
(blank)	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>66</b>



# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- vjWorm  
[\[JBX report link\]](#)

The screenshot shows the JoeSandbox Cloud interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays 'joesandbox.com/analysis/99489/0/html'. The page title is 'JoeSandbox Cloud BASIC'. A navigation menu includes 'Overview', 'Startup', 'Dropped', 'Domains / IPs', 'Static', 'Network', 'Hooks', 'Stats', 'Behavior', and 'Disassembly'. The main content area shows 'Analysis Process: wscript.exe PID: 3924 Parent PID: 4764'. Below this, a search bar contains the text '"Coded by v\_B01"'. The search results show 'About 248 results (0.23 seconds)'. A search result is highlighted with a green bar, showing the title '[PDF] Automated Malware Analysis Report for Colis-1.vbs - Joe ...' and the URL 'https://www.joesandbox.com > analysis > pdf'. Below the title, the date 'Dec 23, 2018' and a long alphanumeric string are visible. The file content preview shows 'Coded by v\_B01.'. Below the search results, a 'File Written' event is shown with a table of details.

File Path	Offset	Length	Value	Ascii	Completion	Count	Source Address	Symbol
C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Colis-1.vbs	0	11723	27 20 43 6f 64 65 64 20 62 79 20 76	'Coded by v_B01..On error resume next...j =	success or wait	1	7395A6D2	CopyFileW

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- vjWorm  
[\[JBX report link\]](#)

The screenshot shows the JoeSandbox Cloud interface for an analysis of wscript.exe. The process path is C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe, running as a Wow64 process. The commandline shows it executed 'C:\Windows\System32\WScript.exe' with a VBS script on the desktop. Two file written events are highlighted with red boxes, both showing the same VBS script being written to different locations in the user's AppData directory. The script content is 'Coded by v\_B01..On error resume next...j = array(ChrW(87) &'. A table at the bottom right shows a completion event for 'CopyFileW'.

Path:	C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe
Wow64 process (32bit):	true
Commandline:	'C:\Windows\System32\WScript.exe' 'C:\Users\user\Desktop\Colis-1.vbs'

File Path	Offset	Length	Value	Ascii
C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Colis-1.vbs	0	11723	27 20 43 6f 64 65 64 20 62 79 20 76 5f 42 30 31 0d 0a	' Coded by v_B01..On error resume next...j = array(ChrW(87) &
C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs	0	11723	27 20 43 6f 64 65 64 20 62 79 20 76 5f 42 30 31 0d 0a 4f 6e 20	' Coded by v_B01..On error resume next...j = array(ChrW(87) &

Completion	Count	Source Address	Symbol
success or wait	1	7395A6D2	CopyFileW

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

## Persistence and Installation Behavior:

### Windows Shell Script Host drops VBS files

Source: C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe	File created: C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Colis-1.vbs
Source: C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe	File created: C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs

## Boot Survival:

### Drops VBS files to the startup folder

Source: C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe	File created: C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs
Source: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe	File created: C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs
Source: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe	File created: C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs

### Uses schtasks.exe or at.exe to add and modify task schedules

### Creates a start menu entry (Start Menu\Programs\Startup)

Source: C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe	File created: C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs
---	---

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- Persistence methods using VBS scripts
  - Dropping URL file to Startup Folder calling VBS

```
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\fglLK3rQ.url</path>
2019-08-25_7/dropped/fglLK3rQ.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/lukeytaylor/AppData/Roaming/WIN45/kI4Rg6US.vbs
--
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\lsr5BcvD.url</path>
2019-08-29_3/dropped/lsr5BcvD.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/lukeytaylor/AppData/Roaming/L2Schemas/O5tGbHD7.vbs
--
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\F1Grb228.url</path>
2019-09-08_9/dropped/F1Grb228.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/lukeytaylor/AppData/Roaming/Downloaded Program Files/3DwqH24f.vbs
--
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\4W08Xh2V.url</path>
2019-09-10_30/dropped/4W08Xh2V.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/LUKETA~1/AppData/Local/Temp/servicing/c3vLf44c.vbs
```

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- Persistence methods using VBS scripts
  - Dropping URL file to Startup Folder calling VBS

```
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\fglLK3rQ.url</path>
2019-08-25_7/dropped/fglLK3rQ.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/lukeytaylor/AppData/Roaming/WIN45/ki4Rg6US.vbs
```

```
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\lsr5BcvD.url</path>
2019-08-29_3/dropped/lsr5BcvD.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/lukeytaylor/AppData/Roaming/L2Schemas/O5tGbHD7.vbs
--
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\F1Grb228.url</path>
2019-09-08_9/dropped/F1Grb228.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/lukeytaylor/AppData/Roaming/Downloaded Program Files/3DwqH24f.vbs
--
<path>C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\4W08Xh2V.url</path>
2019-09-10_30/dropped/4W08Xh2V.url.0.dr
[InternetShortcut]
URL=file:///C:/Users/LUKETA~1/AppData/Local/Temp/servicing/c3vLf44c.vbs
```

# Why should I care about VBS scripts?

- Persistence methods using VBS scripts
  - Dropping VBS to Startup Folder
    - 8 vbs-startup-folder\_nanocore
    - 5 vbs-startup-folder\_netwire
  - Dropping URL file to Startup Folder calling VBS
    - 32 url-startup-folder\_nanocore
    - 7 url-startup-folder\_netwire
  - NanoCore and NetWire samples analyzed in 2019
    - 176 2019-samples-nanocore
    - 69 2019-samples-netwire



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe")
4 | rex field=CommandLine ".*\\\\\\(?:<VbsFilename_NoPath>[^\\\\:]*\\.([cCvVwW][bBmMsS][aAdDeEfFhHsS]|[jJ][sS]))[^a-zA-Z].*"
5 | rex field=VbsFilename_NoPath ".*\\.(<VbsFilename_Ext>[a-zA-Z]{2,3})"
6 | eval VbsFilename_Ext=lower(VbsFilename_Ext)
7 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\(?:<Image_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
8 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\\\(?:<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
9 | eval len_filename = len(VbsFilename_NoPath)
10 | search VbsFilename_NoPath!="Lohn Tabelle1.xlsx *.vbs"
11 | stats
12   dc(VbsFilename_NoPath)
13   dc(Image_fn)
14   dc(ParentImage_fn)
15   dc(CommandLine) AS CmdLines
16   dc(ComputerName) AS Clients
17   count by VbsFilename_Ext
18 | sort -count
```

✓ 2,857,354 events (7/1/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/22/19 12:00:00.000 AM) No Event Sampling Job

> 90 days → 2.8M events from > 25K endpoints (= all)



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe")
4 | rex field=CommandLine ".*\\\\\\(?<VbsFilename_NoPath>[^\\\\\\:]*\\.([cCvVwW][bBmMsS][aAdDeEfFhHsS]|[jJ][sS]))[^a-zA-Z].*"
5 | rex field=VbsFilename_NoPath ".*\\. (?<VbsFilename_Ext>[a-zA-Z]{2,3})"
6 | eval VbsFilename_Ext=lower(VbsFilename_Ext)
7 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\(?<Image_fn>[^\\\\\\:]*\\.*)"
8 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\\\(?<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\\\:]*\\.*)"
```

VbsFilename_Ext	dc(VbsFilename_NoPath)	dc(Image_fn)	dc(ParentImage_fn)	CmdLines	Clients	count
vbs	4352	2	62	33687	25781	2849468
wsf	9	2	7	36	99	5073
js	29	2	15	353	217	1652
cmd	4	2	2	12	88	1148
vbe	1	2	2	6	2	13

✓ 2,857,354 events (7/1/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/22/19 12:00:00.000 AM)

No Event Sampling

Job

> 90 days → 2.8M events from > 25K endpoints (= all)

# Parent - Child Relationship



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (ChildProcess)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (ParentImage="*\\cscript.exe" OR ParentImage="*\\wscript.exe")
4 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\\\(?<Image_fn>[^\\\\\\\\]*)"
5 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\\\\\(?<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\\\\\]*)"
6 | stats
7   dc(CommandLine) AS CmdLines
8   dc(ComputerName) AS Clients
9   count by ParentImage_fn Image_fn
10 | sort -count
```

✓ 2,530,634 events (10/14/19 1:00:00.000 AM to 10/21/19 1:09:53.000 AM) No Event Sampling ▾

- Extract Image filename
- Extract ParentImage filename

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (ChildProcess)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (ParentImage="*\\cscript.exe" OR ParentImage="*\\wscript.exe")
4 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\\\(?<Image_fn>[^\\\\\\\\]*)"
5 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\\\\\(?<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\\\\\]*)"
6 | stats
```

ParentImage_fn	Image_fn	CmdLines	Clients	count
cscript.exe	powershell.exe	5070	21641	497514
cscript.exe	WinHTTPproxy2MIF.exe	2493	21626	125796
cscript.exe	LocalPowerUsers2MIF.exe	2493	21623	125792
cscript.exe	Zebra2MIF.exe	2493	21624	125779
cscript.exe	UserProfileInfo2MIF.exe	2491	21601	125060
cscript.exe	HBAWWN2MIF.exe	2491	21603	125041

- Powershell most frequently executed from VBS scripts
- \*\*2MIF.exe all have almost equal numbers, look related (legit)

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (ChildProcess)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (ParentImage="*\\cscript.exe" OR ParentImage="*\\wscript.exe")
4 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\\\(?<Image_fn>[^\\\\\\\\]*)"
5 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\\\\\(?<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\\\\\]*)"
6 | stats
```

ParentImage_fn	Image_fn	CmdLines	Clients	count
cscript.exe	powershell.exe	5070	21641	497514
ParentImage_fn	Image_fn	CmdLines	Clients	count
cscript.exe	Uedit32.exe	1	1	1
cscript.exe	msiexec.exe	1	1	1
cscript.exe	regsvr32.exe	1	1	1
cscript.exe	rundll32.exe	1	1	1
wscript.exe	regsvr32.exe	1	1	1
cscript.exe	ovconfget.exe	25	2	301
wscript.exe	mstsc.exe	32	2	126

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (ChildProcess)

Time	Event
10/17/19	10/17/2019 02:33:01 PM
2:33:01.000 PM	LogName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational SourceName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon EventCode=1 EventType=4 Type=Information

```
Image: C:\Windows\System32\regsvr32.exe
FileVersion: 10.0.17763.1 (WinBuild.160101.0800)
Description: Microsoft(C) Register Server
Product: Microsoft® Windows® Operating System
Company: Microsoft Corporation
CommandLine: "C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32\regsvr32.exe" \\[redacted]\package-development\Tools\Packaging\Scripts\Dll\Guid.dll /s
CurrentDirectory: \\[redacted]\Package-Development\Appl\WXX\Common\SAP-CRYSTALREPORTS-RUNTIME\2008.3\
```

```
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\WINDOWS\System32\WScript.exe" "\\[redacted]\Package-Development\Tools\Packaging\Scripts\AddSetting
sToMsiScript.vbs" "\\[redacted]\package-development\Appl\WXX\Common\SAP-CRYSTALREPORTS-RUNTIME\2008.3\001\SAP-CRYSTALREP
ORTS-RUNTIME_2008.3_C_001.msi"
```

```
TerminalSessionId: 1
IntegrityLevel: Medium
Hashes: MD5=DA0E9A7777D16AE18BD9C642A9F42223,IMPHASH=0235FF9A007804882636BCCCFB4D1A2F
ParentProcessGuid: {790d6656-5f7c-5da8-0000-0010f0258b06}
ParentProcessId: 11596
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\WINDOWS\System32\WScript.exe" "\\h058L5\Package-Development\Tools\Packaging\Scripts\AddSetting
sToMsiScript.vbs" "\\h058L5\package-development\Appl\WXX\Common\SAP-CRYSTALREPORTS-RUNTIME\2008.3\001\SAP-CRYSTALREP
ORTS-RUNTIME_2008.3_C_001.msi"
```

[Collapse](#)



# Measure Length



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (filename length)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe") CommandLine="*\\Users\\*"
4 | rex field=CommandLine ".*\\\\\\(?<VbsFilename_NoPath>[^\\\\:]*\.[cCvVwW][bBmMsS][aAdDeEfFhHsS]|[jJ][sS])[^a-zA-Z].*"
5 | rex field=VbsFilename_NoPath ".*\.(?<VbsFilename_Ext>[a-zA-Z]{2,3})"
6 | eval len_filename = len(VbsFilename_NoPath)
7 | where len_filename >= 30
8 | eval VbsFilename_NoPath = replace(VbsFilename_NoPath, "[ ]{10,}", " [many_SPACES_removed] ")
9 | eval len_filename_trimmed = len(VbsFilename_NoPath)
10 | stats
11   values(Image)
12   values(ParentImage)
13   dc(CommandLine) AS CmdLines
14   dc(ComputerName) AS Clients
15   count by len_filename len_filename_trimmed VbsFilename_NoPath
16 | sort -len_filename
```

✓ 346 events (7/4/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/2/19 4:36:09.000 PM) No Event Sampling ▾

→ Look for (very) long filenames, e.g. to “hide” the real extension (double-ext.)

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (filename length)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe") CommandLine="*\\Users\\*"
4 | rex field=CommandLine ".*\\\\\\(?<VbsFilename_NoPath>[^\\\\\\:]*\\.([cCvVwW][bBmMsS][aAdDeEfFhHsS]|[jJ][sS]))[^a-zA-Z].*"

```

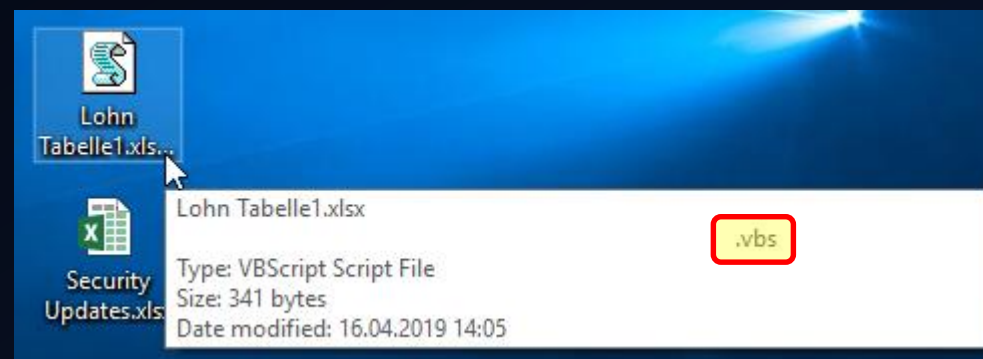
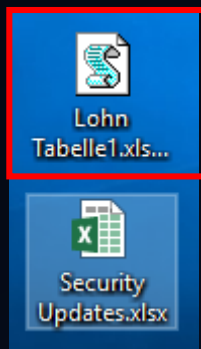
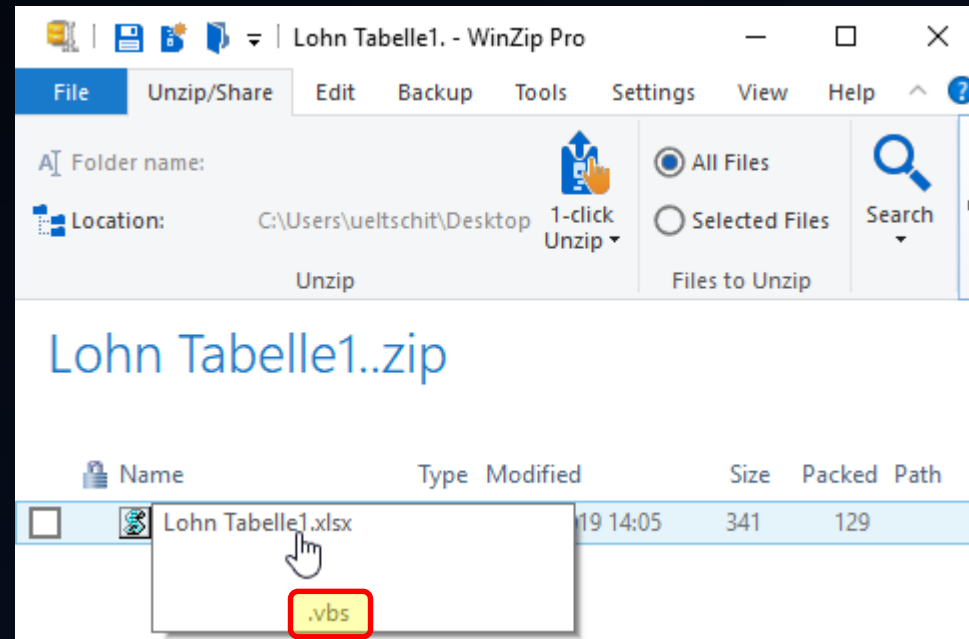
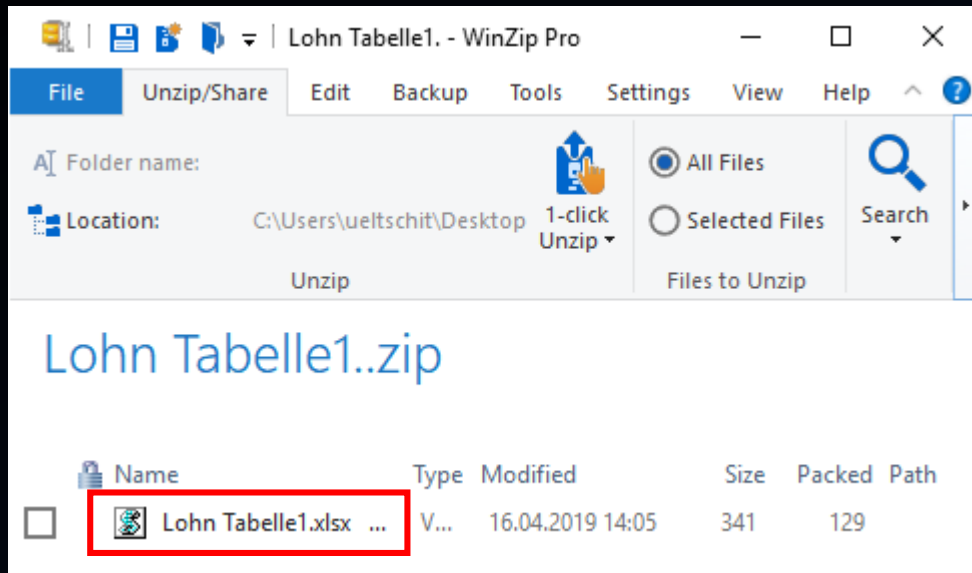
len_filename	len_filename_trimmed	VbsFilename_NoPath	values(Image)	values(ParentImage)	CmdLines	Clients	count
218	45	Lohn Tabelle1.xlsx [many_SPACES_removed] .vbs	C:\Windows\System32\cscript.exe	C:\Windows\explorer.exe	1	1	1
47	47	WPE-History.log -l WPE, Install, Config_WPE.vbs	C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cscript.exe	C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cscript.exe	3	1	16
46	46	Test2.vbs -o -l WPE, Install, Config_WPE.vbs	C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cscript.exe	C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cscript.exe	1	1	1
35	35	10/installer/server/initcluster.vbs	C:\Windows\System32\cscript.exe	C:\Users\██████████\Downloads\postgresql-10.10-1-windows-x64.exe	1	1	1
35	35	11/installer/server/initcluster.vbs	C:\Windows\System32\cscript.exe	C:\Users\██████████\Downloads\postgresql-11.5-1-windows-x64.exe C:\Users\██████████\Downloads\postgresql-11.5-1-windows-x64.exe C:\Users\██████████\Downloads\postgresql-11.5-1-windows-x64.exe	3	3	3

len_filename	len_filename_trimmed	VbsFilename_NoPath
218	45	Lohn Tabelle1.xlsx [many_SPACES_removed] .vbs

→ Look for (very) long filenames, e.g. to “hide” the real extension (double-ext.)

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (filename length)



→ Look for (very) long filenames, e.g. to “hide” the real extension (double-ext.)

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (susp FN / parents)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe") CommandLine="*\\Users\\*"
4 | rex field=CommandLine ".*\\(?:<VbsFilename_NoPath>[^\:\:]*\.[cCvVwW][bBmMsS][aAdDeEfFhHsS]|[jJ][sS])[^a-zA-Z].*"
5 | rex field=VbsFilename_NoPath ".*\.(?<VbsFilename_Ext>[a-zA-Z]{2,3})"
6 | eval len_filename = len(VbsFilename_NoPath)
7 | search VbsFilename_NoPath!="Lohn Tabelle1.xlsx *.vbs"
8 | stats
9   values(VbsFilename_NoPath)
10  values(Image)
11  values(ParentImage)
12  dc(CommandLine) AS CmdLines
13  dc(ComputerName) AS Clients
14  count by VbsFilename_Ext
15 | sort -count
```

✓ 22,688 events (7/4/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/2/19 4:13:54.000 PM) No Event Sampling ▾

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (susp FN / parents)

```

1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe") CommandLine="*\\Users\\*"
4 | rex field=CommandLine ".*\\\\"(?<VbsFilename_NoPath>[^\\"\\:]*\\.([cCvVwW][bBmMsS][aAdDeEfFhHsS])[jJ][sS]))[^a-zA-Z].*"

```

VbsFilename_Ext	values(VbsFilename_NoPath)	values(Image)	values(ParentImage)	CmdLines	Clients	count
vbs	10/installer/server/initcluster.vbs 10059.vbs 11/installer/server/initcluster.vbs ADtoIntranetBildschirmAusgabe.vbs AlleGLEXSAT_kopieren - Kopie.vbs CommandPromptHere.vbs CopyForProduktion.vbs CopyForProduktionServer.vbs CopyForProduktionVDI.vbs CreateShortcut.vbs DownloadTest.vbs Fichier.vbs Focus.vbs	C:\WINDOWS\SysWOW64\wscript.exe C:\WINDOWS\System32\cscript.exe C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cscript.exe C:\Windows\SysWOW64\wscript.exe C:\Windows\System32\cscript.exe C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe C:\windows\System32\cscript.exe	C:\Program Files (x86)\Beyond Compare 3\BCompare.exe C:\Program Files (x86)\Hard Disk Sentinel\HDSentinel.exe C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre8\bin\java.exe C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\Office16\OUTLOOK.EXE C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server\130\Tools\Binn\ManagementStudio\Ssms.exe C:\Program Files (x86)\SAP\FrontEnd\SapGui\saplogon.exe C:\Program Files (x86)\SWIFT\Alliance Lite2\ConfigTool.exe C:\Program Files\7-Zip\7zFM.exe C:\Program Files\Avidemux 2.7 VC++ 64bits\Uninstall Avidemux VC++ 64bits.exe C:\Program Files\Java\jre8\bin\java.exe C:\Program Files\Mythicsoft\FileLocator Lite\FileLocatorLite.exe C:\Program Files\PowerISO\PowerISO.exe C:\Temp\7-ZipPortable\7zFM.exe	4586	2421	22065

```

14   count by VbsFilename_Ext
15 | sort -count

```

✓ 22,688 events (7/4/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/2/19 4:13:54.000 PM) No Event Sampling

CmdLines	Clients	count
4586	2421	22065



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (susp FN / parents)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"  
2 ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)  
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe") CommandLine="*\\Users\\*"  
4 | rex
```

VbsFilename\_Ext ↕

vbs	10/installer/server/initcluster.vbs
	10059.vbs
	11/installer/server/initcluster.vbs
	ADtoIntranetBildschirmAusgabe.vbs
	AlleGLSEXESAT_kopieren - Kopie.vbs
	CommandPromptHere.vbs
	CopyForProduktion.vbs
	CopyForProduktionServer.vbs
	CopyForProduktionVDI.vbs
	CreateShortcut.vbs
	DownloadTest.vbs
	Fichier.vbs
	Focus.vbs
	IE_CheckRegUninstallKey.vbs
	IT-Shop.vbs
	KillTaskAP_ProgramList.vbs
	Loop.vbs
	Main-Srv.vbs
	MakeSaveCopy.vbs
	MinToMajus.vbs

14 | sort

15 |

✓ 22,688 ev

values(VbsFilename\_NoPath) ↕

10/installer/server/initcluster.vbs
10059.vbs
11/installer/server/initcluster.vbs
ADtoIntranetBildschirmAusgabe.vbs
AlleGLSEXESAT_kopieren - Kopie.vbs
CommandPromptHere.vbs
CopyForProduktion.vbs
CopyForProduktionServer.vbs
CopyForProduktionVDI.vbs
CreateShortcut.vbs
DownloadTest.vbs
Fichier.vbs
Focus.vbs
IE_CheckRegUninstallKey.vbs
IT-Shop.vbs
KillTaskAP_ProgramList.vbs
Loop.vbs
Main-Srv.vbs
MakeSaveCopy.vbs
MinToMajus.vbs

values(ParentImage) ↕

C:\Program Files (x86)\Beyond Compare 3\BCompare.exe
C:\Program Files (x86)\Hard Disk Sentinel\HDSentinel.exe
C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre8\bin\java.exe
C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\Office16\OUTLOOK.EXE
C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server\130\Tools\Binn\ManagementStudio\Ssms.exe
C:\Program Files (x86)\SAP\FrontEnd\SapGui\saplogon.exe
C:\Program Files (x86)\SWIFT\Alliance Lite2\ConfigTool.exe
C:\Program Files\7-Zip\7zFM.exe
C:\Program Files\Avidemux 2.7 VC++ 64bits\Uninstall Avidemux VC++ 64bits.exe
C:\Program Files\Java\jre8\bin\java.exe
C:\Program Files\Mythicsoft\FileLocator Lite\FileLocatorLite.exe
C:\Program Files\PowerISO\PowerISO.exe
C:\Temp\7-ZipPortable\7zFM.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \AppData\Local\Temp\SapSmartDel.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \AppData\Local\Temp\wpb_cloud\10.3.7.1269\producer.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \Downloads\postgresql-11.5-1-windows-x64.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \AppData\Local\Temp\SapSmartDel.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \AppData\Local\Learnpulse\Screenpresso\Screenpresso.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \Downloads\postgresql-11.5-1-windows-x64.exe
C:\Users\ [redacted] \Downloads\postgresql-11.5-1-windows-x64.exe

count ↕

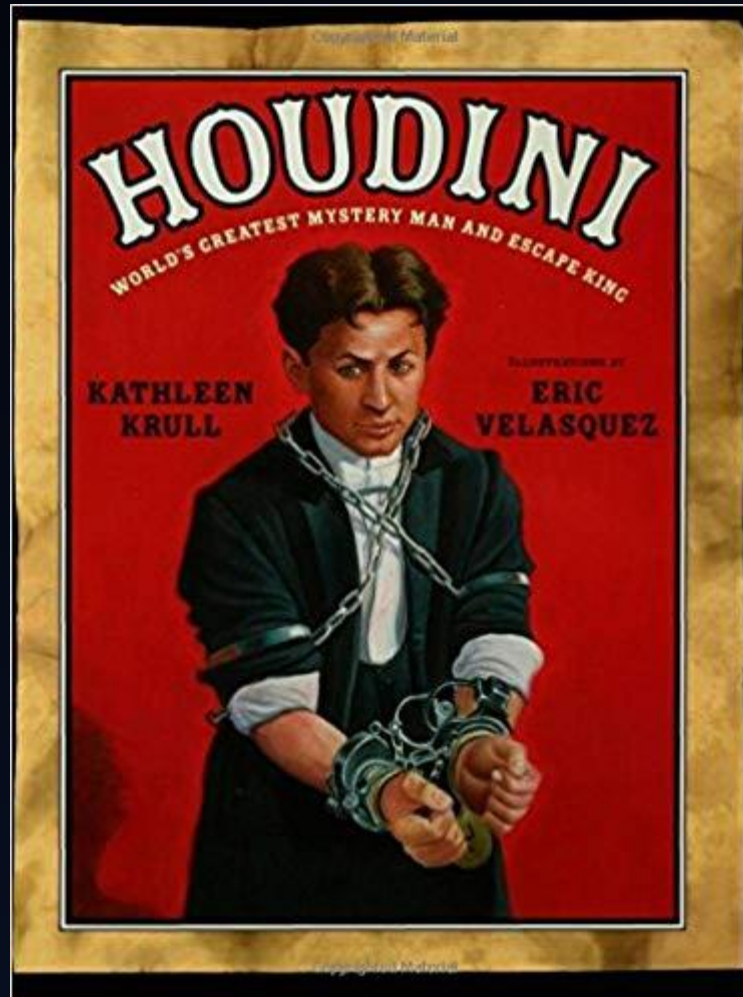
22065

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (susp FN / parents)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"  
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)  
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe") CommandLine="*\\Users\\*"
```

VbsFilename_Ext	values(VbsFilename_NoPath)	values(ParentImage)
wsf	GetReportsForAllGPOs.wsf	C:\Users\██████████\AppData\Local\Temp\nsb74A0.tmp\eft-com-interface-installer.exe
	GetReportsForGPO.wsf	C:\Users\██████████\AppData\Local\Temp\nsoAAB5.tmp\eft-com-interface-installer.exe
	QueryFileInfo.wsf	C:\Windows\explorer.exe
VBS	CleanUpADGroups.VBS	C:\Users\██████████\AppData\Local\Adersoft\Vbsedit\x64\vbsedit.exe
	MoveitDoneSetStatus_JBL.VBS	C:\Windows\explorer.exe
	jbl-MoveitDoneSetStatus.VBS	
js	9-es5.7983c45b9e29644b00d5.js	C:\PROGRA~1\AdoptOpenJDK\jdk-12.0.1.12-hotspot\bin\javaw.exe
	Installer.js	C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Oracle\Java\javapath_target_4707000\javaw.exe
	Javascript.js	C:\Program Files\Java\jre1.8.0_191\bin\javaw.exe
	babel.config.js	C:\Program Files\Java\jre1.8.0_221\bin\javaw.exe
	diff-doc.js	C:\Program Files\TortoiseGit\bin\TortoiseGitProc.exe
	diff-xls.js	C:\Program Files\TortoiseSVN\bin\TortoiseProc.exe
	hostscript.js	C:\Program Files\nodejs\node.exe
	jquery.nanogallery2.core.min.js	C:\Windows\explorer.exe
	jquery.nanogallery2.js	
	puttesession.js	
	vue.config.js	

# Who is Houdini?



- vjWorm
- H-Worm
- WSH-RAT

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

```
08/09/2018 02:35:36 PM
LogName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational
SourceName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
EventCode=1
EventType=4
Type=Information
ComputerName=[REDACTED]
User=NOT_TRANSLATED
Sid=S-1-5-18
SidType=0
TaskCategory=Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
OpCode=Info
RecordNumber=229494
Keywords=None
Message=Process Create:
UtcTime: 2018-08-09 12:35:36.423
ProcessGuid: {C2BF324B-3518-5B6C-0000-0010FB5AE503}
ProcessId: 6736
Image: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
FileVersion: 5.812.10240.16384
Description: Microsoft © Windows Based Script Host
Product: Microsoft © Windows Script Host
Company: Microsoft Corporation
CommandLine: "C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe" //B "C:\Users\[REDACTED]\AppData\Roaming\WZuMSKZzkg.vbs"
CurrentDirectory: C:\windows\system32\
User: POST\[REDACTED]
LogonGuid: {C2BF324B-E07B-5B6B-0000-00204E840C00}
LogonId: 0xC844E
TerminalSessionId: 1
IntegrityLevel: Medium
Hashes: MD5=03E5DFD4C18D75763EB6136CF22C7A84, IMPHASH=992748372A975981625241A4E77CA0B5
ParentProcessGuid: {C2BF324B-3518-5B6C-0000-00101B46E503}
ParentProcessId: 13876
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\cscript.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\windows\System32\CScript.exe"
"C:\Users\[REDACTED]\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1_Papu_Questionnaire.zip\Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"
```

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

```
08/09/2018 02:35:36 PM
LogName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational
SourceName=Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon
EventCode=1
EventType=4
Type=Information
ComputerName=[REDACTED]
User=NOT_TRANSLATED
Sid=S-1-5-18
SidType=0
TaskCategory=Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
```

```
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\windows\System32\cmd.exe"
"C:\Users\[REDACTED]\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1_Papu_Questionnaire.zip\Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"
```

```
ProcessId: 6736
```

```
Image: C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
FileVersion: 5.812.10240.16384
Description: Microsoft @ Windows Based Script Host
Product: Microsoft @ Windows Script Host
Company: Microsoft Corporation
CommandLine: "C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe" //B "C:\Users\[REDACTED]\AppData\Roaming\WZuMSKZzkg.vbs"
```

```
LogonId: 0xC844E
TerminalSessionId: 1
IntegrityLevel: Medium
Hashes: MD5=03E5DFD4C18D75763EB6136CF22C7A84, IMPHASH=992748372A975981625241A4E77CA0B5
ParentProcessGuid: {C2BF324B-3518-5B6C-0000-00101B46E503}
ParentProcessId: 13876
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\windows\System32\cmd.exe"
"C:\Users\[REDACTED]\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1_Papu_Questionnaire.zip\Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"
```



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

## alert\_sysmon\_houdini\_infection\_filecreate\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ( FileCreate OR FileCreateStreamHash ) AND ( cscript.exe OR wscript.exe )
3 | search ( Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" )
4   TargetFilename="*\\Start Menu\\*\\Startup\\*.vbs*" TargetFilename!="*:Zone.Identifier"
5 | strcat "TargetFilename: " TargetFilename ", CreationUtcTime: " CreationUtcTime ", Hash: " Hash Details
6 | stats count by ComputerName TaskCategory ProcessId Image Details
7 | sort ComputerName TaskCategory ProcessId
```

## alert\_sysmon\_houdini\_infection\_processcreate\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe")
4   (CommandLine="*\\Users\\*\\AppData\\*.vbs*" OR CommandLine="*\\ProgramData\\*.vbs*")
5   (ParentImage="*\\cscript.exe" OR ParentImage="*\\wscript.exe")
6
7 | stats count by ComputerName User ProcessId Image CommandLine ParentImage ParentCommandLine
```



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

## alert\_sysmon\_houdini\_infection\_processcreate\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"  
2   ProcessCreate (cscript.exe OR wscript.exe)  
3 | search (Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe")
```

ProcessId	Image	CommandLine	ParentImage	ParentCommandLine
1672	C:\Windows\System32 wscript.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe" //B "C:\Users\████████\AppData\Local\Temp \Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"	C:\Windows \System32 wscript.exe	"C:\windows\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users \████████\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1 _Papu_Questionnaire.zip \Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"
6736	C:\Windows\System32 wscript.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe" //B "C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming WZuMSKZzkg.vbs"	C:\Windows \System32 wscript.exe	"C:\windows\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users \████████\AppData\Local\Temp\Temp1 _Papu_Questionnaire.zip \Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"
12604	C:\Windows\System32 wscript.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe" //B "C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming WZuMSKZzkg.vbs"	C:\Windows \System32 wscript.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe" //B "C: \Users\████████\AppData\Local\Temp \Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs"

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

## alert\_sysmon\_houdini\_infection\_filecreate\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ( FileCreate OR FileCreateStreamHash ) AND ( cscript.exe OR wscript.exe )
3 | search ( Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" )
4   TargetFilename="*\\Start Menu\\*\\Startup\\*.vbs*" TargetFilename!="*:Zone.Identifier"
```

<a href="#">TaskCategory</a>	<a href="#">ProcessId</a>	<a href="#">Image</a>	<a href="#">Details</a>	<a href="#">count</a>
File created (rule: FileCreate)	6736	C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe	TargetFilename: C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\WZuMSKZzkg.vbs, CreationUtcTime: 2018-08-09 12:35:36.583, Hash:	911
File created (rule: FileCreate)	13876	C:\windows\System32\cscript.exe	TargetFilename: C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs, CreationUtcTime: 2018-08-09 12:35:36.533, Hash:	1
File stream created (rule: FileCreateStreamHash)	13876	C:\windows\System32\cscript.exe	TargetFilename: C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Questionnaire_Secretariat_Papu.vbs, CreationUtcTime: 2018-08-09 12:35:36.533, Hash: MD5=8248499D226833FECB26DB4838EFC35,IMPHASH=00000000000000000000000000000000	1

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

## alert\_sysmon\_houdini\_infection\_filecreate\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2 ( FileCreate OR FileCreateStreamHash ) AND ( cscript.exe OR wscript.exe )
3 | search ( Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" )
4 TargetFilename="*\\Start Menu\\*\\Startup*.vbs*" TargetFilename!="*:Zone.Identifier"
5 | strcat "TargetFilename: " TargetFilename ", CreationUtcTime: " CreationUtcTime ", Hash: " Hash Details
```

TaskCategory	ProcessId	Image
File created (rule: FileCreate)	8224	C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe
File stream created (rule: FileCreateStreamHash)	8224	C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe

Details	count
TargetFilename: C:\Users\██████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs, CreationUtcTime: 2018-11-05 11:55:14.908, Hash:	1
TargetFilename: C:\Users\██████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs, CreationUtcTime: 2018-11-05 11:55:14.908, Hash: MD5=67FDAC001C11D11E0C35D35E5D30D6E0,IMPHASH=00000000000000000000000000000000	1

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Houdini detection)

alert\_sysmon\_houdini\_infection\_filecreate\_5m

```

1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sys
2 ( FileCreate OR FileCreate
3 | search ( Image="*\\cscript.e
4 TargetFilename="*\\Start M
5 | strcat "TargetFilename: " Ta

```

## Created / dropped Files

C:\Users\user\AppData\Roaming\Colis-1.vbs

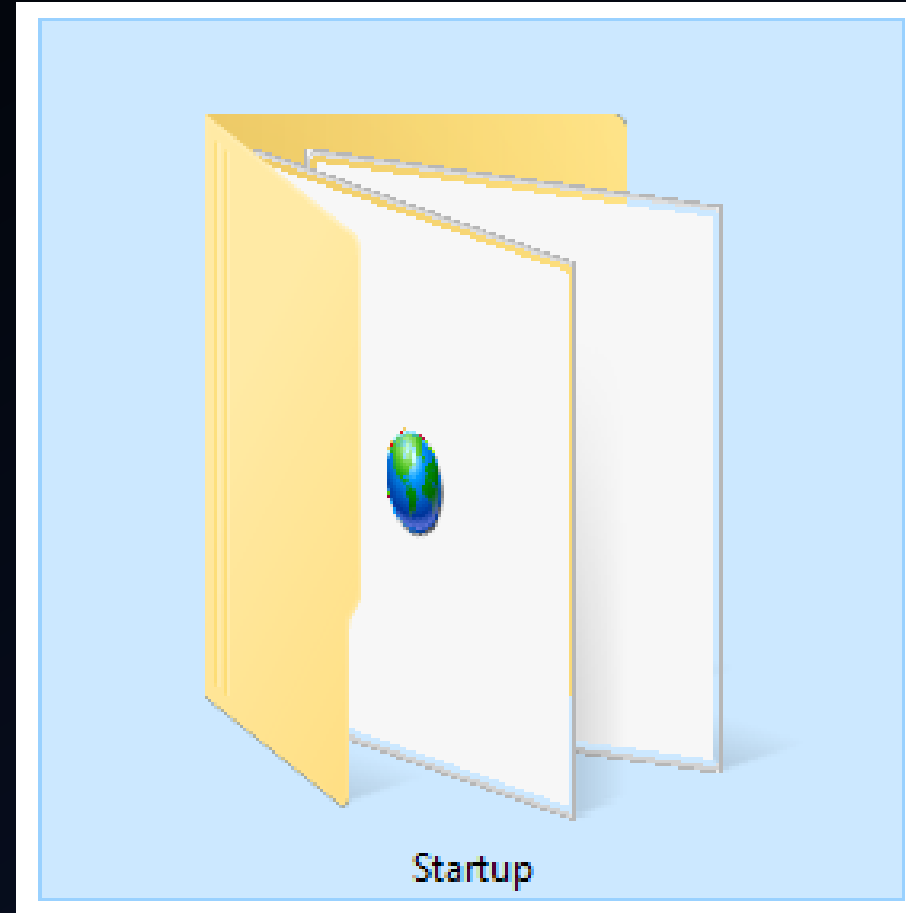
Process:	C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
File Type:	ASCII text, with very long lines, with CRLF line terminators
Size (bytes):	11723
Entropy (8bit):	4.623575735612297
Encrypted:	false
MD5:	67FDAC001C11D11E0C35D35E5D30D6E0
SHA1:	7D0EA8F89384E73FE116E09AC985686A18F3F48B
SHA-256:	56680FD4AA08544BFAC5D3043ECE1E9162DF322959273510C3FE14457F04551F

TaskCategory	ProcessId	Image
File created (rule: FileCreate)	8224	C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe
File stream created (rule: FileCreateStreamHash)	8224	C:\Windows\System32\wscript.exe

### Details

TargetFilename: C:\Users\██████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Colis-1.vbs, CreationUtcTime: 2018-11-05 11:55:14.908, Hash: MD5=67FDAC001C11D11E0C35D35E5D30D6E0,IMPHASH=00000000000000000000000000000000

And now for something completely different...



# Outline – New Stuff

- T1060 - Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder dropping VBS file in Startup folder

## Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder

Adding an entry to the "run keys" in the Registry or **startup folder** will cause the program referenced to be executed when a user logs in.

<sup>[1]</sup> These programs will be executed under the context of the user and will have the account's associated permissions.

ID: T1060

Tactic: Persistence

Platform: Windows

System Requirements: HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE keys require administrator access to create and modify

Permissions Required: User, Administrator

Data Sources: Windows Registry, File monitoring

CAPEC ID: CAPEC-270

Contributors: Oddvar Moe, @oddvarmoe

Version: 1.0



# Outline – New Stuff

- T1060 - Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder dropping VBS file in Startup folder

Registry

Adding an entry to the

[1] These programs will

fuzzysecurity.com/tutorials/19.html

## Windows Startup Folder

The final technique is a classic, all windows versions, going back to "Windows 3", have startup directories. Any binary, script or application shortcut which is put in that directory will be executed when the user logs on to the system.

**Links:**  
List Of Major Windows Versions - [here](#)

**Startup Directories:**

```
# Windows NT 6.0 - 10.0 / All Users
%SystemDrive%\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup

# Windows NT 6.0 - 10.0 / Current User
%SystemDrive%\Users\%UserName%\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup

# Windows NT 5.0 - 5.2
%SystemDrive%\Documents and Settings\All Users\Start Menu\Programs\Startup

# Windows NT 3.5 - 4.0
%SystemDrive%\WINNT\Profiles\All Users\Start Menu\Programs\Startup
```

\_MACHINE keys  
and modify  
strator  
monitoring  
noe

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) SourceName="Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon" ProcessCreate
2   ( cmd.exe OR cscript.exe OR wscript.exe ) AND startup
3 | search ( Image="*\\cmd.exe" OR Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" ) AND
4   CommandLine="*\\startup\\"
5 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\(?<Image_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
6 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\(?<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
7 | rex mode=sed field=CommandLine "s/[\\\\]Users[\\\\][a-zA-Z0-9~]+[\\\\]/\\\\Users\\\\[redacted]\\\\/g"
8 | stats dc(ComputerName) AS dc_CN count by ParentImage_fn Image_fn CommandLine
9 | sort -Image_fn -dc_CN
```

✓ 67 events (8/28/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/27/19 9:11:41.000 PM) No Event Sampling ▾

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) SourceName="Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon" ProcessCreate
2   ( cmd.exe OR cscript.exe OR wscript.exe ) AND startup
3 | search ( Image="*\\cmd.exe" OR Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" ) AND
4   CommandLine="*\\startup\\*"
5 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\(?!<Image_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
6 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\(?!<ParentImage_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
```

ParentImage_fn	Image_fn	CommandLine	dc_CN	count
explorer.exe	cscript.exe	"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.vbs"	1	7
explorer.exe	cscript.exe	"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\update.vbs"	1	2
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\blackdress_stageless_x64.cmd" "	5	5
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\LogonScript.cmd" "	1	8
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "	1	8
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "	1	8
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "	1	7
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "	1	7
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "	1	3
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "	1	3
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\LogonScript.cmd" "	1	3
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "	1	3
explorer.exe	cmd.exe	C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "	1	3

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

```
1 (index=it bapo OR index=it sysmon) SourceName="Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon" ProcessCreate
```

```
2 (
3 | search
4 | Cor
5 | rex
6 | rex
```

"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.vbs"
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\update.vbs"
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\blackdress_stageless_x64.cmd"
"C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp\LogonScript.cmd" "
"C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp\test1.bat" "
"C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\StartUp\test1.cmd" "
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "
"C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "
"C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\LogonScript.cmd" "
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.bat" "
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.cmd" "

ParentImage_fn	Image_fn
explorer.exe	cscript.e
explorer.exe	cscript.e
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe
explorer.exe	cmd.exe

count
7
2
5
8
8
8
7
7
3
3
3
3
3

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) SourceName="Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon" ProcessCreate
2   ( cmd.exe OR cscript.exe OR wscript.exe ) AND startup
3 | search ( Image="*\\cmd.exe" OR Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" ) AND
4   CommandLine="*\\startup\\*"
5 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\(?:<Image_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
```

CommandLine	dc_CN	count
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\absolute-path-to-clipboard.vbs"	1	6
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\sshagent.vbs"	1	6
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\sshd.vbs"	1	6
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.vbs"	1	7
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\update.vbs"	1	2
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\xserver.vbs"	1	6



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) SourceName="Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon" ProcessCreate
2   ( cmd.exe OR cscript.exe OR wscript.exe ) AND startup
3 | search ( Image="*\\cmd.exe" OR Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" ) AND
4   CommandLine="*\\startup\\*"
5 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\(?!<Image_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
```

CommandLine	dc_CN	count
"C:\WIN		6
"C:\WIN		6
"C:\WIN		6
"C:\WIN "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\absolute-path-to-clipboard.vbs"		7
"C:\WIN "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\sshagent.vbs"		2
"C:\WIN "C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\sshd.vbs"		6
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.vbs"		
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\update.vbs"		
"C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\xserver.vbs"		



# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) SourceName="Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon" ProcessCreate
2   ( cmd.exe OR cscript.exe OR wscript.exe ) AND startup
3 | search ( Image="*\\cmd.exe" OR Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" ) AND
4   CommandLine="*\\startup\\*"
5 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\(?!<Image_fn>[^\\\\]*)"
```

CommandLine	dc_CN	count
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\ams\Startup\FW.bat" "	1	14
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\ams\Startup\LW_Verbinden.bat" "	1	27
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\ams\Startup\Laufwerke.bat" "	1	2
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\ams\Startup\LogonScript.cmd" "	1	5
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Netzlaufwerk.bat" "	1	9
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\PresentationMode.bat" "	1	8
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\PublicKey.bat" "	1	4
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Startup Chrome.bat" "	1	8
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\Substitute_B.bat" "	1	13
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\coherence.cmd" "	1	1
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\del_public_doc.bat" "	1	4
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd.exe /c ""C:\Users\[redacted]\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\fw.bat" "	1	5

Don't stop at VBS  
Remember CMD, BAT, etc.  
All script types

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

## alert\_sysmon\_persistence\_startup\_folder\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" ProcessCreate
2   ( update.exe OR update.vbs OR "\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\" )
3   ( cscript.exe OR wscript.exe OR update.exe )
4 | search ( CommandLine="*\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*.vbs*" OR
5           CommandLine="*\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*.exe*" OR
6           ParentCommandLine="*\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*.vbs*" OR
7           Image="*\\appdata\\update.exe" ) AND
8   ( Image="*\\cscript.exe" OR Image="*\\wscript.exe" OR Image="*\\appdata\\update.exe" )
9
10  NOT (ParentImage=
11  Image!="*\\Startu
12  CommandLine!="*\\
13  CommandLine!="*\\
14  CommandLine!="*\\
15  CommandLine!="*\\
16  CommandLine!="*\\
17 | rex field=Image ".*\\\\\\\\(?!<Image_filename>[^\\\\\\\\]+)"
18 | rex field=ParentImage ".*\\\\\\\\(?!<ParentImage_filename>[^\\\\\\\\]+)"
19 | stats values(ParentCommandLine) count by CommandLine
```

✓ 12 events (8/28/19 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/27/19 11:17:00.000 PM) No Event Sampling ▾

# Hunting for suspicious VBS scripts (Startup Folder)

## alert\_sysmon\_persistence\_startup\_folder\_5m

```
1 (index=it_bapo OR index=it_sysmon) sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" ProcessCreate
2   ( update.exe OR update.vbs OR "\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\" )
3   ( cscript.exe OR wscript.exe OR update.exe )
4 | search ( CommandLine="*\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*.vbs*" OR
5           CommandLine="*\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*.exe*" OR
6           ParentCommandLine="*\\Windows\\Start Menu\\Programs\\Startup\\*.vbs*" OR
```

CommandLine	values(ParentCommandLine)	count
"C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\appdata\update.exe"	C:\WINDOWS\explorer.exe /factory,{ceff45ee-c862-41de-ae2-a022c81eda92} -Embedding	1
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe"	C:\WINDOWS\Explorer.EXE	7
"C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\test1.vbs"		
"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe"	C:\WINDOWS\Explorer.EXE	2
"C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\update.vbs"	C:\WINDOWS\explorer.exe /factory,{ceff45ee-c862-41de-ae2-a022c81eda92} -Embedding	
C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\appdata\update.exe	"C:\WINDOWS\System32\CScript.exe" "C:\Users\████████\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\update.vbs"	2



# Outline – New Stuff

- T1071 / Standard Application Layer Protocol  
**Command and Control via DNS**

## Standard Application Layer Protocol

Adversaries may communicate using a common, standardized application layer protocol such as HTTP, HTTPS, SMTP, or **DNS** to avoid detection by blending in with existing traffic. Commands to the remote system, and often the results of those commands, will be embedded within the protocol traffic between the client and server.

For connections that occur internally within an enclave (such as those between a proxy or pivot node and other nodes), protocols are RPC, SSH, or RDP.

ID: T1071

Tactic: Command And Control

Platform: Linux, macOS, Windows

Data Sources: Packet capture, Netflow/Enclave netflow, Process use of network, Malware reverse engineering, Process monitoring

Requires Network: Yes

Version: 1.0



# Hunting for C&C via DNS

```
21-Oct-2019 17:22:53.875 queries: info: client @0x7fe497ff9cc0 10.226.160.152#58359 (post.clien[REDACTED].ch.post.ch): query: post.clien[REDACTED].ch.post.ch IN A + (10.1.102.12)
```

```
21-Oct-2019 17:12:00.362 queries: info: client @0x7f79c000b730 172.27.136.16#51732 (post.12ebb1341fd83c237c560c44d5843939ac8e5616a6f62d51aaf939530.16cd5041c.62796.dns.clien[REDACTED].ch): query: post.12ebb1341fd83c237c560c44d5843939ac8e5616a6f62d51aaf939530.16cd5041c.62796.dns.clien[REDACTED].ch IN A + (172.27.59.12)
```

```
21-Oct-2019 17:12:00.354 queries: info: client @0x7f1ffc5d5b50 172.27.136.16#55605 (post.120.06cd5041c.62796.dns.clien[REDACTED].ch): query: post.120.06cd5041c.62796.dns.clien[REDACTED].ch IN A + (172.27.59.11)
```

```
21-Oct-2019 17:12:00.345 queries: info: client @0x7f79c839b060 172.27.136.16#55282 (api.175f2895.62796.dns.clien[REDACTED].ch): query: api.175f2895.62796.dns.clien[REDACTED].ch IN TXT + (172.27.59.12)
```

- Do you have DNS logs with client (source) information? (could be useful!)



# Hunting for C&C via DNS


```
1 index=it_dns sourcetype=clientlog host!=  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16 | bin _time span=1h  
17 | rex field=_raw ".*info: client (?<c_ip>[0-9.]*)#.* query: (?<query>[^\ ]*) IN (?<type>[A-Z]*) .*"   
18 | rex field=query ".*\.(?<domain_2nd>[^\.]*)\.(?<domain_1st>[^\.]*)\.[^\.]*"   
19 | search query="*.*" c_ip!=  
20 | eval len_query = len(query) | eval len_dom1 = len(domain_1st) | eval len_dom2 = len(domain_2nd)   
21 | eval len_c2 = len_query - len_dom1 - len_dom2   
22 | where len_dom1 >   
23 | stats avg(len_query) AS AVG_LEN_QUERY avg(len_c2) AS AVG_LEN_C2 dc(query) AS DC_QUERIES   
24     values(domain_2nd) AS DOMAIN_2ND values(type) AS TYPES   
25     count by _time c_ip domain_1st   
26 | where DC_QUERIES > 50 and AVG_LEN_C2 >   
27 | sort -DC_QUERIES
```

# Hunting for C&C via DNS

```
1 index=it_dns sourcetype=clientlog host!=  
2  
3  
16 | bin _time span=1h  
17 | rex field=_raw ".*info: client (?<c_ip>[0-9.]*)#.* query: (?<query>[^ ]*) IN (?<type>[A-Z]*) .*"   
18 | rex field=query ".*\.(?<domain_2nd>[^\.]*)\.(?<domain_1st>[^\.]*\.[^\.]*)"   
19 | search query="*.*" c_ip!="  
20 | eval len_query = len(query) | eval len_dom1 = len(domain_1st) | eval len_dom2 = len(domain_2nd)   
21 | eval len_c2 = len_query - len_dom1 - len_dom2   
22 | where len_dom1 >   
23 | stats avg(len_query) AS AVG_LEN_QUERY avg(len_c2) AS AVG_LEN_C2 dc(query) AS DC_QUERIES   
24     values(domain_2nd) AS DOMAIN_2ND values(type) AS TYPES   
25     count by _time c_ip domain_1st   
26 | where DC_QUERIES > 50 and AVG_LEN_C2 >   
27 | sort -DC_QUERIES
```

```
24     values(domain_2nd) AS DOMAIN_2ND values(type) AS TYPES   
25     count by _time c_ip domain_1st   
26 | where DC_QUERIES > 50 and AVG_LEN_C2 > 10   
27 | sort -DC_QUERIES
```

# Hunting for C&C via DNS

- query = "subdom3.subdom2.subdom1.domain.tld"
  - domain\_1st = "domain.tld"
  - domain\_2nd = "subdom1"
  - len\_query = 34
  - len\_dom1 = 10
  - len\_dom2 = 7
  - len\_c2 = len\_query - len\_dom1 - len\_dom2 = 34 - 10 - 7 = 17
  - AVG\_LEN\_QUERY = avg( len\_query )
  - AVG\_LEN\_C2 = avg( len\_c2 )
  - DC\_QUERIES = distinct\_count( query )
  - Within 1h span: DC\_QUERIES > 50 and AVG\_LEN\_C2 > 

# Hunting for C&C via DNS

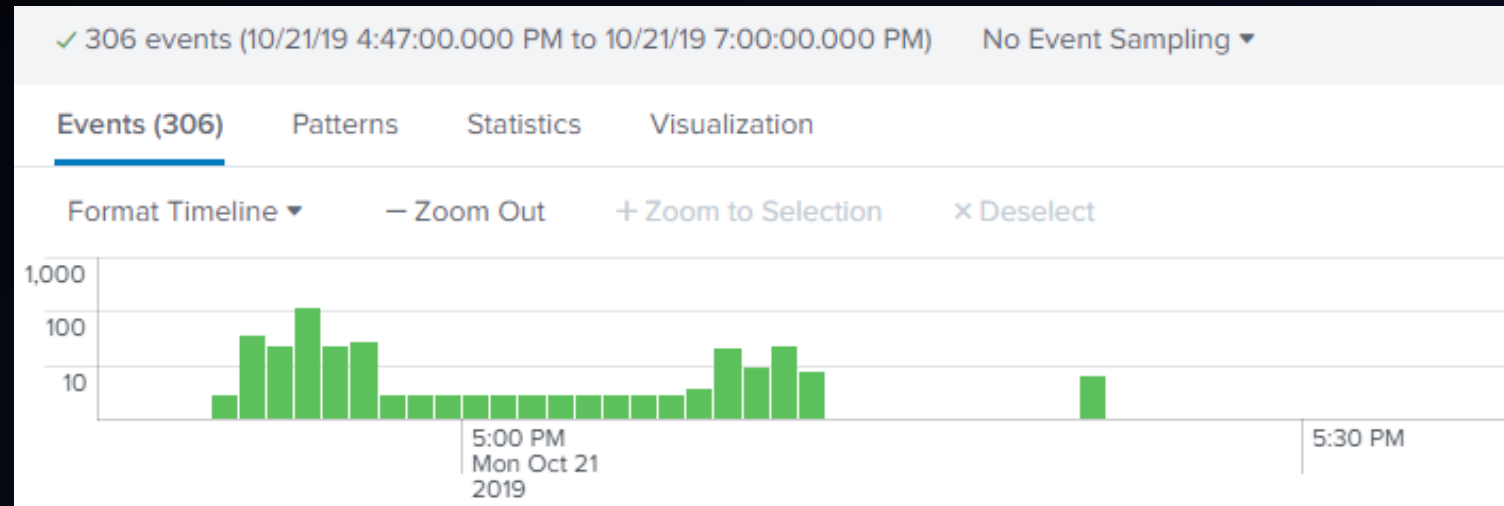
_time	c_ip	domain_1st	AVG_LEN_QUERY	AVG_LEN_C2	DC_QUERIES	DOMAIN_2ND	TYPES	count
Mon Jun 10 10:00:00 2019	10.1.96.150	client[REDACTED].ch	85.63697592187236	67.63697592187236	3359	dns	A TXT	5939
Mon Jun 24 11:00:00 2019	10.1.96.46	client[REDACTED].ch	94.84922728986054	76.84922728986054	1709	dns	A TXT	2653
Mon Jun 24 11:00:00 2019	10.1.104.12	client[REDACTED].ch	86.94143780290791	68.94143780290791	1551	dns	A TXT	2476
Mon Jun 24 11:00:00 2019	10.226.160.2	client[REDACTED].ch	203.35014272121788	185.35014272121788	1013	dns	A TXT	1051
Mon Jun 24 13:00:00 2019	10.1.96.46	client[REDACTED].ch	35.307479224376735	17.30747922437673	965	dns	A TXT	3971
Mon Jun 24 13:00:00 2019	10.1.104.12	client[REDACTED].ch	38.31662548535122	20.316625485351217	931	dns	A TXT	2833
Thu Jul 4 16:00:00 2019	10.1.96.46	client[REDACTED].ch	34.82745419742959	16.82745419742959	1127	dns	A TXT	3657

- Within 1h span: **DC\_QUERIES > 50** and **AVG\_LEN\_C2 > [REDACTED]**

# Hunting for C&C via DNS

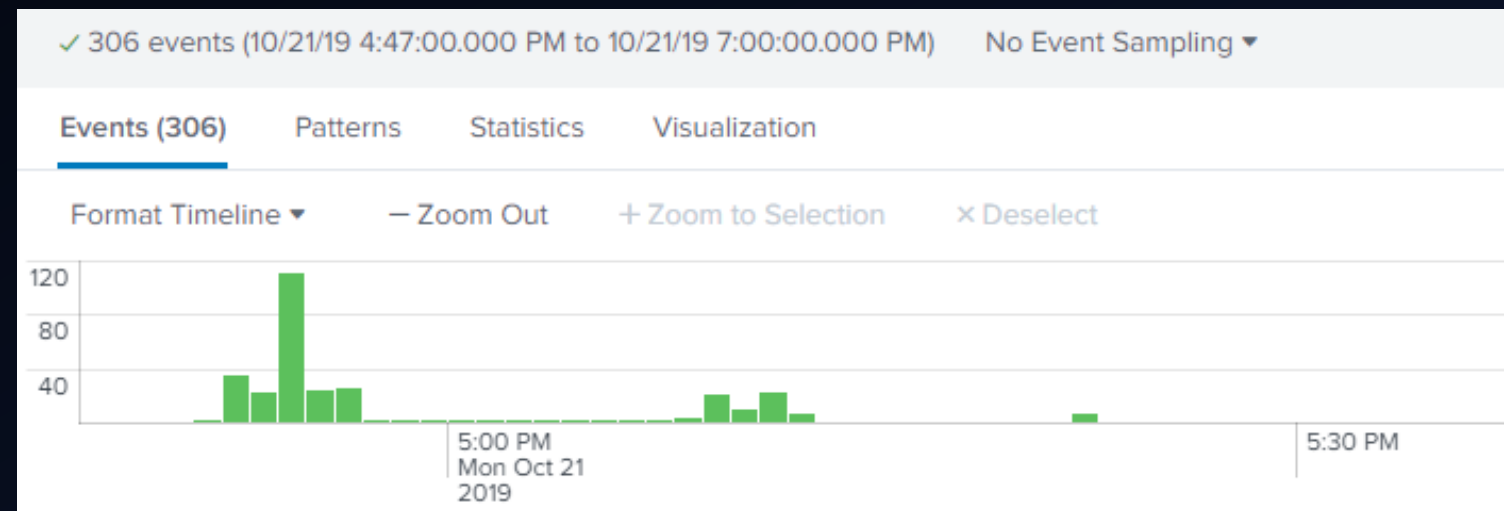
Top:

Log scale



Bottom:

Linear scale



# Outline

- Introduction
- **1<sup>st</sup> of 3 techniques from MITRE ATT&CK**

## Windows Management Instrumentation Event Subscription

### Technique

ID	T1084
Tactic	Persistence
Platform	Windows
Permissions Required	Administrator, SYSTEM
Data Sources	WMI Objects



# WMI Event Subscription (Persistence)

ATT&CK™  
Adversarial Tactics, Techniques & Common Knowledge

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Tactics

- Initial Access
- Execution
- Persistence
- Privilege Escalation
- Defense Evasion
- Credential Access
- Discovery
- Lateral Movement
- Collection
- Exfiltration
- Command and Control

Techniques

- Technique Matrix

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## Windows Management Instrumentation Event Subscription

Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI) can be used to install event filters, providers, consumers, and bindings that execute code when a defined event occurs. Adversaries may use the capabilities of WMI to subscribe to an event and execute arbitrary code when that event occurs, providing persistence on a system. Adversaries may attempt to evade detection of this technique by compiling WMI scripts.<sup>[1]</sup> Examples of events that may be subscribed to are the wall clock time or the computer's uptime.<sup>[2]</sup> Several threat groups have reportedly used this technique to maintain persistence.<sup>[3]</sup>

**Contents [hide]**

- 1 Examples
- 2 Mitigation
- 3 Detection
- 4 References

Windows Management Instrumentation Event Subscription	
Technique	
ID	T1084
Tactic	Persistence
Platform	Windows
Permissions Required	Administrator, SYSTEM
Data Sources	WMI Objects

## Examples

- APT29 has used WMI event filters to establish persistence.<sup>[4]</sup>

### Examples

- APT29 has used WMI event filters to establish persistence.<sup>[4]</sup>
- Leviathan has used WMI for persistence.<sup>[5]</sup>
- POSHSPY uses a WMI event subscription to establish persistence.<sup>[6]</sup>

# WMI Event Subscription

## WINDOWS MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENTATION (WMI) OFFENSE, DEFENSE, AND FORENSICS

William Ballenthin, Matt Graeber,  
Claudiu Teodorescu  
FireEye Labs Advanced Reverse  
Engineering (FLARE) Team,  
FireEye, Inc.

Figure 5:  
SEADADDY WMI  
persistence with  
PowerShell

```
$filterName='BotFilter82'  
$consumerName='BotConsumer23'  
$exePath='C:\Windows\System32\evil.exe'  
$Query="SELECT * FROM __InstanceModificationEvent  
WITHIN 60 WHERE TargetInstance ISA 'Win32_  
PerfFormattedData_PerfOS_System' AND  
TargetInstance.SystemUptime >= 200 AND  
TargetInstance.SystemUptime < 320"  
$WMIEventFilter=Set-WmiInstance-Class__EventFilter-  
Namespace"root\subscription"-Arguments @  
{Name=$filterName;EventNamespace="root\  
cimv2";QueryLanguage="WQL";Query=$Query}  
-ErrorActionStop  
$WMIEventConsumer=Set-WmiInstance-  
ClassCommandLineEventConsumer-namespace"root\  
subscription"-Arguments@=$consumerName;ExecutablePa  
th=$exePath;CommandLineTemplate=$exePath}  
Set-WmiInstance-Class__FilterToConsumerBinding-  
Namespace"root\subscription"-Arguments  
@{Filter=$WMIEventFilter;Consumer=$WMIEventConsumer}
```

Source:

<https://www.fireeye.com/content/dam/fireeye-www/global/en/current-threats/pdfs/wp-windows-management-instrumentation.pdf>

# WMI Event Subscription

- Generating test events using “PowerLurk” Github project
- Likely won’t catch many APTs searching for `Register-MaliciousWmiEvent` ;-)

```
PS C:\PowerShell\PowerLurk-master\PowerLurk-master> Set-ExecutionPolicy Bypass
PS C:\PowerShell\PowerLurk-master\PowerLurk-master> . .\PowerLurk.ps1
PS C:\PowerShell\PowerLurk-master\PowerLurk-master> Register-MaliciousWmiEvent
-EventName LogNotepad -PermanentCommand "cmd.exe /c echo %ProcessId% >>
C:\\Users\\Public\\notepad-log.txt" -Trigger ProcessStart -ProcessName notepad.exe
```

```
PS C:\PowerShell\PowerLurk-master\PowerLurk-master> Register-MaliciousWmiEvent
-EventName Logonlog -PermanentCommand "cmd.exe /c echo %TargetInstance.Antecedent%
>> C:\Users\Public\logon.txt" -Trigger UserLogon -Username any
```

# How noisy is the Sysmon WmiEvent?

> 90 days  
> 270 EP's  
< 600 events  
4 diff types

```
1 sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" WmiEvent
2   (WmiFilterEvent OR WmiConsumerEvent OR WmiBindingEvent)
3 | search (EventCode=19 OR EventCode=20 OR EventCode=21)
4 | rex field=Message ".*EventType: (?<WmiEventType>.*)"
5 | stats dc(Name) dc(Query) dc(EventNamespace) dc(Consumer) dc(Filter) dc(ComputerName)
6   count by TaskCategory EventCode WmiEventType
7 | sort EventCode
```

✓ 1,764 events (6/1/18 12:00:00.000 AM to 10/18/18 12:00:00.000 AM) No Event Sampling ▾

Job ▾ || ■ → 🖨️ ⬇️ ⚡ Fast Mode ▾

Events Patterns **Statistics (3)** Visualization

100 Per Page ▾ ✎ Format Preview ▾

TaskCategory	EventCode	WmiEventType	dc(Name)	dc(Query)	dc(EventNamespace)	dc(Consumer)	dc(Filter)	dc(ComputerName)	count
WmiEventFilter activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	19	WmiFilterEvent	5	5	2	0	0	271	586
WmiEventConsumer activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	20	WmiConsumerEvent	4	0	0	0	0	273	594
WmiEventConsumerToFilter activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	21	WmiBindingEvent	0	0	0	4	4	271	584

```

1 sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" WmiEvent
2
3 | search EventCode=19 OR EventCode=20 OR EventCode=21
4 | rex field=Message ".*User: ([\w\|NT AUTHORITY]\\|\\|(?<USER1>.*))"
5 | table _time EventCode TaskCategory Message ComputerName USER1

```

_time	EventCode	TaskCategory	Message
2018-07-03 11:25:25	21	WmiEventConsumerToFilter activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	WmiEventConsumerToFilter activity detected: EventType: WmiBindingEvent UtcTime: 2018-07-03 09:25:25.382 Operation: Created User: Consumer: "CommandLineEventConsumer.Name=\\\"Logonlog\\\"" Filter: "\\\"__EventFilter.Name=\\\"Logonlog\\\""
2018-07-03 11:25:25	19	WmiEventFilter activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	WmiEventFilter activity detected: EventType: WmiFilterEvent UtcTime: 2018-07-03 09:25:25.339 Operation: Created User: EventNamespace: "root/cimv2" Name: "Logonlog" Query: "SELECT * FROM __InstanceCreationEvent WITHIN 10 WHERE TargetInstance ISA 'Win32_LoggedOnUser'"
2018-07-03 11:25:25	20	WmiEventConsumer activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	WmiEventConsumer activity detected: EventType: WmiConsumerEvent UtcTime: 2018-07-03 09:25:25.316 Operation: Created User: Name: "Logonlog" Type: Command Line Destination: "cmd.exe /c echo %TargetInstance.Antecedent% >> C:\\Users\\Public\\logon.txt"



```

1 sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational" WmiEvent
2
3 | search EventCode=19 OR EventCode=20 OR EventCode=21
4 | rex field=Message ".*User: ([\s\S]+|NT AUTHORITY)\\\\\\(?<USER1>.*)"
5 | table _time EventCode TaskCategory Message ComputerName USER1

```

_time	EventCode	TaskCategory	Message
2018-07-03 11:25:40	21	WmiEventConsumerToFilter activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	WmiEventConsumerToFilter activity detected: EventType: WmiBindingEvent UtcTime: 2018-07-03 09:25:40.004 Operation: Created User: Consumer: "CommandLineEventConsumer.Name=\\\"LogNotepad\\\" Filter: \"__EventFilter.Name=\\\"LogNotepad\\\""
2018-07-03 11:25:39	19	WmiEventFilter activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	WmiEventFilter activity detected: EventType: WmiFilterEvent UtcTime: 2018-07-03 09:25:39.910 Operation: Created User: EventNamespace: "root/cimv2" Name: "LogNotepad" Query: "SELECT * FROM Win32_ProcessStartTrace WHERE ProcessName='notepad.exe'"
2018-07-03 11:25:39	20	WmiEventConsumer activity detected (rule: WmiEvent)	WmiEventConsumer activity detected: EventType: WmiConsumerEvent UtcTime: 2018-07-03 09:25:39.883 Operation: Created User: Name: "LogNotepad" Type: Command Line Destination: "cmd.exe /c echo %ProcessId% >> C:\\\\Users\\\\Public\\\\notepad-log.txt"



# Outline

- Introduction
- 2<sup>nd</sup> of 3 techniques from MITRE ATT&CK

Logon Scripts	
Technique	
ID	T1037
Tactic	Lateral Movement, Persistence
Platform	macOS, Windows
System	Write access to system or
Requirements	domain logon scripts
Data Sources	File monitoring, Process monitoring
CAPEC ID	<a href="#">CAPEC-564</a>

# Idea for detection

- Search for child processes of “**userinit.exe**”
- Exclude “**explorer.exe**” (normal)
- Exclude logon scripts (after baselining & vetting)
- Possibly a small number of other legitimate executables, but feasible to enumerate and filter out
- Search for **ProcessCreate** or **RegistryEvents** with the registry key name “**UserInitMprLogonScript**”

```

1 sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2   ( ProcessCreate userinit.exe ) OR ( ProcessCreate OR RegistryEvent UserInitMprLogonScript )
3 | search (ParentImage="*\userinit.exe" Image!="*\explorer.exe"
4
5
6
7   CommandLine!="*\netlogon\netlogon.bat*") OR
8   UserInitMprLogonScript
9 | stats values(CommandLine) dc(ComputerName) AS DC_host count by ParentImage Image

```

ParentImage	Image	values(CommandLine)	DC_host	count
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe	C:\Windows\System32\reg.exe	REG ADD HKCU\Environment /v UserInitMprLogonScript /t REG_SZ /d "notepad.exe C:\Users\...\Desktop\UserInitMprLogonScript.txt" reg query HKCU\Environment /v UserInitMprLogonScript reg query HKCU\Environment\UserInitMprLogonScript	2	4
C:\Windows\System32\userinit.exe	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe	notepad.exe notepad.exe C:\Users\...\Desktop\UserInitMprLogonScript.txt	3	4
C:\Windows\explorer.exe	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe	"C:\WINDOWS\system32\notepad.exe" C:\Users\...\Desktop\userinitMprLogonScript_notepad_reg.txt	1	2

```
1 sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
2 ( Process Message Message )
3 | search (ParentProcessName=notepad.exe)
4 Process Create:
5 UtcTime: 2019-10-23 12:32:15.127
6 ProcessGuid: {5c2fa88c-484f-5db0-0000-001050e6a701}
7 ProcessId: 7948
8 Image: C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe
9 FileVersion: 10.0.17763.1 (WinBuild.160101.0800)
10 Description: Notepad
11 Product: Microsoft® Windows® Operating System
12 Company: Microsoft Corporation
13 CommandLine: notepad.exe C:\Users\██████████\Desktop\UserInitMprLogonScript.txt
14 CurrentDirectory: C:\WINDOWS\system32\
15 User: POST\ueltschit
16 LogonGuid: {5c2fa88c-4844-5db0-0000-0020102ca201}
17 LogonId: 0x1A22C10
18 TerminalSessionId: 2
19 IntegrityLevel: Medium
20 Hashes: MD5=0E61079D3283687D2E279272966AE99D,IMPHASH=C8922BE3DCDFEB5994C9EEE7745DC22E
21 ParentProcessGuid: {5c2fa88c-484e-5db0-0000-00102e6da701}
22 ParentProcessId: 7504
23 ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\userinit.exe
24 ParentCommandLine: C:\windows\system32\userinit.exe
```

```
1 sourcetype="WinEventLog:Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational"
```

```
2 ( Process Message Message )
```

```
3 | search (Part
```

```
4 Process Create:  
5 UtcTime: 2019-10-23 12:32:15.127  
6 ProcessGuid: {5c2fa88c-484f-5db0-0000-001050e6a701}  
7 ProcessId: 7948  
8 Image: C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe
```

```
9 | Image: C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe  
FileVersion: 10.0.17763.1 (WinBuild.160101.0800)  
Description: Notepad  
Product: Microsoft® Windows® Operating System  
Company: Microsoft Corporation  
CommandLine: notepad.exe C:\Users\██████████\Desktop\UserInitMprLogonScript.txt
```

```
LogonId: 0x1A22C10
```

```
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\userinit.exe  
ParentCommandLine: C:\windows\system32\userinit.exe
```

```
ParentProcessGuid: {5c2fa88c-484e-5db0-0000-00102e6da701}  
ParentProcessId: 7504  
ParentImage: C:\Windows\System32\userinit.exe  
ParentCommandLine: C:\windows\system32\userinit.exe
```

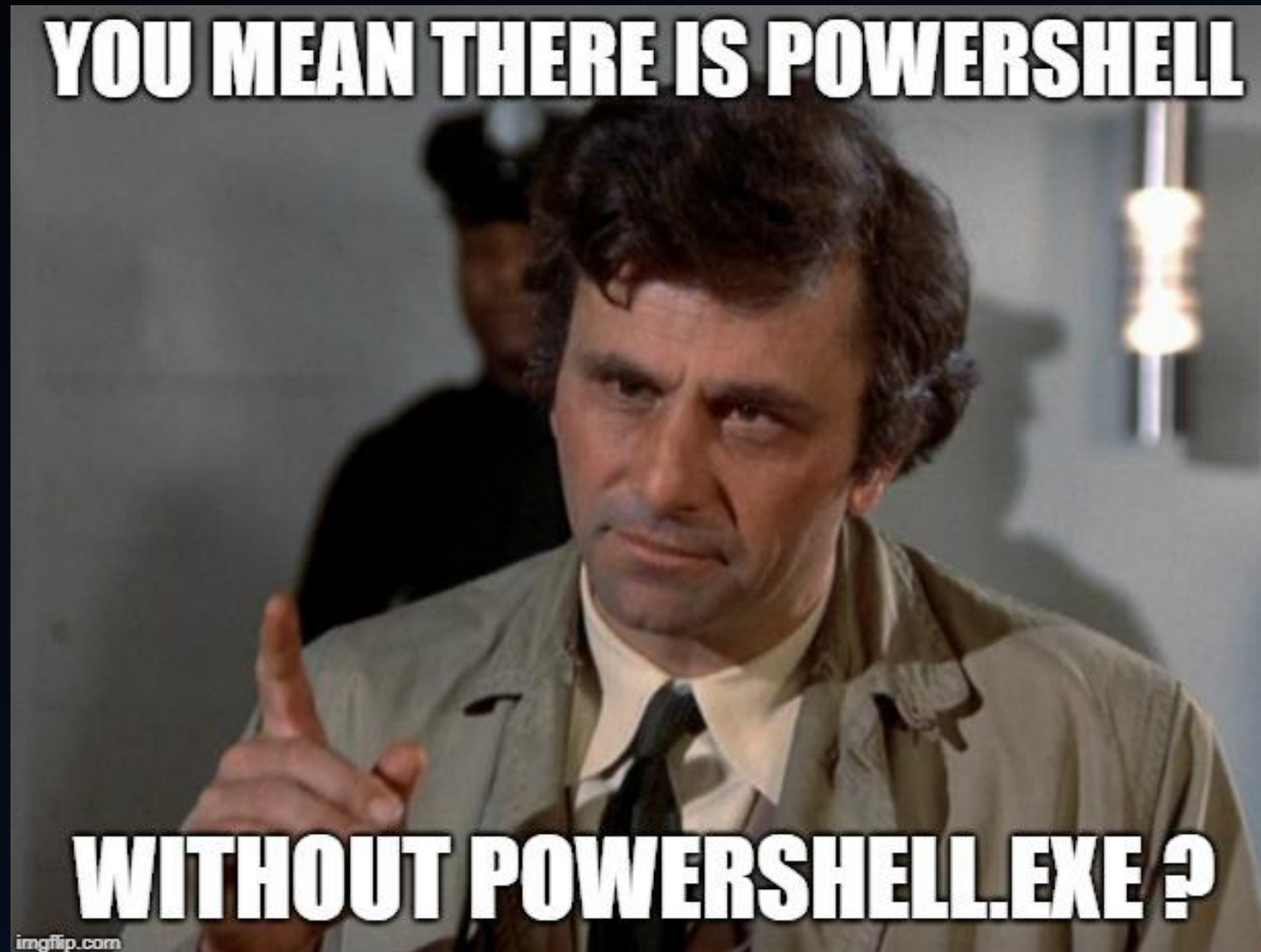
# Outline

- Introduction
- 3<sup>rd</sup> of 3 techniques from MITRE ATT&CK

<b>PowerShell</b>	
<b>Technique</b>	
<b>ID</b>	T1086
<b>Tactic</b>	Execution
<b>Platform</b>	Windows
<b>Permissions Required</b>	User, Administrator
<b>Data Sources</b>	Windows Registry, File monitoring, Process command-line parameters, Process monitoring
<b>Supports Remote</b>	Yes



# Unmanaged PowerShell



# Idea for detection

- Search PowerShell Transcript Files for “Host Application:” which is **NOT** any of
  - **powershell.exe**
  - **powershell\_ise.exe**
  - **wsmprovhost.exe**
  - and possibly very few others

```

1 sourcetype="PowerShell_transcript.*" "Host Application:" NOT powershell.exe
2 | search NOT "Host Application: C:\\*\\powershell.exe"
3 | rex field=_raw ".*Host Application: (?<Host_Application>[^ \n]*).*"
4 | rex field=_raw ".*Username: (NT AUTHORITY)\\\\(?<Username>.*)"
5 | search Host_Application!="powershell"
6     Host_Application!="*\\PowerShell_ISE.exe"
7     Host_Application!="*\\wsmprovhost.exe"
8     Host_Application!="*\\ "
9 | stats count by host Username Host_Application

```

Host_Application	count
C:\WINDOWS\system32\rundll32.exe	5
C:\Windows\SysWOW64\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\evading-PS-CLI-detections.exe	12
PSAttack.exe	203

# Thanks for your attention!!

## Time left for questions?

- Twitter: @c\_APT\_ure
- Blog: <http://c-apt-ure.blogspot.com/2017/12/is-this-blog-still-alive.html>

→ all my presentations linked in one place