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# LEADERSHIP FOR IT SECURITY & PRIVACY ACROSS HHS HHS CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM

## HC3 Intelligence Briefing Healthcare Malware Threat Update 2019

OVERALL CLASSIFICATION IS UNCLASSIFIED

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07/25/2019



### Agenda

#### **TLP:WHITE**

#### Healthcare Malware Threat Update 2019

- Ransomware
  - GandCrab
  - Ryuk
  - Samsam
  - WannaCry
- Trojan dropper / bot
  - Emotet
- Mitigation Strategies
- Questions



Non-Technical: managerial, strategic and high-level (general audience)

Slides Key:



Technical: Tactical / IOCs; requiring in-depth knowledge (sysadmins, IRT)



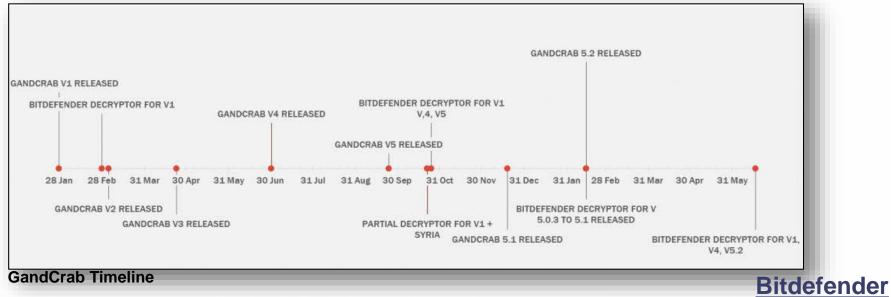


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### GandCrab – Refresher

- Ransomware active since January 2018
  - Est. 1.5 million victims, est. \$300 Million in losses
  - Aggressively updated
- Offered as Ransomware-as-a-Service (RaaS)
  - Operators aren't necessarily technical
  - Developers outsource attacks; split profits 40/60
  - Monetization: per PC, not lump sum
- Held <u>20% of market share in early 2019</u> –was as high <u>as 50%</u> in mid 2018

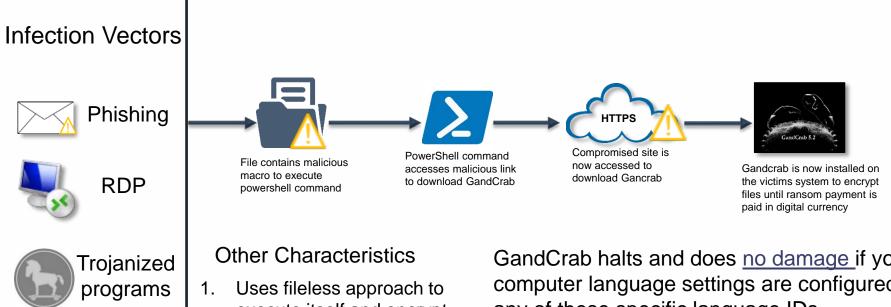
- Typical ransoms \$300 to \$6,000 (Dash / Bitcoin)
- Spread via common tactics
  - Malspam/Phishing
  - Vulnerabilities in Remote Deskstop Protocol (RDP)
- Other functions
  - Bypass some firewalls and Anti-Virus programs
  - Detect sandboxes and virtual machines





### GandCrab – How it works









### Botnets

Powershell

**Kits** 

- execute itself and encrypt victim files
- 2. Encrypts with five to ten random letters as file extension
- 3. Utilizes malvertising and exploits the Struts, JBoss, Weblogic, and Apache Tomcat vulnerabilities

GandCrab halts and does <u>no damage if your</u> computer language settings are configured to any of these specific language IDs

- 1. 0x419 Russian
- 2. 0x422 Ukrainian
- 3. 0x423 Belarusian
- 0x424 Tajik 4.
- 5. 0x42B Armenian
- 6. 0x42C Azeri Latin
- 7. 0x437 Georgian
- 8. 0x43F Kazakh

- 0x440 Spanish\_EI\_Salavador 9.
- 0x442 Turkmen 10.
- 11. 0x443 Uzbek Latin
- 12. 0x444 Tatar
- 13. 0x818 Romanian
- 0x819 Moldova 14.
- 0x82C Azeri Cyrillic 15.
- 16. 0x843 Uzbek\_Cyrillic





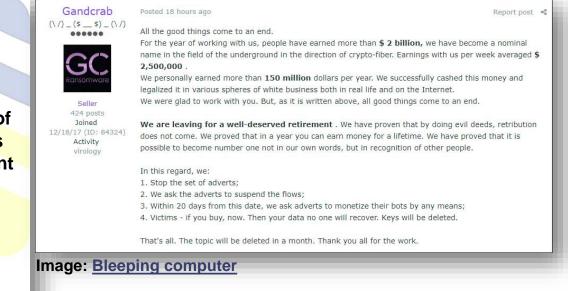
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### GandCrab – Update

- Decrease of <u>operations</u>
  - Escalating cat and mouse with security defenders
- Europol and 17 Partner's involvement
  - Release of <u>GandCrab Decryptor 5.2</u> ~decrypts all versions
- Loss of reputation, creditability, and trust in GandCrab
- Announcement of retirement and suspension servers, ads and infrastructure

"Joint efforts have weakened the operators' position on the market and have led to the demise and shutdown of the operation by law enforcement. This shutdown was a global law enforcement effort supported by Bitdefender and McAfee." EUROPOL

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#### Portswigger

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# GandCrab – Gone for Good?

- All Darkweb activity terminated
  - Gandcrab keys will not likely be released unlike other <u>campaigns</u> at end of life
  - FBI releases master decryption keys mid July 2019 ~ versions 4 5.2
  - <u>https://www.nomoreransom.org/</u>
- Power <u>Vacuum</u> will lead other ransomwares to vie for market share
  - Other will fill the void left "We (Gandcrab) have proven that by doing evil deeds, retribution does not come."
- Gandcrab creators returned with new name, malware, and new reputation
  - Now rebranded as "<u>REvil</u>" ransomware aka "Sodin" and "<u>Sodinokibi</u>"





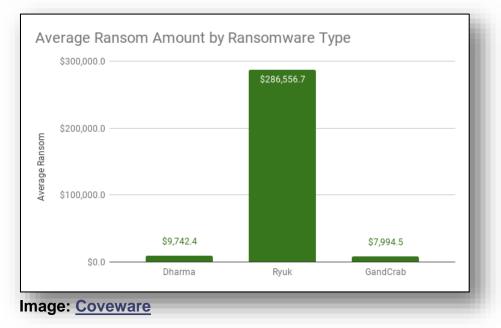
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## Ryuk – Refresher

- Ransomware active since August 2018
  - Over 100 companies have been targeted
    - Most incidents have occurred in 2019
  - Ryuk is one of the most prolific ransomwares in 2019
    - Has <u>a 24%</u> market share ~rising
- Infection vectors are difficult to identify given the ransomware will typically <u>delete all evidence</u> of its dropper as part of its routine.
  - However, given previous incidents, delivery methods for Ryuk can be highly varied
    - Email phishing
    - Unsecured or brute forced RDPs
    - Dropped by other malware such as Emotet or Trickbot.
  - Targets are global, varied and indiscriminate, attacks have focused on organizations with high revenues that can pay large ransoms

- Can't move laterally, but it can enumerate network shares and encrypt those it can access
- Uses anti-forensic recovery techniques
  - Using backups to recover systems very difficult
- Sets <u>records</u> with ransom demands
- Encrypts all non-executable files across the system
- No free <u>decryptor</u> exists to date

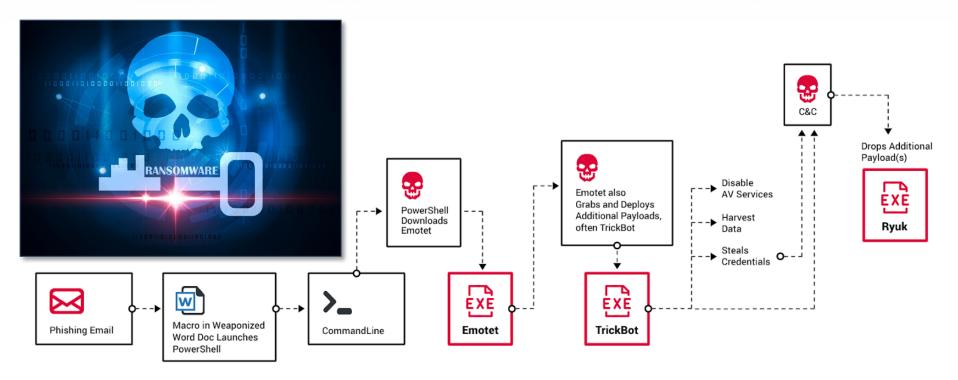






### Ryuk – How it works





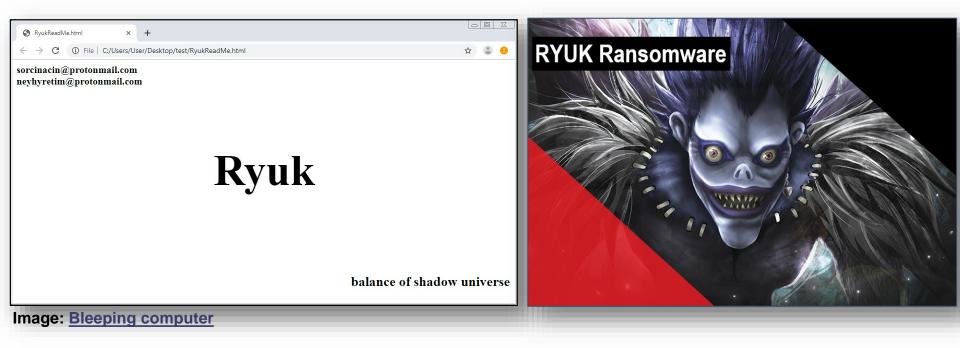
- After Ryuk payload is dropped
  - Checks the system architecture
  - Encrypts all non executable files and changes the extension to .RYK
  - Ryuk drops a ransom note RyukReadMe.txt





## Ryuk – Update

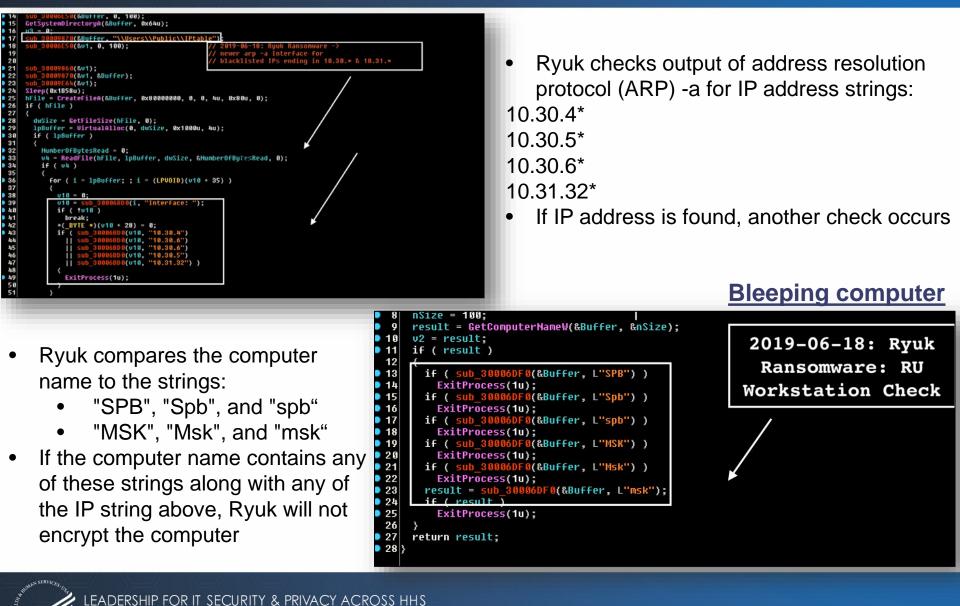
- Newest Version of Ryuk includes the following updates:
  - Email addresses are provided (Proton or Tutanota) so the victim can initiate contact
    - Ransom amount is designated by attackers
    - Bitcoin core (BTC) wallet is specified
    - Attackers will now provide a sample decryption of two files



#### **Bleepingcomputer**



## Ryuk – Update



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### Samsam – Refresher

- Ransomware active since late 2015
  - Constantly updated
  - Heavy concentration on the U.S
    - In 2018, 24% of all incidents were in the healthcare sector
  - Estimated to have received over \$6 million in ransom payments
    - Inflicted over \$30 million in losses on victims
- Attacks are individual and targeted
  - Gain network access, recon and map victim network for days or weeks before launching attack
    - "living off the land" use operating system features or legitimate network admin tools
      - With the goal to hide in plain sight
    - Samsam does not spread autonomously
      - Deployed post compromise
      - Capable of encrypting over 300 file types
      - Can encrypt offline if installed correctly
- Demand "per computer" or give "volume discount" ransom amounts



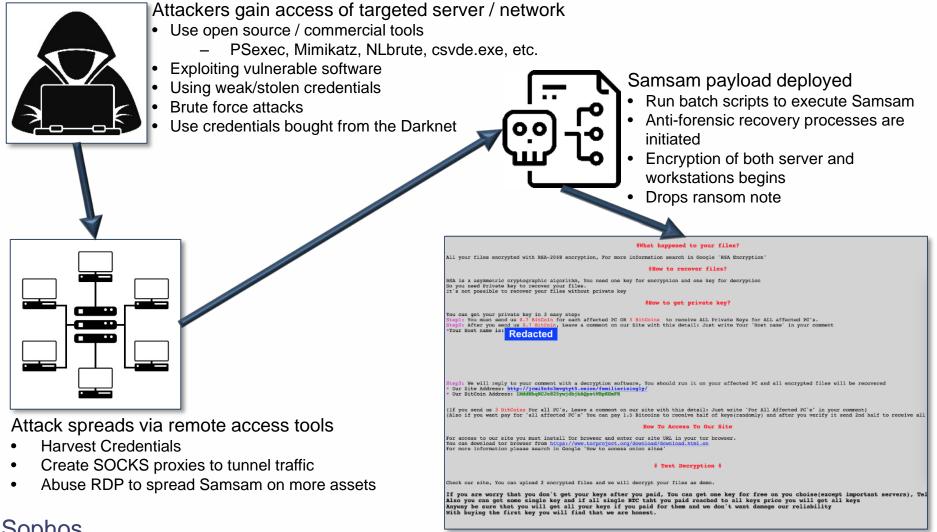






### Samsam – How it works





### Sophos



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### Samsam – Update

- In late 2018, the U.S. indicted two Iranian citizens for their involvement with Samsam
- How were they caught?
  - U.S. government tracked them through their use of Bitcoin cryptocurrency exchange
    - Bitcoin's ledger system for this blockchain technology is public
      - Ransom payments can be tracked
    - FBI tracked the ransom payments to the Iranian's exchange bitcoin addresses
- Unlikely they will be arrested and held accountable in a federal court since the United States does not have an <u>extradition treaty</u> with Iran.
- Samsam attacks have all but <u>disappeared</u> since indictment
- Possibility exists that Samsam could rebrand and make a return in the future



#### SAMSAM SUBJECTS

Conspiracy to Commit Fraud and Related Activity in Connection with Computers; Conspiracy to Commit Wire Fraud; Intentional Damage to a Protected Computer; Transmitting a Demand in Relation to Damaging a Protected Computer





Mohammad Mehd Shah Mansouri

Faramarz Shahi Savandi

REMARKS

Mohammad Mehdi Shah Mansouri is an Iranian male with a date of birth of September 24, 1991. He has brown hair and brown eyes and was born in Qom, Iran.

Faramarz Shahi Savandi is an Iranian male who was born in Shiraz, Iran, on September 16, 1984. Both men are known to speak Farsi and reside in Tehran, Iran.

#### DETAILS

Mohammad Mehdi Shah Mansouri and Faramarz Shahi Savandi are wanted for allegedly launching SamSam ransom ware, aka MSIL/Samas.A attacks, which encrypted hundreds of computer networks in the United States and other countries. Since December of 2015, Shah Mansouri and Shahi Savandi have received over \$6 million in ransom payments from victims across several sectors, including critical infrastructure, healthcare, transportation, and state, local governments.

On November 26, 2018, a federal grand jury sitting in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, Newark, New Jersey, indicted Shah Mansouri and Shahi Savandi on charges of conspiracy to commit fraud and related activity in connection with computers, conspiracy to commit wire fraud, intentional damage to a protected computer, and transmitting a demand in relation to damaging a protected computer. The District of New Jersey issued a federal arrest warrant for both men.

If you have any information concerning these individuals, please contact your local FBI office, or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate Field Office: Newark www.fbi.gov



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## WannaCry – Refresher

- Ransomware active since 2017
  - Encrypts 176 file types
  - Ransom note supports 27 languages
  - Estimated \$4 Billion in damages, including \$325 Million in paid ransoms
  - Affected 150 countries
- WannaCry is a ransomware cryptoworm
  - Propagates using EternalBlue exploit of windows ~ spreads without user interaction
    - Targets older windows computers Windows XP Windows Server 2012
  - Allows WannaCry to spread laterally across networks ~ 1 infected computer will lead to total network infection
  - Installs a backdoor dubbed DoublePulsar deploys main payload, encrypt the system, and drops ransom note ~leaves door open for other potential attacks
- Kill switch accidently discovered hardcoded in the malware, if reached, prevents encryption from executing in affected systems
  - Researchers registered the domain names found to be used by the different variants of the WannaCry
    - Prevented it from spreading further

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Effectively stopped the initial epidemic in just four days



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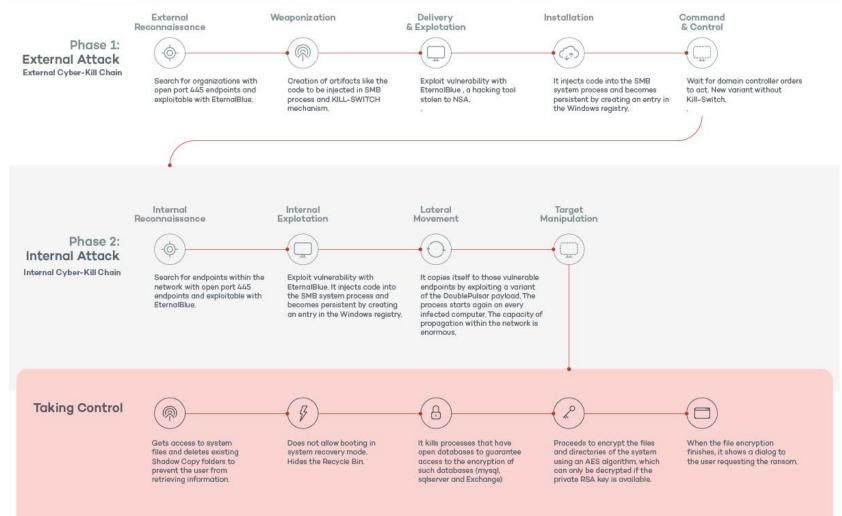




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### WannaCry – How it works





#### Panda Security

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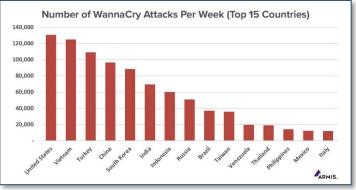
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## WannaCry – Update

- WannaCry is active today
- > 40% of Healthcare organizations suffered an attack in the last six months
- Kill switch was a game changer, it did not completely eradicate WannaCry
  - Devices already infected continue to spread to other computers / networks
    - 103 countries still impacted
    - To date 145000 devices are compromised
    - At least 3500 successful attacks per hour since
- Devices on which WannaCry did not activate are vulnerable to other attacks, as the ransomware's backdoor, DoublePulsar, remains wide open.
  - Enables attackers to gain complete control over the device with minimal effort
- Many organizations fail to patch their networks
  - Security <u>patches</u> which were made available in the months between the <u>EternalBlue</u> exploit leak and the outbreak of WannaCry
  - New vulnerabilities such as <u>BlueKeep</u> (works similarly to WannaCry) have been <u>patched</u> already before they can do damage



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#### ARMIS

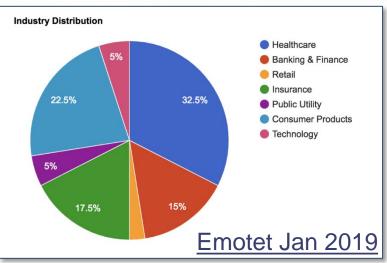


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### **Emotet – Refresher**

- Active since 2014, created by group called Mealybug
  - Started as a banking trojan and information stealer
  - Today it is a malware distribution as a service ~ botnet with global distribution
  - Constantly adding new functionalities
- "Swiss Army Knife" of malware
  - Credentials stealing, network spreading, email harvesting, create back doors, send spam and malicious emails and much more
  - Can deploys other malware families
    - Trickbot, Qakbot, Ryuk ,IcedID, and more
- Polymorphic elements to avoid AV detection and sandboxes
- Utilizes <u>dual infrastructures</u> and a variety of command-andcontrol (C2) servers to protect itself against takedown attempts.
- Delivered in two different ways
  - Malicious document delivered via email attachment
  - Via a malicious URLs leading to malware downloads



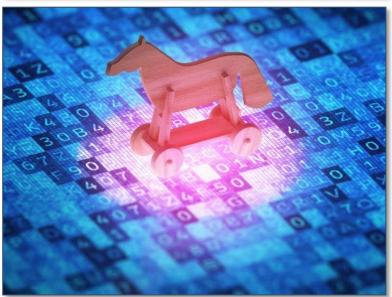
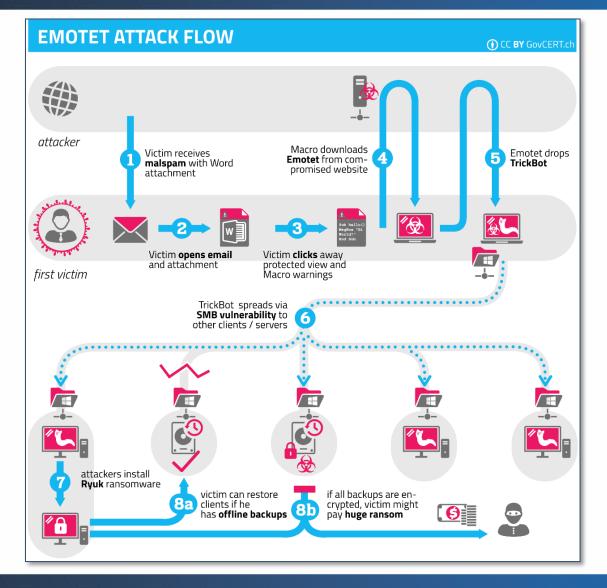


Image Threatpost

### **Emotet – How it works**







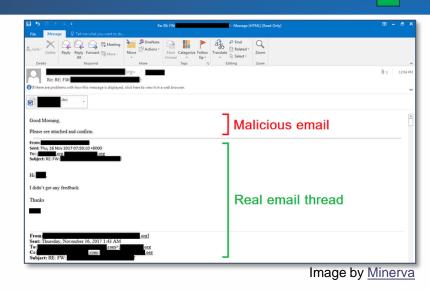
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GovCERT.ch

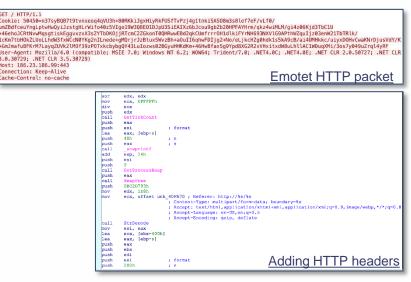
### **Emotet – Update**

- <u>Email thread Hijacking</u> of old threads
  - Insert URL near top of email thread that links to a infected file
  - Attach a malicious document to the existing thread
- Embedded macros inside <u>XML files</u> disguised as Word documents
  - Evades antivirus detection and sandbox environments
- HTTP header advancement
  - Previously built primitive HTTP packets
    - Did not follow the standard protocol for either the type of data or how it was sent
    - Easy to detect using static signature on network traffic
  - Have become increasingly sophisticated
    - Follows request for comments (RFC) specifications of the HTTP protocol
      - Gives appearance of coming from a legitimate request
      - Much harder to detect using static signature on network traffic





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### **Mitigations Strategies**

- Patch your systems
- Keep all software on your systems up to date
- Restricted access to port 3389 (RDP) by only allowing staff who use a VPN to be able to remotely access any systems. Utilize multi-factor authentication for VPN access
- > Multi-factor authentication for sensitive internal systems, even for employees on the LAN or VPN
- Create back-ups that are offline and offsite and develop a disaster recovery plan that covers the restoration of data and whole systems
- Periodic assessments, using third party tools like <u>Censys</u> or <u>Shodan</u>, to identify publicly-accessible services and ports across your public-facing IP address space, then close them
- Improve password policies: Encourage employees to use secure password managers, longer passphrases and the non-reuse of passwords for multiple accounts – <u>how to pick a proper password</u>
- Regular <u>phishing tests</u> and staff education about the perils of phishing
- Secure all of your machines and disconnect the infected endpoints from the network. Treat systems where you have even the slightest doubt as infected
- Use a robust antivirus software
- Do Not Pay the Ransom ~ contact FBI at <u>www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field</u> or <u>CyWatch@fbi.gov</u> or (855)292-3937



### Questions

#### **Upcoming Briefs**

- ▶ 5G Security Implications in the Healthcare Industry
- Island Hopping

#### **Product Evaluations**

Recipients of this and other Healthcare Sector Cybersecurity Coordination Center (HC3) Threat Intelligence products are highly encouraged to provide feedback to <u>HC3@HHS.GOV</u>.

#### **Requests for Information**

Need information on a specific cybersecurity topic? Send your request for information (RFI) to <u>HC3@HHS.GOV</u> or call us Monday-Friday, between 9am-5pm (EST), at **(202) 691-2110.** 

