



ResponderCon

SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

Successful DFIR From Preparation and Monitoring

INVESTIGATING THE ANATOMY OF A RANSOMWARE ATTACK

Dennis M. Allen

Director - Security Programs - Strategy & Risk

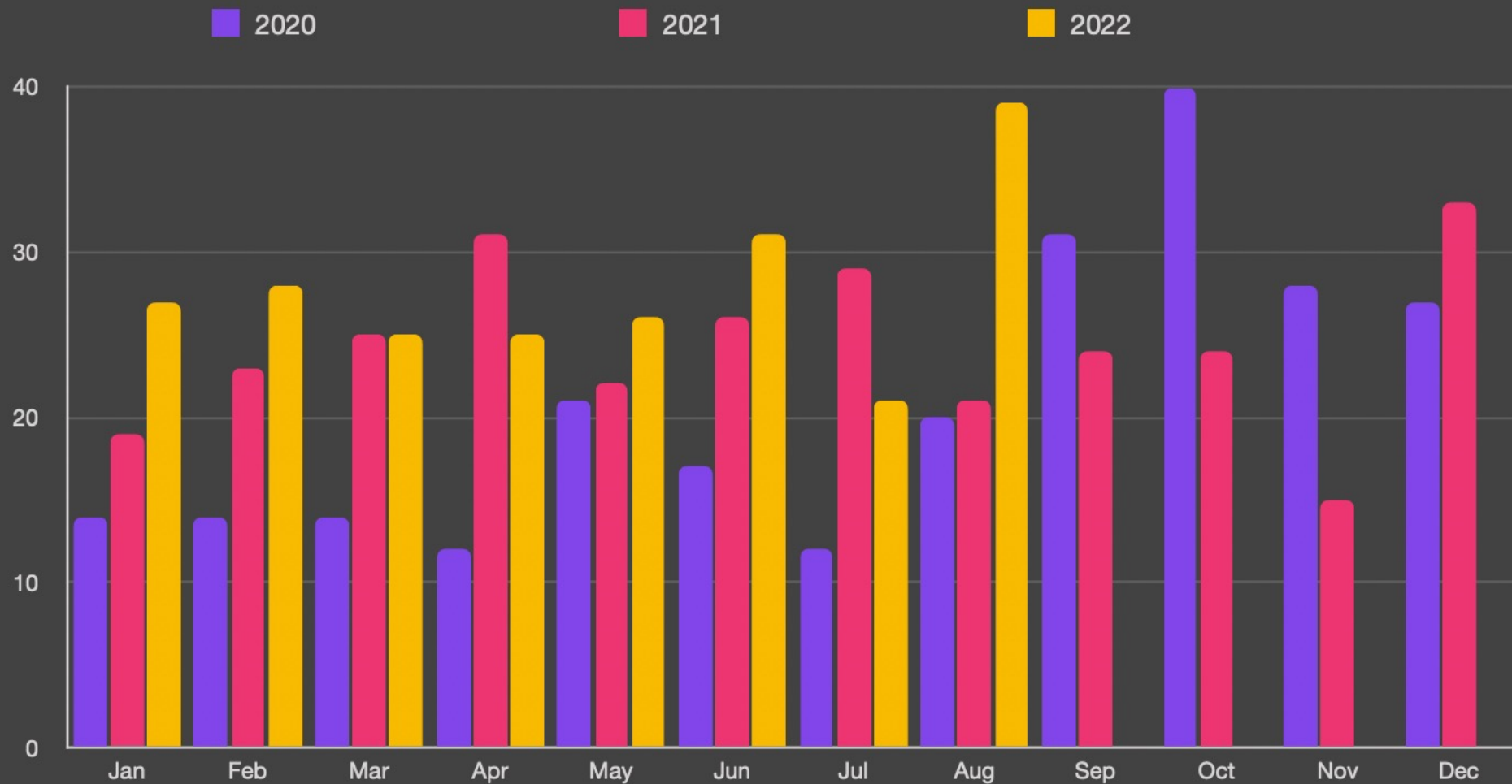


Agenda

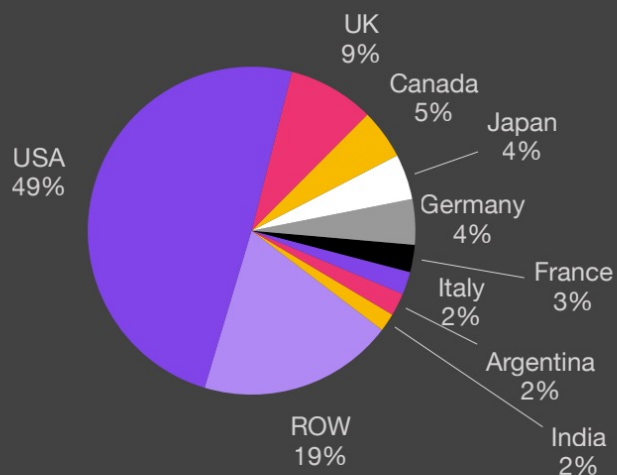
- Ransomware landscape
- Ransomware preparation
- Scenario walk-through
- Wrap-up



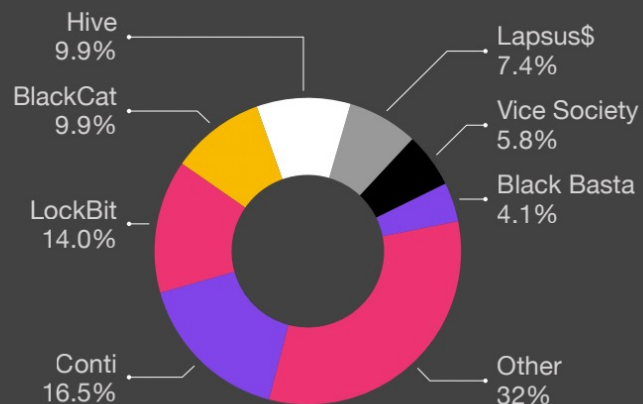
Ransomware Trend by Month



Ransomware by Country



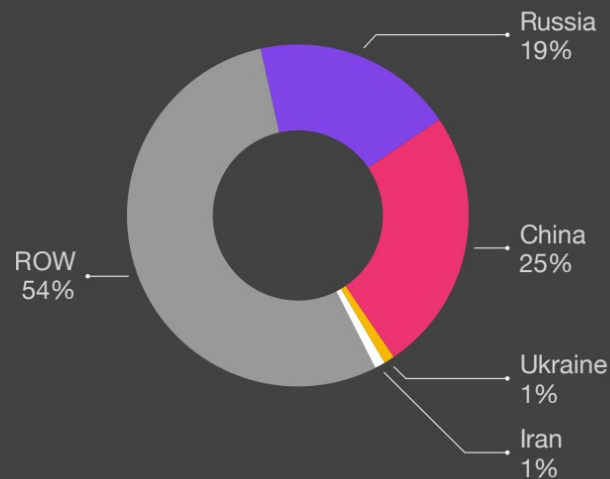
Ransomware by Variant



Ransomware by Industry



Ransomware Exfiltration Country



Key Trends



80% of all attacks use PowerShell



87% of attacks exfiltrate data



Average payout
US \$228,125k
+8% from Q1/22

Best Practices

- Prepare
(Risk Strategy, Data Strategy, IR Plan, Insurance policies)
- Instrument
(Technical and non-technical controls)
- Practice
(Validate RTO/RPO, TTX, Attack simulations)
- Improve
(Playbooks, Policies, and other Procedures)



Ransomware IR Playbook

1. Identify

- Most critical systems and data
- Define Policies, and Procedures

2. Prepare

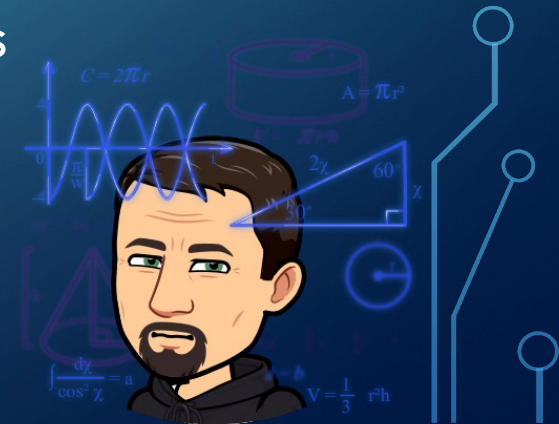
- Security Awareness Training
- Patch management
- Verify Backups
- Technical controls like network segmentation, MFA, etc.

3. Respond

- Incident declaration/activation
- Restore, rebuild, etc.
- Pay?

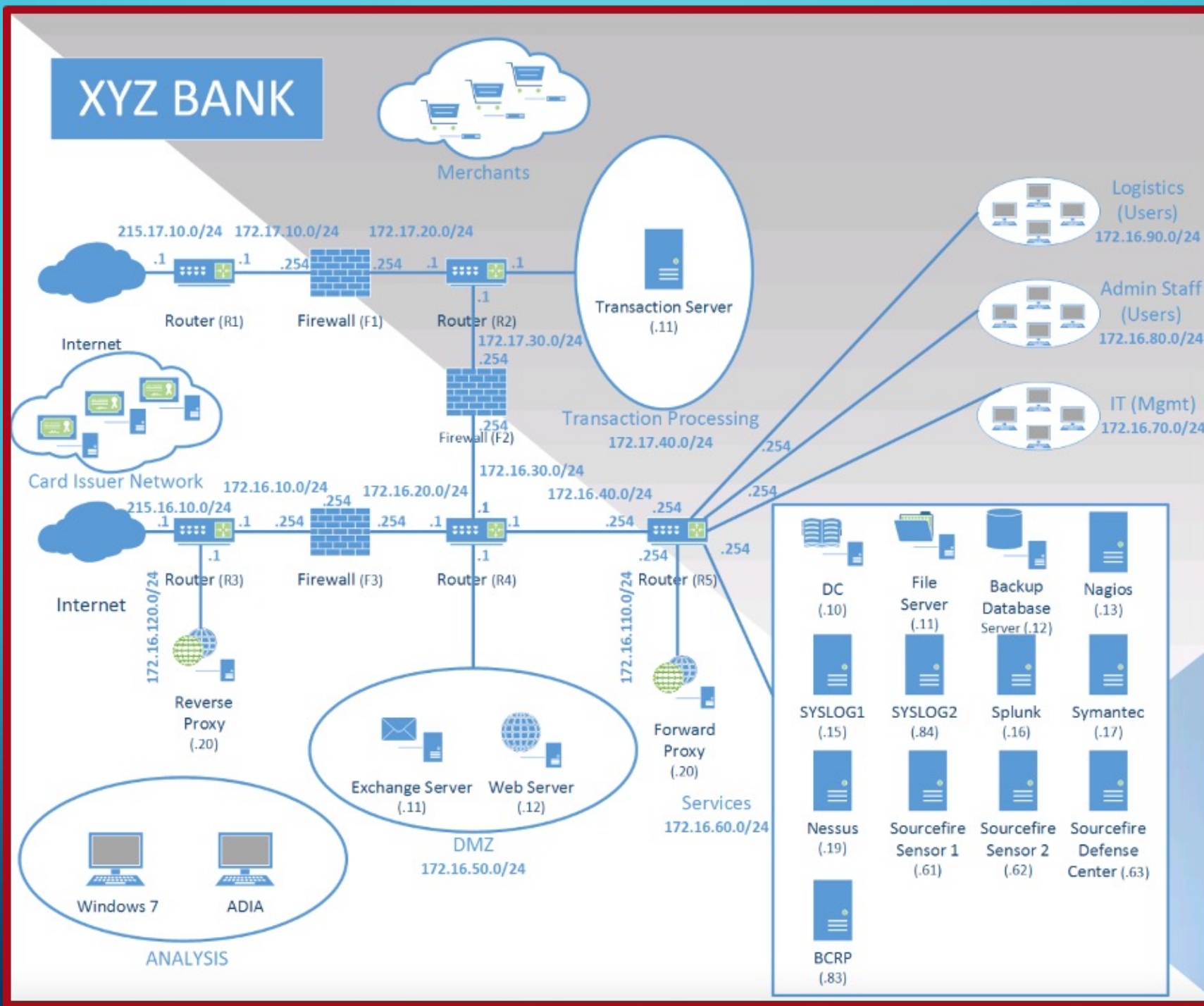
4. Recover

- Clean/Reset Passwords
- Crisis communications



Ransomware TTP Mapping

Execution 12 techniques	Persistence 19 techniques	Privilege Escalation 13 techniques	Defense Evasion 39 techniques	Credential Access 15 techniques	Discovery 27 techniques	Lateral Movement 9 techniques	Collection 17 techniques	Command and Control 16 techniques	Exfiltration 9 techniques	Impact 13 techniques
Command and Scripting Interpreter (2/8)	Account Manipulation (0/4)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (0/4)	Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (0/4)	Brute Force (0/4)	Account Discovery (1/4)	Exploitation of Remote Services	Archive Collected Data (1/3)	Application Layer Protocol (1/4)	Automated Exfiltration (0/1)	Account Access Removal
Container Administration Command	BITS Jobs	Access Token Manipulation (0/5)	Access Token Manipulation (0/5)	Credentials from Password Stores (0/5)	Application Window Discovery	Internal Spearphishing	Audio Capture	Communication Through Removable Media	Data Transfer Size Limits	Data Destruction
Deploy Container	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution (0/14)	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution (1/14)	BITS Jobs	Exploitation for Credential Access	Browser Bookmark Discovery	Lateral Tool Transfer	Automated Collection	Data Encoding (0/2)	Exfiltration Over Alternative Protocol (0/3)	Data Encrypted for Impact
Exploitation for Client Execution	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (0/5)	Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (0/5)	Build Image on Host	Forced Authentication	Cloud Infrastructure Discovery	Remote Service Session Hijacking (0/2)	Clipboard Data	Data Obfuscation (0/3)		Data Manipulation (0/3)
Inter-Process Communication (0/2)	Browser Extensions	Create or Modify System Process (1/4)	Deobfuscate/Decode Files or Information	Forge Web Credentials (0/2)	Cloud Service Dashboard	Remote Services (2/6)	Data from Cloud Storage Object	Dynamic Resolution (0/3)	Exfiltration Over C2 Channel	Defacement (1/2)
Native API	Compromise Client Software Binary	Domain Policy Modification (0/2)	Deploy Container	Input Capture (0/4)	Cloud Service Discovery	Replication Through Removable Media	Data from Configuration Repository (0/2)	Encrypted Channel (0/2)	Exfiltration Over Other Network Medium (0/1)	Disk Wipe (0/2)
Scheduled Task/Job (0/7)	Create Account (1/3)	Escape to Host	Direct Volume Access	Man-in-the-Middle (0/2)	Container and Resource Discovery	Software Deployment Tools	Data from Information Repositories (0/2)	Fallback Channels	Exfiltration Over Physical Medium (0/1)	Endpoint Denial of Service (0/4)
Shared Modules	Create or Modify System Process (0/4)	Event Triggered Execution (0/15)	Execution Guardrails (0/1)	Modify Authentication Process (0/4)	Domain Trust Discovery	Taint Shared Content	Data from Local System	Ingress Tool Transfer		Firmware Corruption
Software Deployment Tools	Event Triggered Execution (0/15)	Exploitation for Privilege Escalation	Exploitation for Defense Evasion	Network Sniffing	File and Directory Discovery	Use Alternate Authentication Material (0/4)	Data from Network Shared Drive	Multi-Stage Channels	Exfiltration Over Web Service (0/2)	Inhibit System Recovery
System Services (0/2)	External Remote Services	Hijack Execution Flow (0/11)	File and Directory Permissions Modification (0/2)	OS Credential Dumping (1/8)	Network Service Scanning		Data from Removable Media	Non-Application Layer Protocol	Scheduled Transfer	Network Denial of Service (0/2)
User Execution (1/3)	Hijack Execution Flow (0/11)	Process Injection (0/11)	Hide Artifacts (0/7)	Steal Application Access Token	Network Share Discovery		Data Staged (1/2)	Non-Standard Port	Transfer Data to Cloud Account	Resource Hijacking
Windows Management Instrumentation	Implant Internal Image	Scheduled Task/Job (1/7)	Hijack Execution Flow (0/11)	Steal or Forge Kerberos Tickets (0/4)	Network Sniffing		Email Collection (0/3)	Protocol Tunneling		Service Stop
	Modify Authentication Process (0/4)	Valid Accounts (0/4)	Impair Defenses (1/7)	Steal Web Session Cookie	Password Policy Discovery		Input Capture (0/4)	Proxy (0/4)		System Shutdown/Reboot
	Office Application Startup (0/6)		Indicator Removal on Host (0/6)	Two-Factor Authentication Interception	Peripheral Device Discovery		Man in the Browser	Remote Access Software		
	Pre-OS Boot (0/5)		Indirect Command Execution	Unsecured Credentials (0/7)	Permission Groups Discovery (1/3)		Man-in-the-Middle (0/2)	Traffic Signaling (0/1)		
	Scheduled Task/Job (0/7)		Masquerading (0/6)		Process Discovery		Screen Capture	Web Service (0/3)		
	Server Software Component (0/3)		Modify Authentication Process (0/4)		Query Registry		Video Capture			
	Traffic Signaling (0/1)		Modify Cloud Compute Infrastructure (0/4)		Remote System Discovery					
	Valid Accounts (0/4)		Modify Registry		Software Discovery (1/1)					
			Modify System Image (0/2)		System Information Discovery					
			Network Boundary Bridging (0/1)		System Location Discovery					
			Obfuscated Files or Information (0/5)		System Network Configuration Discovery (0/1)					
			Pre-OS Boot (0/5)		System Network Connections Discovery					
					System Owner/User Discovery					
					System Service Discovery					
					System Time Discovery					



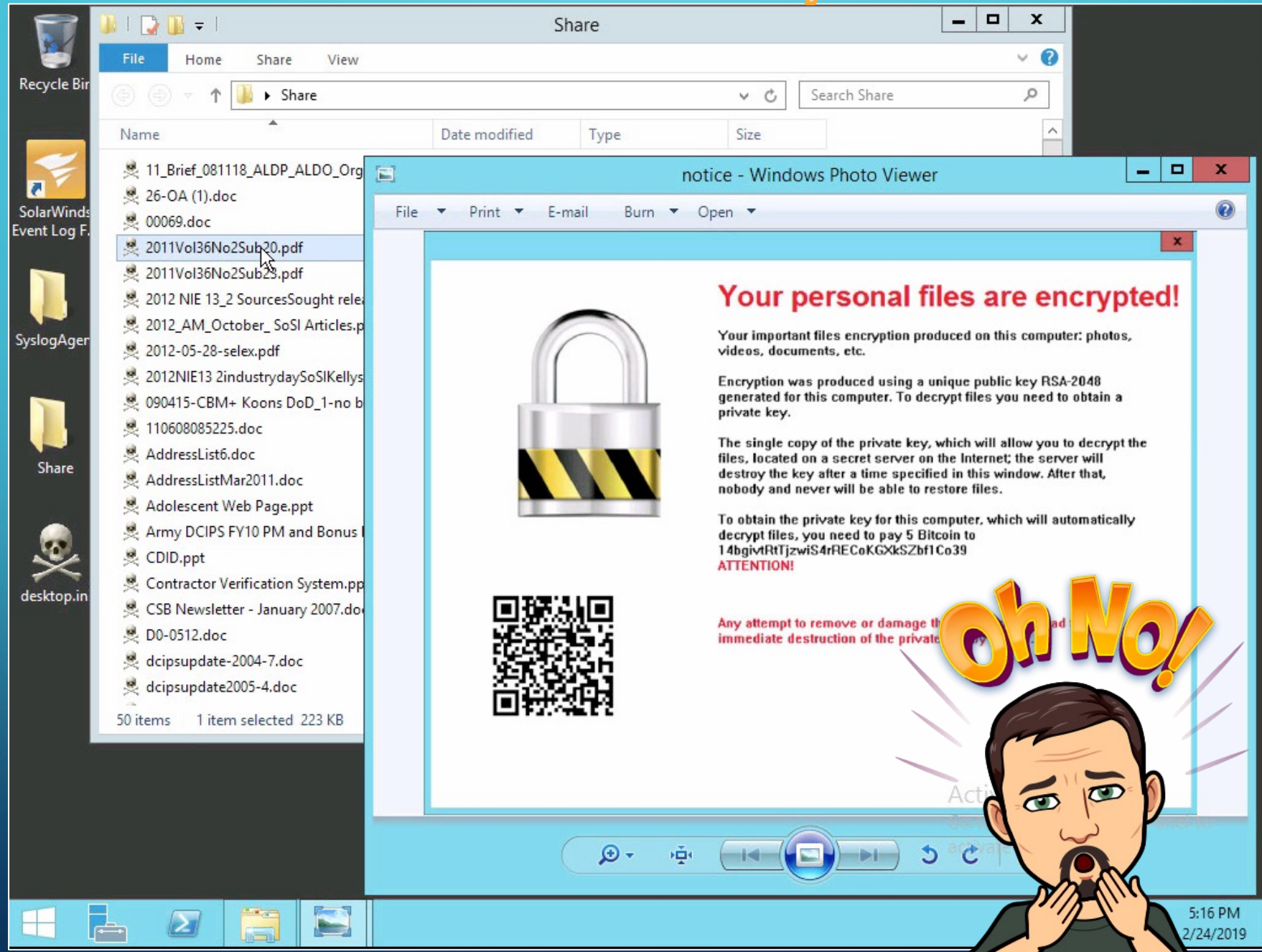
Detection & Analysis

- User calls the help desk, believes they “accidentally” clicked on a phishing link sent from SANS

asdfghijkl;
kvjiad
ilkdf



Detection & Analysis



"It's not the plane,
It's the pilot."
-Maverick-





Detection & Analysis

https://exch.xyz.com/owa/default.aspx... DA-Oct2016-Search - Admin...

eDiscovery search preview: DA-Oct2016-Search

The top 500 mailboxes and public folders with the most hits are displayed below.

All items
Item count: 8
Size: 117 KB

Dailey Marlene
Item count: 1
Size: 15 KB

Scanlon Harry
Item count: 1
Size: 15 KB

Butts Ingrid
Item count: 1
Size: 15 KB

Welch Ericka
Item count: 1
Size: 15 KB

Items by Date (Newest on top)		
Older		
Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016
Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016
Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016
Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016
Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016
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Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016
Lynda Carter	We bring Security Training to your city!	10/13/2016

We bring Security Training to your city!

LC Lynda Carter <lynda.carter@san...>
To: Lantz Cayla; Thu 10/13/2016 6:54 PM

Action Items

Learn what you need to know now, from anywhere and at anytime, via SANS online training formats OnDemand and vLive. These two online training formats offer more than 30 SANS courses in flexible, extended learning packages, and all are eligible for a special 10% discount for a very limited time! To redeem this offer before the July 13 expiration date, follow these simple steps: - 1. Visit the Online Training Special Offer web page: <http://www.sans.org/u/45F> - 2. Choose a qualifying OnDemand or vLive course - 3. Use discount code PCTD15 at checkout - Qualifying OnDemand Courses - OnDemand's extensive library of SANS' most popular courses allow you to learn anytime, anywhere, at your own pace. See the complete list at: <http://www.sans.org/u/45F> - Qualifying vLive Courses - SANS' most engaging courses taught LIVE in a convenient online classroom format. See the

46.236.64.10

http://46.236.64.10/silkagent.exe

5:57 PM 2/24/2019

Detection & Analysis



46.236.64.10

IP Threat Status: ⓘ

- Benign

[Request an IP threat status change](#)

Content on this IP

Since one IP address may host multiple sites, content hosted on this IP may have a different reputation score than for the IP.

[Show content data for this IP](#)

IP Database Version: 1.3882 - Last Updated: 01/01/2022 23:01:02 UTC

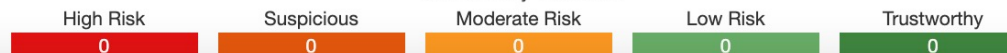
IP Threat Analysis

No Threats Found



IP Virtually Hosted Domains ⓘ

Total Virtually Hosted: 0



Detection & Analysis – What we know so far

- Phishing email sent from lynda.carter@sans.edu (not .org)
- Phishing email with a malicious link to 46.236.64.10 instead of the sans.org link
- 8 Users received the email
- 1 User (172.16.80.54) visited the link in the phishing email
- 172.16.80.54 is also connecting to 46.236.64.10 on TCP Port 25
- Finland IP is not a “known bad” address



Logs

Traffic

Threat

URL Filtering

WildFire Submissions

Data Filtering

HIP Match

Configuration

System

Alarms

Packet Capture

App Scope

Summary

Change Monitor

Threat Monitor

Threat Map

Network Monitor

Traffic Map

Session Browser

Botnet

PDF Reports

Manage PDF Summary

User Activity Report

Report Groups

Email Scheduler

Manage Custom Reports

Reports

(addr.src in 172.16.80.54)

		Receive Time	Type	From Zone	To Zone	Source	Source User	Destination	To Port	Application
		10/14 02:27:44	end	Internal	External	172.16.80.54		46.236.64.10	25	unknown-tcp
		10/13 23:06:20	start	Internal	External	172.16.80.54		46.236.64.10	25	unknown-tcp
		10/13 21:47:20	end	Internal	External	172.16.80.54		4.4.4.8	53	dns
		10/13 21:46:51	start	Internal	External	172.16.80.54		4.4.4.8	53	dns

Internal User
172.16.80.54

Badguy 46.236.64.10
- TCP/25
- Web (from proxy log)

Question Time

What is your biggest concern?



Detection & Analysis – What we know so far



- Phishing email sent from lynda.carter@sans.edu (not .org)
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- Finland IP is not a "known bad" address

- Two other internal hosts are connected to the Badguy IP: 172.16.60.11 & 172.16.110.20
- 172.16.60.11 is a critical Transaction Server
- When accessing the Transaction Server, it automatically reboots
- Network Monitoring tools demonstrate that the Transaction Server is offline

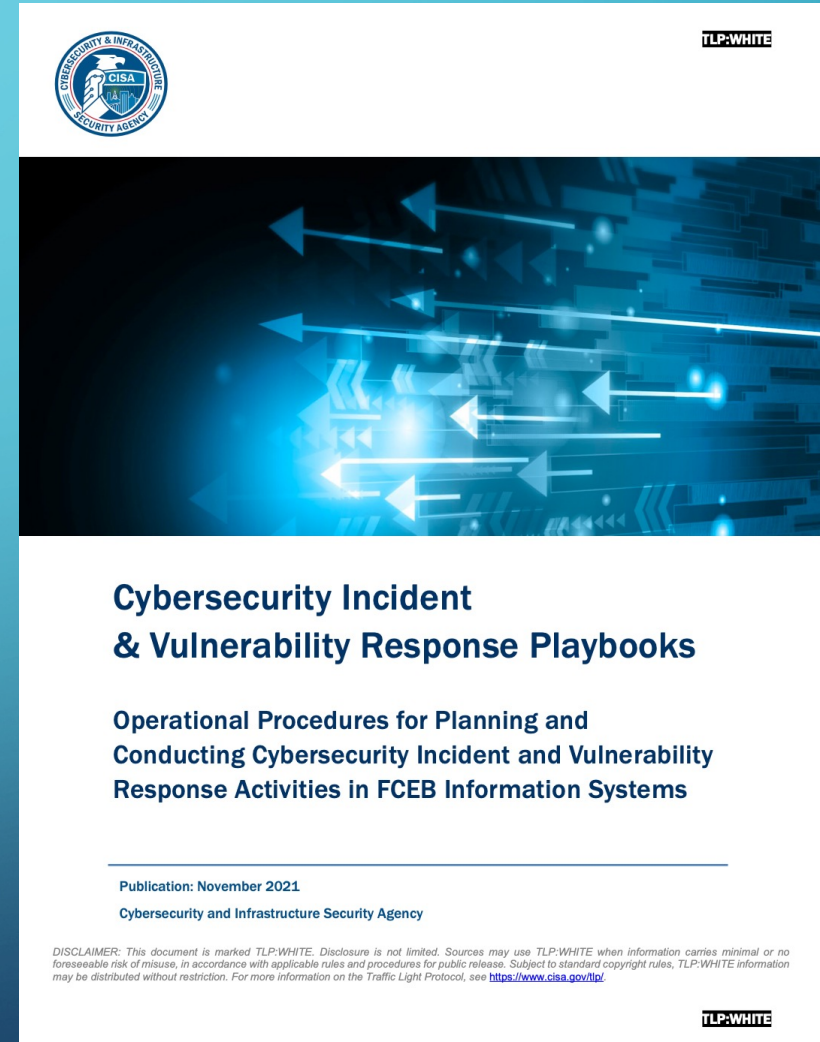
Detection & Analysis

- Have we identified the root cause?
- Have we identified the full extent of the incident?
- What internal departments or groups should get involved?
- What other analysis should be done?
- What 3rd Parties need to be contacted?



Incident Response Plan

- Let's take a look...




Question Time

- What activities need to be prioritized?
- **WHAT BUSINESS PROCESS IS IMPACTED THE MOST?**
- How much is 5 Bitcoin? Does that impact your decision?
- What tools are available to aid next steps?
- What 3rd Parties need to be engaged (if any)?



DF - ir



 **CYBER TRIAGE**

← →

Dashboard

Bad Items **5**

Suspicious Items **9**

Users






Accounts **1**

Logins

Suspicious Items


Ungroup Items

☐ Suspicious Items Only

Threat	Type	Description
 /programdata/intel/readme.txt	File	Ransomware Note Suspected - Found more than 150...
 /users/matt hamilton/appdata/local/google/chrome/user data/default/history.fe...	File	Ransomware: Found an encrypted Chrome file.
 /users/matt hamilton/appdata/local/microsoft/edge/user data/default/service w...	File	Ransomware Note Suspected - Found more than 150...
 /Users/Matt Hamilton/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.Windows.Search_cw5...	Program Run	Run from User * Cache folder, App Data
 /USERS/MATT HAMILTON/APPDATA/LOCAL/TEMP/3892_1953552578/SOFTWAR...	Program Run	Run from Temp folder, App Data

Cyber Triage Collection Tool

Collect data from this system to analyze in Cyber Triage.
Choose destination of data, what to collect, and press Start.

 **CYBER TRIAGE**

Destination

☒ Local File

Path

☐ S3 Cloud Bucket (Not Configured)

☐ Remote Server

Host

Port

Server Mode:

☒ Standalone

☐ Team: Session ID

☐ Team: Server Key

Incident

☐ Encrypt File

Password

Confirm Password

Collection Types

Users

☒ Logins

☒ Network Shares

☒ Programs Run

☒ Web Artifacts

☒ Data Accessed

Malware

☒ Startup Items

☒ Triggered Tasks

☒ Processes

☒ Network

☒ Network Caches

System Config

☒ Settings

General

☒ Full File System Scan

☐ Collect hash instead of file content

Select All

Deselect All

Status

Not running

Close

Cancel

Start

Other Windows IOCs

- Domain Admins being changed
- Local Admins being changed
- Local Users created or deleted
- New Services or Applications
- Suspicious RDP Logins
- New Services or Applications
- Password resets
- Changes to scheduled tasks
- Security Event Logs being cleared
- Unknown PowerShell script execution



<https://www.nsa.gov/Press-Room/Cybersecurity-Advisories-Guidance>



EDR/XDR

XDR > Detections Search

XDR Detections 6 total

Search detections Severity Status Assigned to Generated by User Hosts Log source Vendor Domain IP Time More filters +

Details Status Attributes Sorted by time: Descending

Jan. 27, 2022

Severity	Time	Name	Assigned to	Status	Generated by	Log source	Domain
Critical	16:12:20	Metasploit and brute force login attempt	Unassigned	New	CrowdStrike	Falcon, Corelight	Identity, Net...
Low	06:05:50	Multiple failed login attempts	Assigned to Harry Potter	In progress	Custom	Falcon, Zscaler	Domain Identity, Web
Critical	02:18:35	Ransomware with Data Exfiltration	Assigned to Albus Dumbledore	In progress	CrowdStrike	Falcon, Corelight	Domain Endpoint, N...

Jan. 27, 2022

Jan. 27, 2022 16:12:20

Critical severity Actions

XDR Detection

Name: Metasploit and brute force login attempt

Description: Encrypted Metasploit traffic and login activity indicative of a brute force attempt were observed from a common IP.

Generated by: CrowdStrike

Severity: Critical

Start time: Jan. 27, 2022 16:08:16 End time: Jan. 27, 2022 16:12:02

Status

Assigned to: Unassigned Status: New

Total comments: 0

Indicators

Masquerading executable

Event time: Jan. 27, 2022 16:08:16 Log source: CrowdStrike Domain: Endpoint

Tactic & Technique

<https://www.crowdstrike.com/> See full detection

All Sites

18 Unresolved Threats

- Active Threats: 4
- Threats Mitigated: 14
- Blocked Threats: 0

No suspicious detections

4 Endpoints

- Infected Endpoints: 1
- Out of date Endpoints: 0
- Online Endpoints: 0

Unresolved Detections

Actions No Items Selected Active Suspicious Mitigated Blocked

Showing 18 results

File	Endpoint	Time	Sites	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/> cerber.exe	Jim-Win7	20 Days Ago	AcmeInc	
<input type="checkbox"/> 02sample_get_cerber.xlsx	Jim-Win7	20 Days Ago	AcmeInc	Killed
<input type="checkbox"/> 01Dropper_Sample.exe	Jim-Win7	20 Days Ago	AcmeInc	Killed, Qu
<input type="checkbox"/> d22a6958ad45edf1e690b0a6561...	Jim-Win7	20 Days Ago	AcmeInc	Killed, Qu
<input type="checkbox"/> 2542fb87a3d7dc8b353b385201e...	Jim-Win7	20 Days Ago	AcmeInc	Killed, Qu

<https://www.sentinelone.com/>



EDR/XDR

ENDPOINT DETAILS

VICTIM-DESKTOP

GENERAL

APP INVENTORY

Actions



Windows 10 (64 bit)

Last active Last 4 minutes

Site name Demo

Health status

Last logged in

Group name

Agent version 2.6.1.5901 **UPDATED**

Scan status N/A

Memory 2.00 GB

CPU 1 X Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-...

Core count 1

Disk encryption Off

Console conn

Network statu

Domain

Subscribed on

Console visib

IP Address

Search...

- Decommission
- Disconnect From Netw...
- Fetch Logs
- Initiate Scan
- Move To Another Site
- Reboot
- Send Message
- Show Passphrase
- Shut Down
- Uninstall

Policy mode options

Detect
Alert Only

Protect
Kill & Quarantine

Threats

Suspicious

Engines

- ☐ Reputation
- ☒ DFI
- ☒ DFI - Suspicious
- ☒ DBT - Executables
- ☒ Documents, Scripts
- ☒ Lateral Movement
- ☒ Anti Exploitation / Fileless
- ☒ Potentially Unwanted Applications
- ☒ Intrusion Detection

Protect level

☒ Kill & Quarantine

☐ Remediate

☐ Rollback

<https://www.sentinelone.com/>

Yo, I'm in
big trouble.



expel

DashboardsAlertsActivitySettings

Hi, Kim

100%0%

SECURITY INCIDENT

Expel malicious macro signal

Update status

Threat type
Non-targeted

Attack timing
Historical

Vector
Phishing

Detection
Endpoint

Lifecycle
Initial Recon

Findings

Investigative Actions

Timeline

Involved Hosts

Findings

Manage questions

What is it?
DRIDEX is a banking Trojan that steals information related to banking websites. We found two systems infected with different variants of this non-targeted, commodity malware.
50 min ago • Jon Hencinski (Expel)

Where is it?
The scope of the incident is limited to two workstations joined to the EVILCORP domain:
• WORKSTATION1
• WORKSTATION2
42 min ago • Jon Hencinski (Expel)

When did it get here?
The earliest evidence of compromise is 1 day ago on February 3, 2017, at 09:50:00 UTC. The Windows Script Host (cscript.exe) on WORKSTATION1 launched a malicious Visual Basic Script file.
21 min ago • Jon Hencinski (Expel)

How did it get here?
The DRIDEX banking trojan was installed on both systems when the user opened a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that contained a malicious macro.
20 min ago • Jon Hencinski (Expel)

How did we detect it?
Carbon Black's Cb Response detected the malicious script activity on both workstations on February 3, 2017 at 09:49:10 and 10:01:00 UTC.
26 min ago • Jon Hencinski (Expel)

Attack timeline

02.03.17 09:50:00	Attack phase Installation	Host WORKSTATION1	Event: Carbon Black alert cscript.exe "C:\Users\user1\AppData\Local\Temp\evil.vbs"
02.03.17 10:01:00	Attack phase Installation	Host WORKSTATION2	Event: File created C:\Users\user2\AppData\evil.exe

What remediation actions should we take?

REMEDIATION
Implement DNS blackholing for the following malicious domains:
• aircraftpolish[.]com
• gofoto[.]dk
Created: 12 min agoCompleted

REMEDIATION
Block the following malicious IP addresses:
• 203.172.141.250
• 74.208.11.204
Created: 17 min agoCompleted

How can we make the enterprise more resilient to this kind of attack?

RESILIENCEDISRUPT ATTACKERS
Block Macros from the Internet
Block macros from running in Office files downloaded from the Internet. This can be configured to work in two different modes:
• Open downloaded documents in 'Protected View'
• Open downloaded documents and block all macros



Post-Incident Activity

- What should be done to improve security posture?
- What board involvement, notifications, or reporting is required?
- Is remedial training required for one or more employees?
- Are any HR actions required?
- What 3rd Parties need to be engaged (if any)?
 - Law Enforcement, Compliance Regulators, Insurance Carrier, ?-ISAC
- COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

**WHAT
HAPPENED?**



Wrap-up

- What went well for XYZ Bank?
- What could XYZ bank have done better?
- What changes does XYZ bank need to make?
- Any other observations or action items?

Any Questions?



Contact Info

Dennis M. Allen

Director - Security Programs - Strategy & Risk



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dennis-m-allen>

LET ME KNOW

