Assignment 7

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CYBV 454 MALWARE THREATS & ANALYSIS

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CYBV 454 Assignment 7 LIVINGSTON

LAB 10-1

- Lab10-01.exe: 795f093a536f118fb4c34fcedfa42165 (Figure 1)
- Lab10-01.sys: 3d3d1a8145e3237183984faed04e052e (Figure 2)


*Figure 1: Virus Total MD5 Hash for file Lab10-01.exe.*


*Figure 2: Virus Total MD5 Hash for file Lab10-01.sys.*

Virus Total found 23 of 71 matching security vendor signatures for Lab10-01.exe (Figure 3) and has a compilation timestamp of 2011-03-11 at 10:55:44 UTC (Figure 4). There were 29 of 72 signatures for Lab10-01.sys (Figure 5) and has a compilation timestamp of 2012-01-14 at 09:13:34 UTC (Figure 6).


*Figure 3: Virus Total Findings for file Lab10-01.exe.*

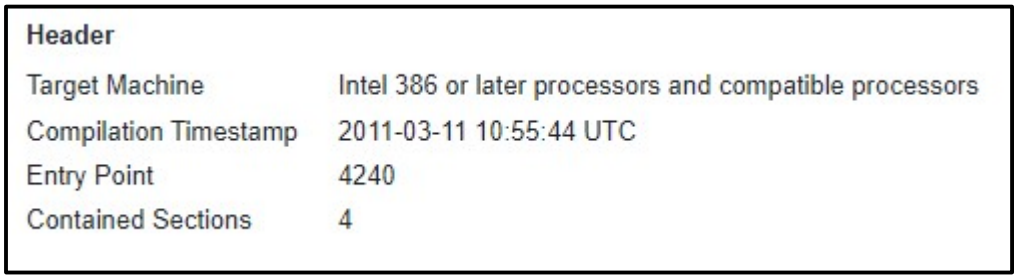



*Figure 4: Virus Total compilation timestamp for Lab10-01.exe.*


*Figure 5: Virus Total Findings for Lab10-01.sys.*

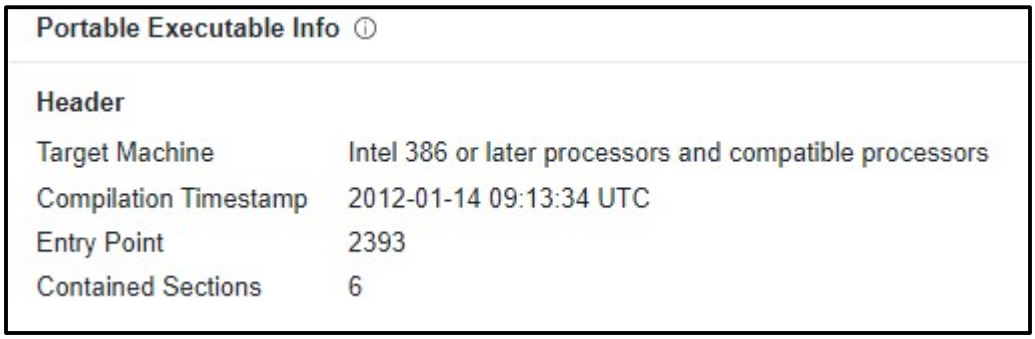



*Figure 6: Virus Total compilation timestamp for Lab10-01.sys.*

The .exe appears to only import two dynamic linked libraries: kerenel32 and advapi32 (Figure 7). Kernel32.dll indicates that it has the capability to access and modify the core OS functions. Advapi32.dll indicates that core Windows components will be altered, such as the Service Manager and Registry. The .sys file only has one import: ntoskrnl.exe (Figure 8). This is the kernel image that is responsible for handling system-level services and is a critical component of Windows OS. This indicates that the malware will manipulate the kernel in some way, potentially using the file to install a rootkit.

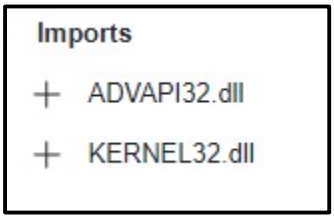



*Figure 7: Virus Total imports for Lab10-01.exe.*

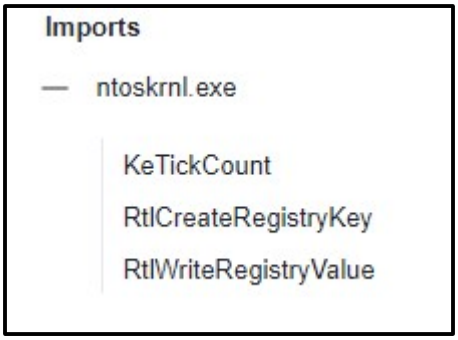



*Figure 8: Virus Total imports for Lab10-01.sys.*

Virus Total also reports that the .exe file has behaviors of creating, starting, and stopping services, likely indicative of establishing persistence (Figure 9). The .sys file did not show any behaviors from Virus Total, but the naming convention suggests that it is most likely the service that is installed by the .exe.

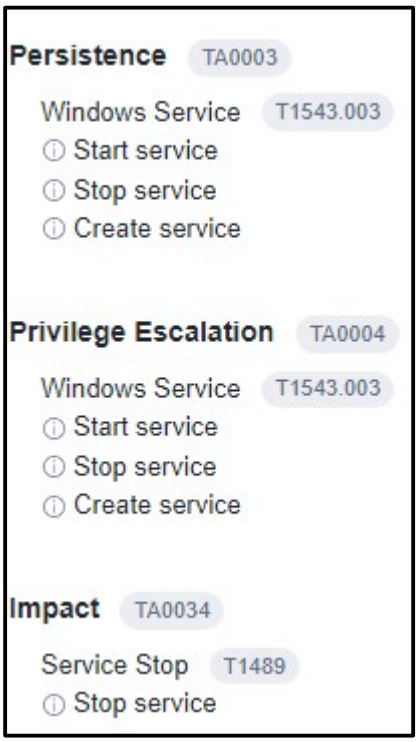



*Figure 9: Virus Total behavior for file Lab10-01.exe.*

## LAB 10-1

### LAB 10-1 Question 1

**Does this program make any direct changes to the registry? (Use procmon to check.)**

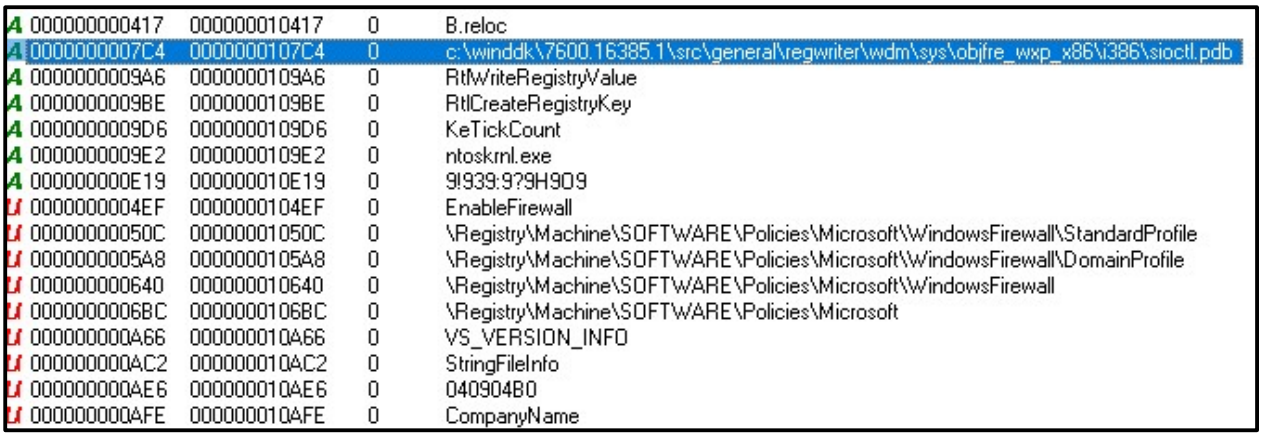
**BLUF**: Yes, using the RegSetValue

Both files were first run through a brief static analysis. BinText identified some registry-related strings, such as RegWriterApp (Figure 10). Also within Figure 10, the System32 directory is invoked and Lab10-01.sys is referenced. This could potentially be the .exe file copying the .sys file into the System32 directory, most likely where the .sys file will invoke ntoskrnl.exe as shown in Figure 8.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 000000005030 | 000000405030 | 0 | Lab10-01 |
| A | 00000000503C | 00000040503C | 0 | C:\Windows\System32\Lab10-01.sys |
| U | 0000000067CE | 0000004067CE | 0 | &File |
| U | 0000000067DC | 0000004067DC | 0 | iE&xit |
| U | 0000000067EC | 0000004067EC | 0 | &Help |
| U | 0000000067FA | 0000004067FA | 0 | h&About ... |
| U | 00000000683E | 00000040683E | 0 | About |
| U | 00000000684C | 00000040684C | 0 | System |
| U | 00000000688E | 00000040688E | 0 | RegWriterApp Version 1.0 |
| U | 0000000068DA | 0000004068DA | 0 | Copyright (C) 2011 |
| U | 000000006938 | 000000406938 | 0 | RegWriterApp |
| U | 000000006956 | 000000406956 | 0 | Hello World! |
| U | 000000006974 | 000000406974 | 0 | REGWRITERAPP |
| R | 000000006936 | 000000406936 | 103 | RegWriterApp |
| R | 000000006954 | 000000406954 | 106 | Hello World! |
| R | 000000006972 | 000000406972 | 109 | REGWRITERAPP |
| A | 00000000004D | 00000040004D | 0 | !This program cannot be run in DOS mode. |
| A | 0000000001D8 | 0000004001D8 | 0 | .text |
| A | 000000000200 | 000000400200 | 0 | .rdata |

*Figure 10: Lab10-01.exe calling 'RegWriterApp'.*

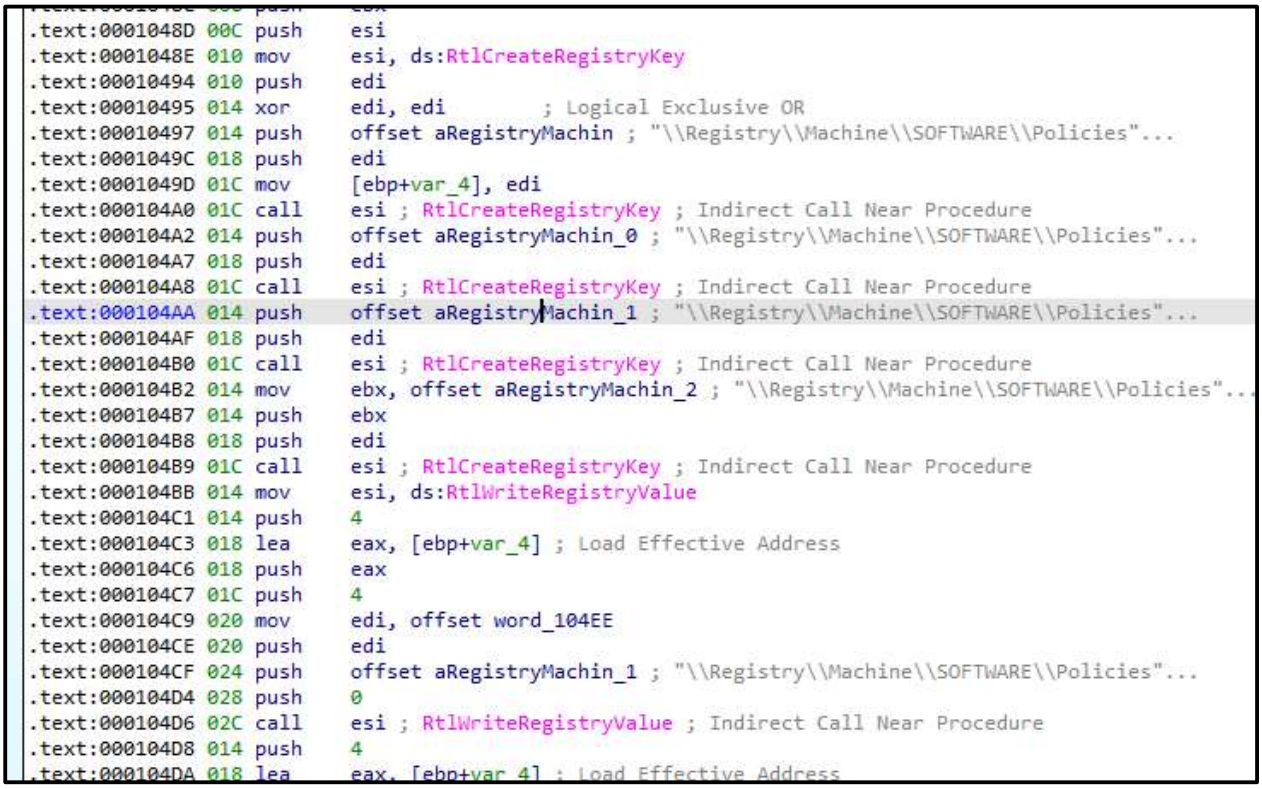
Lab10-01.sys has even more calls to the registry. Some especially-concerning references were to the Windows Firewall (Figure 11). We see calls to "RtlWriteRegistryValue" and "RtlCreateRegistryKey" prior to the Windows Firewall path, both being kernel-mode component functions. There is also an import showing a file path to the C:\ drive in the \winddk\ directory, which is the windows driver kit and contains tools for development.



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 000000000417 | 000000010417 | 0 | B.reloc |
| A | 0000000007C4 | 0000000107C4 | 0 | c:\winddk\7600.16385.1\src\general\regwriter\wdm\sys\objfre_wxp_x86\i386\sioctl.pdb |
| A | 0000000009A6 | 0000000109A6 | 0 | RtlWriteRegistryValue |
| A | 0000000009BE | 0000000109BE | 0 | RtlCreateRegistryKey |
| A | 0000000009D6 | 0000000109D6 | 0 | KeTickCount |
| A | 0000000009E2 | 0000000109E2 | 0 | ntoskrnl.exe |
| A | 000000000E19 | 000000010E19 | 0 | 9!939:9?9H9O9 |
| U | 0000000004EF | 0000000104EF | 0 | EnableFirewall |
| U | 00000000050C | 00000001050C | 0 | \Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\WindowsFirewall\StandardProfile |
| U | 0000000005A8 | 0000000105A8 | 0 | \Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\WindowsFirewall\DomainProfile |
| U | 000000000640 | 000000010640 | 0 | \Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\WindowsFirewall |
| U | 0000000006BC | 0000000106BC | 0 | \Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft |
| U | 000000000A66 | 000000010A66 | 0 | VS_VERSION_INFO |
| U | 000000000AC2 | 000000010AC2 | 0 | StringFileInfo |
| U | 000000000AE6 | 000000010AE6 | 0 | 040904B0 |
| U | 000000000AFE | 000000010AFE | 0 | CompanyName |

*Figure 11: Lab10-01.sys suspicious driver creation and registry calls.*

We also see in IDA Pro of the .sys file the same paths being pushed onto the stack prior to the registry functions being called (Figures 12 and 13). This means that we can first expect a new key to be created first within SOFTWARE\Policies\WindowsFirewall. Then, the next two keys can be expected to be created in two subfolders: \StandardProfile and \DomainProfile. It will then write a hex value of 0x45 (decimal 69, ASCII “E”) to the \DomainProfile key.



```
.text:0001048D 00C push    esi
.text:0001048E 010 mov     esi, ds:RtlCreateRegistryKey
.text:00010494 010 push    edi
.text:00010495 014 xor     edi, edi        ; Logical Exclusive OR
.text:00010497 014 push    offset aRegistryMachin ; "\\Registry\\Machine\\SOFTWARE\\Policies"...
.text:0001049C 018 push    edi
.text:0001049D 01C mov     [ebp+var_4], edi
.text:000104A0 01C call    esi ; RtlCreateRegistryKey ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:000104A2 014 push    offset aRegistryMachin_0 ; "\\Registry\\Machine\\SOFTWARE\\Policies"...
.text:000104A7 018 push    edi
.text:000104A8 01C call    esi ; RtlCreateRegistryKey ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:000104AA 014 push    offset aRegistryMachin_1 ; "\\Registry\\Machine\\SOFTWARE\\Policies"...
.text:000104AF 018 push    edi
.text:000104B0 01C call    esi ; RtlCreateRegistryKey ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:000104B2 014 mov     ebx, offset aRegistryMachin_2 ; "\\Registry\\Machine\\SOFTWARE\\Policies"...
.text:000104B7 014 push    ebx
.text:000104B8 018 push    edi
.text:000104B9 01C call    esi ; RtlCreateRegistryKey ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:000104BB 014 mov     esi, ds:RtlWriteRegistryValue
.text:000104C1 014 push    4
.text:000104C3 018 lea     eax, [ebp+var_4] ; Load Effective Address
.text:000104C6 018 push    eax
.text:000104C7 01C push    4
.text:000104C9 020 mov     edi, offset word_104EE
.text:000104CE 020 push    edi
.text:000104CF 024 push    offset aRegistryMachin_1 ; "\\Registry\\Machine\\SOFTWARE\\Policies"...
.text:000104D4 028 push    0
.text:000104D6 02C call    esi ; RtlWriteRegistryValue ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:000104D8 014 push    4
.text:000104DA 018 lea     eax, [ebp+var_4] ; Load Effective Address
```

*Figure 12: Lab10-01.sys creating registry keys.*

```
text:000104ED                   align 2
text:000104EE     word_104EE    dw 45h                  ; DATA XREF: sub_10486+43↑o
text:000104F0     aNablefirewall:
text:000104F0                   text "UTF-16LE", 'nableFirewall',0
text:0001050C     aRegistryMachin_2:                    ; DATA XREF: sub_10486+2C↑o
text:0001050C                   text "UTF-16LE", '\Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windo
text:0001050C                   text "UTF-16LE", 'wsFirewall\StandardProfile',0
text:000105A8     aRegistryMachin_1:                    ; DATA XREF: sub_10486+24↑o
text:000105A8                                         ; sub_10486+49↑o
text:000105A8                   text "UTF-16LE", '\Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windo
text:000105A8                   text "UTF-16LE", 'wsFirewall\DomainProfile',0
text:00010640     aRegistryMachin_0:                    ; DATA XREF: sub_10486+1C↑o
text:00010640                   text "UTF-16LE", '\Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft\Windo
text:00010640                   text "UTF-16LE", 'wsFirewall',0
text:000106BC     aRegistryMachin:                      ; DATA XREF: sub_10486+11↑o
text:000106BC                   text "UTF-16LE", '\Registry\Machine\SOFTWARE\Policies\Microsoft',0
text:00010718                   align 80h
text:00010718     _text         ends
```

*Figure 13: Lab10-01.sys registry key paths.*

Lab10-01.exe was then executed and activity was captured using procmon. When a filter was set to include the operation “RegCreateKey”, nothing populated on the capture. However, multiple events for the operation “RegSetValue” were captured (Figure 14). RegSetValue is a Windows API function used to set data and type of a value in a registry key. Additionally, many of the RegSetValue operations were for the registry location \CurrentControlSet\Services, indicating persistence being established. These were not created by Lab10-01.exe, but rather services.exe.

| Process Name | PID | Operation | Path | Result |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Explorer.EXE | 1288 | RegSetValue | HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\ShellNoRoam\MUICache\C:\Labs\BinaryCollection\Chapter_10L\Lab10-01.exe | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Type | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Start | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\ErrorControl | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\ImagePath | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\DisplayName | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Security\Security | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\NextInstance | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\Control*NewlyCreated* | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\Service | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\Legacy | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\ConfigFlags | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\Class | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\ClassGUID | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root\LEGACY_LAB10-01\0000\DeviceDesc | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Enum\0 | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Enum\Count | SUCCESS |
| services.exe | 556 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Enum\NextInstance | SUCCESS |
| System | 4 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Enum\INITSTARTFAILED | SUCCESS |
| System | 4 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Enum\Count | SUCCESS |
| System | 4 | RegSetValue | HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Services\Lab10-01\Enum\NextInstance | SUCCESS |

*Figure 14: Lab10-01.sys registry key paths.*

This registry key creation was confirmed when looking at Registry Editor. There is an image path, as expected, for C:\Windows\System32 for the .sys file (Figure 15). However, the file was not found when the directory was examined in File Explorer.

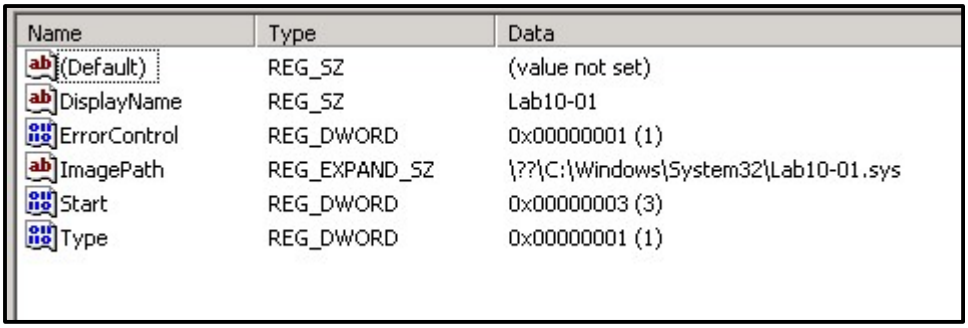



*Figure 15: Confirming new service in regedit.*

Additionally in Figure 14, we see new keys being created in CurrentControlSet\Enum\Root, the path containing information about all connected hardware devices. However, this was not found within regedit. There was not any data captured by procmon to the expected registry value being written to Microsoft\Cryptography\RNG\Seed (according to the book). The procmon capture lasted 5 minutes after running Lab10-01.exe, yet no path containing the string "RNG" was captured (Figure 16). This was tested in both Windows XP and Windows 10 OS environments.

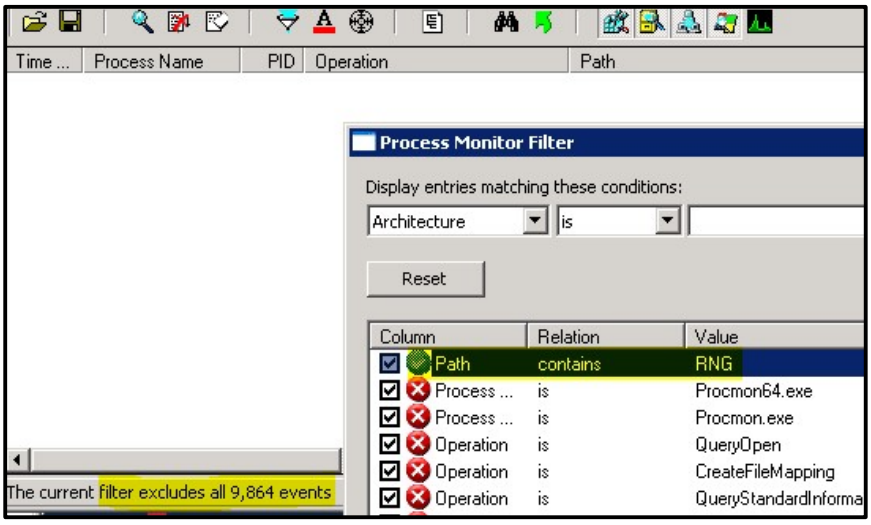



*Figure 16: Path specified in book not captured in procmon.*

Because the .sys file creates the registry keys and Lab10-01.exe can only be run through OllyDbg, a breakpoint was set at 0x40102B where the .sys file is pushed onto the stack prior to "CreateServiceA" was passed as the lpBinaryPathName parameter (Figure 17).

```
.text:00401020     loc_401020:
.text:00401020 020 push    esi
.text:00401021 024 push    0               ; lpPassword
.text:00401023 028 push    0               ; lpServiceStartName
.text:00401025 02C push    0               ; lpDependencies
.text:00401027 030 push    0               ; lpdwTagId
.text:00401029 034 push    0               ; lpLoadOrderGroup
.text:0040102B 038 push    offset BinaryPathName ; "C:\\Windows\\System32\\Lab10-01.sys"
.text:00401030 03C push    1               ; dwErrorControl
.text:00401032 040 push    3               ; dwStartType
.text:00401034 044 push    1               ; dwServiceType
.text:00401036 048 push    0F01FFh         ; dwDesiredAccess
.text:0040103B 04C push    offset ServiceName ; "Lab10-01"
.text:00401040 050 push    offset ServiceName ; "Lab10-01"
.text:00401045 054 push    edi             ; hSCManager
.text:00401046 058 call    ds:CreateServiceA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:0040104C 024 mov     esi, eax
```

*Figure 17: Path for .sys file prior to call to CreateServiceA.*

Before CreateServiceA is called, we see in the stack that the created service is a service type of SERVICE_KERNEL_DRIVER (Figure 18). Additionally, the .exe file calls the functions StartServiceA at 0x40106E and ControlService at 0x401080 (Figure 19). In the documentation for ControlService, we see that the value of 1 pushed for dwControl means that it will stop the service.

```
0019FE90  0049F240  hManager = 0049F240
0019FE94  00405030  ServiceName = "Lab10-01"
0019FE98  00405030  DisplayName = "Lab10-01"
0019FE9C  000F01FF  DesiredAccess = SERVICE_ALL_ACCESS
0019FEA0  00000001  ServiceType = SERVICE_KERNEL_DRIVER
0019FEA4  00000003  StartType = SERVICE_DEMAND_START
0019FEA8  00000001  ErrorControl = SERVICE_ERROR_NORMAL
0019FEAC  0040503C  BinaryPathName = "C:\Windows\System32\Lab10-01.sys"
0019FEB0  00000000  LoadOrderGroup = NULL
0019FEB4  00000000  pTagId = NULL
0019FEB8  00000000  pDependencies = NULL
0019FEBC  00000000  ServiceStartName = NULL
0019FEC0  00000000  Password = NULL
0019FEC4  00000000
0019FEC8  00401090  Lab10-01.<ModuleEntryPoint>
0019FECC  0019FF70
```

*Figure 18: CreateServiceA arguments on stack.*

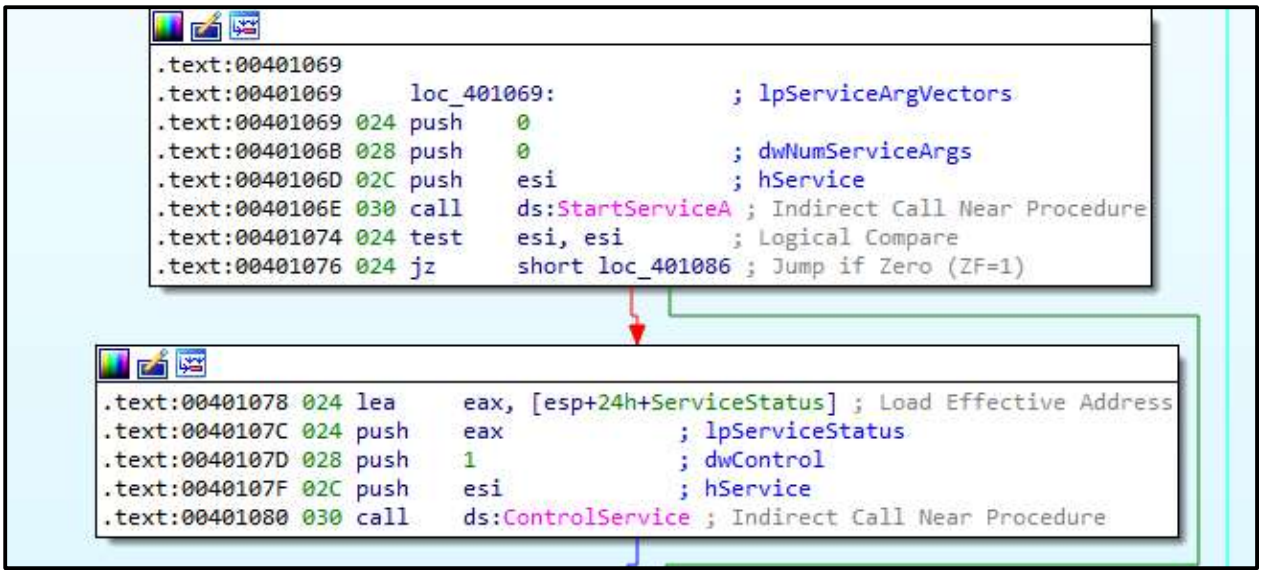



*Figure 19: CreateServiceA and ControlService in IDA.*

Since Olly can only analyze .sys files that are running, we first confirm the if the service is running. The command line tool "sc" was used to find kernel drivers, but the service was not found (Figure 21) and therefore cannot be debugged with Olly. This was tested on both a Windows 10 and Windows XP VM.

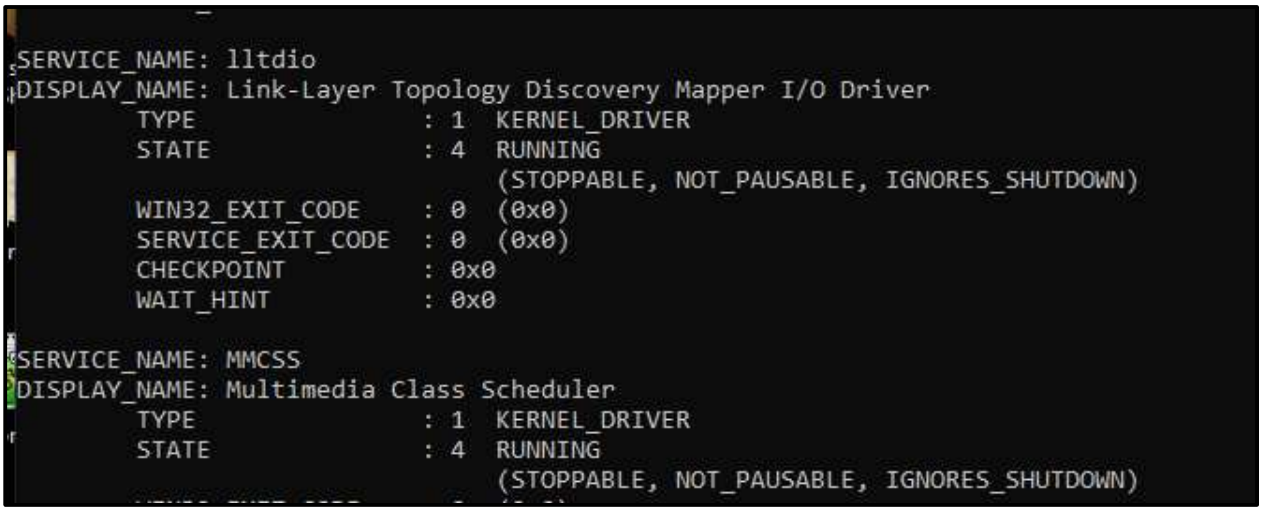



*Figure 20: CreateServiceA and ControlService in IDA.*

LAB 10-2

- Lab10-02.exe: 3f3a29ca2467d2d05feac9d233366f45 (Figure 21)


*Figure 21: Virus Total MD5 Hash for file Lab10-02.exe.*

Virus Total found 39 of 72 matching security vendor signatures for Lab10-02.exe (Figure 22) and has a compilation timestamp of 2010-12-31 at 15:33:33 UTC (Figure 23).


*Figure 22: Virus Total Findings for file Lab10-02.exe.*

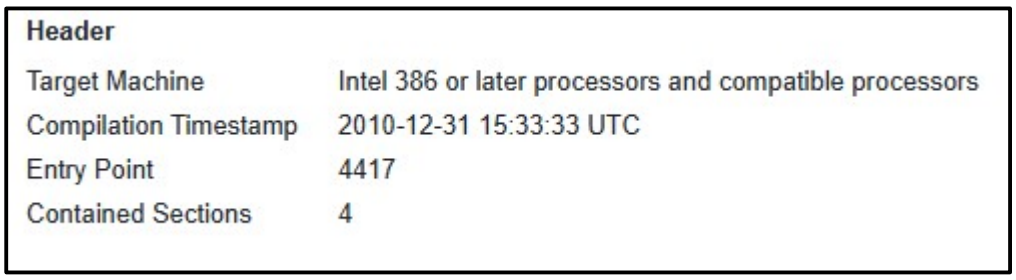



*Figure 23: Virus Total compilation timestamp for Lab10-02.exe.*

The file appears to only import two dynamic linked libraries: kerenel32 and advapi32 (Figure 24). Kernel32.dll indicates that it has the capability to access and modify the core OS functions. Advapi32.dll indicates that core Windows components will be altered, such as the Service Manager and Registry. It appears that this file will also create and start a service, most likely to establish persistence.

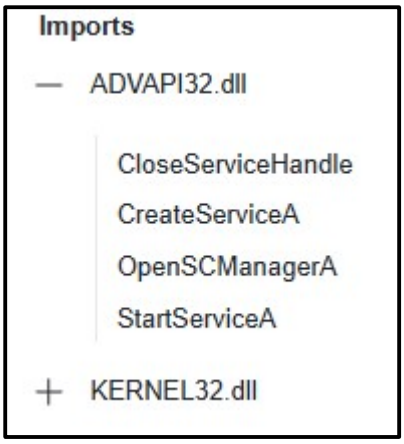



*Figure 24: Virus Total imports for Lab10-02.exe.*

Virus Total also reports that the file has behaviors of creating and starting stopping services, likely indicative of establishing persistence (Figure 25). It also shows behaviors of creating driver files and dropping PE files into the C:\Windows directory.

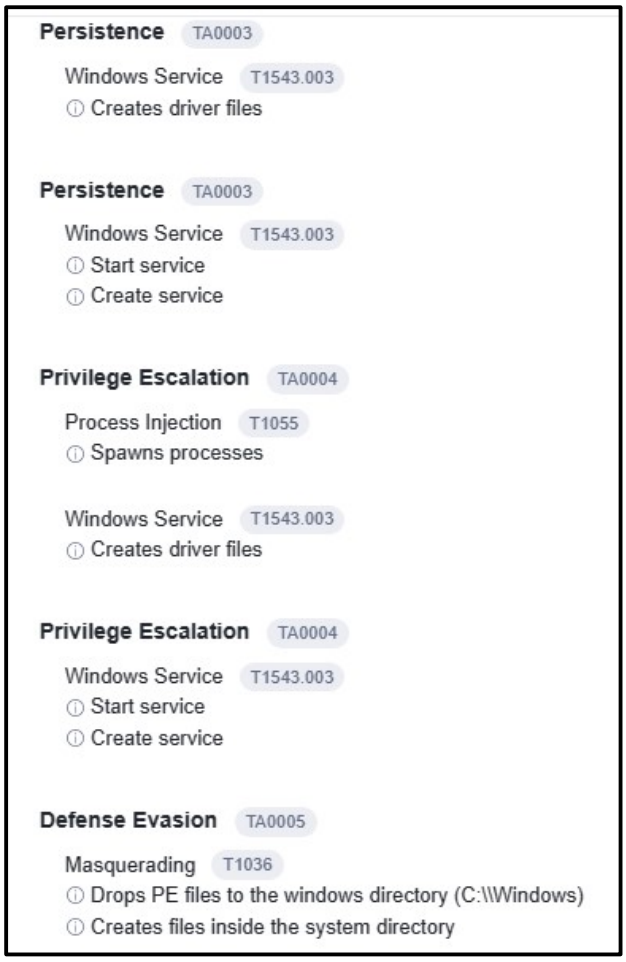



*Figure 25: Virus Total behavior for file Lab10-01.exe.*

# LAB 10-2

## LAB 10-2 Question 1

**Does this program create any files? If so, what are they?**

**BLUF**:

When analyzing the malware within IDA Pro, there is an external function import of "CreateFileA" and only called once at 0x40103F. Preceding this call, there is a string value pushed onto the stack containing the path "C:\Windows\System32\Mlwx486.sys" (Figure 26). It can therefore be assumed that the file name this malware will create will be in the System32 directory and is a driver file named "Mlwx486.sys".

```
.text:00401028 010 push    0               ; hTemplateFile
.text:0040102A 014 push    80h ; '€'       ; dwFlagsAndAttributes
.text:0040102F 018 push    2               ; dwCreationDisposition
.text:00401031 01C push    0               ; lpSecurityAttributes
.text:00401033 020 push    0               ; dwShareMode
.text:00401035 024 push    0C0000000h      ; dwDesiredAccess
.text:0040103A 028 push    offset BinaryPathName ; "C:\\Windows\\System32\\Mlwx486.sys"
.text:0040103F 02C call    ds:CreateFileA  ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
.text:00401045 010 mov     esi, eax
.text:00401047 010 cmp     esi, 0FFFFFFFFh ; Compare Two Operands
.text:0040104A 010 jz      loc_4010FF      ; Jump if Zero (ZF=1)
```

*Figure 26: IDA Pro showing the path of the created file.*

To confirm this, the malware was executed with procmon capturing event activity. The file identified within IDA Pro was confirmed as being created (Figure 27). However, this file could not be found within System32. There was also only one call to this file in IDA Pro to create it, no calls to delete this file in the code, and no file deletion operations done on the file in the procmon capture.

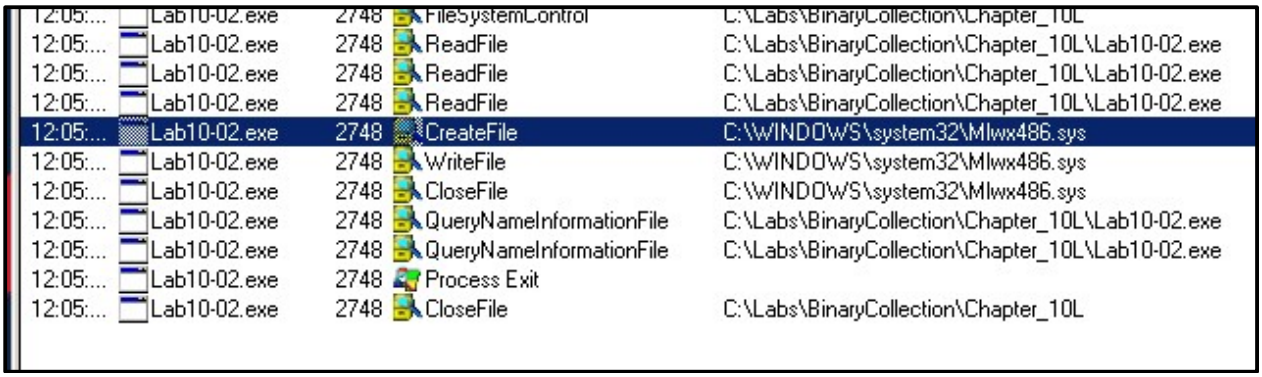



*Figure 27: Procmon captured the file creation.*

To find out where this file potentially went, we go back into IDA Pro and find xrefs to CreateServiceA. We see that a service name of "486 WS Driver" is pushed onto the stack twice before the function is called (Figure 28). These to pushes are the only xrefs to "486 WS Driver".

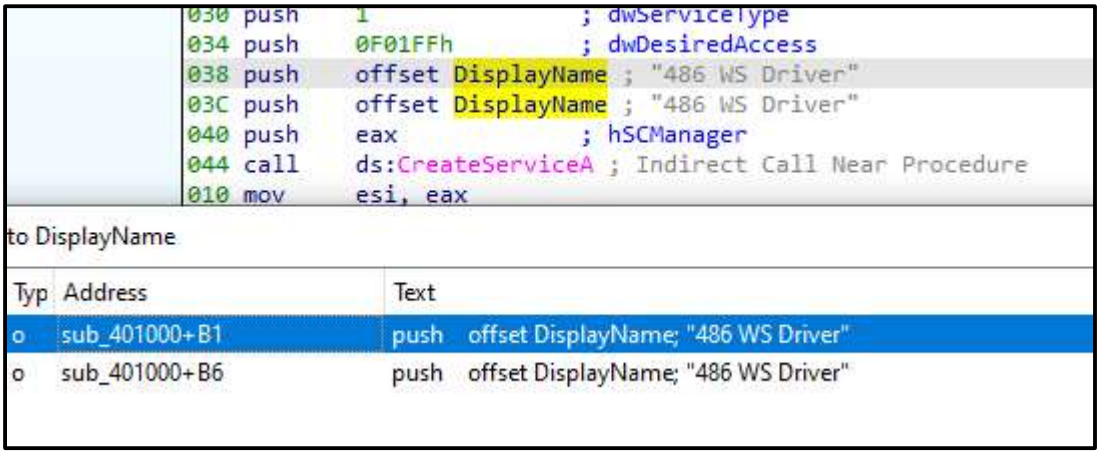



*Figure 28: 486 WS Driver service created.*

In Figure 29, we see that by running on the command line "sc query "486 WS Driver"" that the service is running and is a type of kernel driver. In the same Figure, we also see in regedit that the service is in the Current Control Set and has an image path to the .sys file.

To reiterate the facts: 1) Mlwx486.sys was created with a path to the System32 folder, but 2) Mlwx486.sys could not be found within the System32 folder, 3) 486 WS Driver was created as a

service, 4) the service has an image path to Mlwx486.sys, and 5) 486 WS Driver is a service that is currently running. Therefore, it is highly probable that Mlwx486.sys resides in kernel memory, leading to the conclusion that Lab10-02.exe established a rootkit.

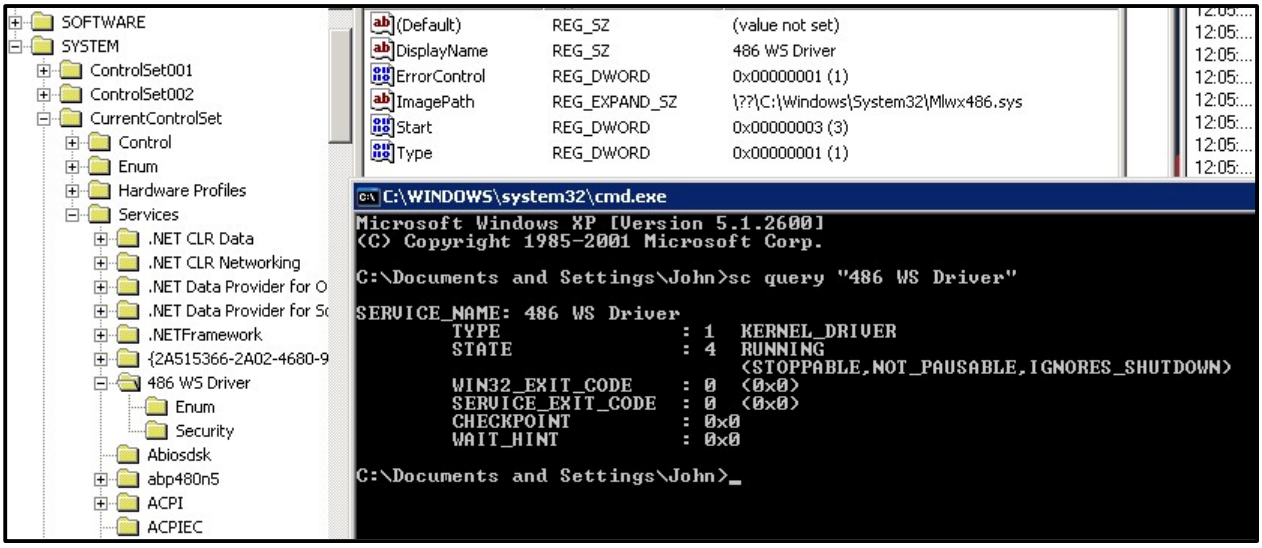



*Figure 29: 486 WS Driver running with an image path the .sys file.*

Running the malware through Olly, we see if we can find the file being created by placing a breakpoint prior to the values being pushed onto the stack for the call to CreateFileA. This breakpoint was placed at 0x401028 (Figure 30). The documentation for CreateFileA gives us some information as to the properties of the file and if we need to modify them.

dwDesiredAccess: Generic read and write. This is fine.

dwShareMode: Set to 0. No other process can open the file. Modified to 1 so other processes can read.

lpSecurityAttributes: Set to 0. No modification needed.

dwCreationDisposition: Set to 2. It will always create a new file.

dwFlagsAndAttributes: Set to 0x80 (decimal 128). File attribute is normal.

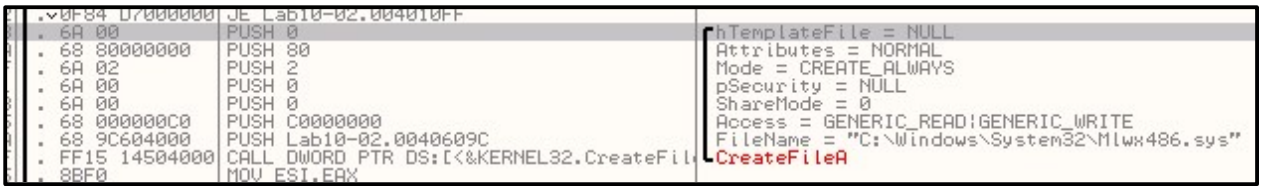



*Figure 30: CreateFileA original parameters ShareMode was then set to 1.*

After CreateFileA was stepped over in Olly, the .sys file was confirmed to reside within the system32 folder (Figure 31). The code was then continuously stepped over until it ended. The malware was run again without the modification, yet the file still remained. Both instances stated in the command prompt it uses that it failed to create a service (Figure 32). This is probably due to some sort of functionality and/or checks within Mlwx486.sys that checks if the code is being debugged which causes it to not create the associated service. Since it doesn't create the service, it doesn't take steps to hide the driver file.

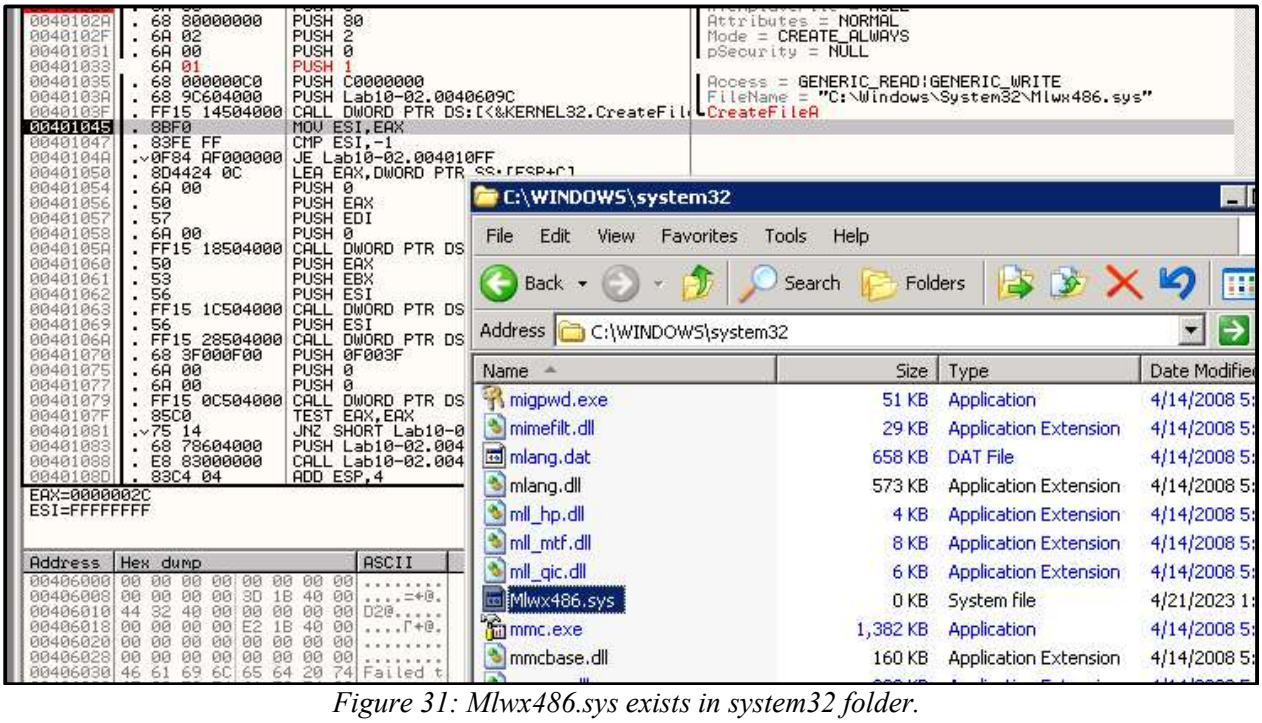



*Figure 31: Mlwx486.sys exists in system32 folder.*

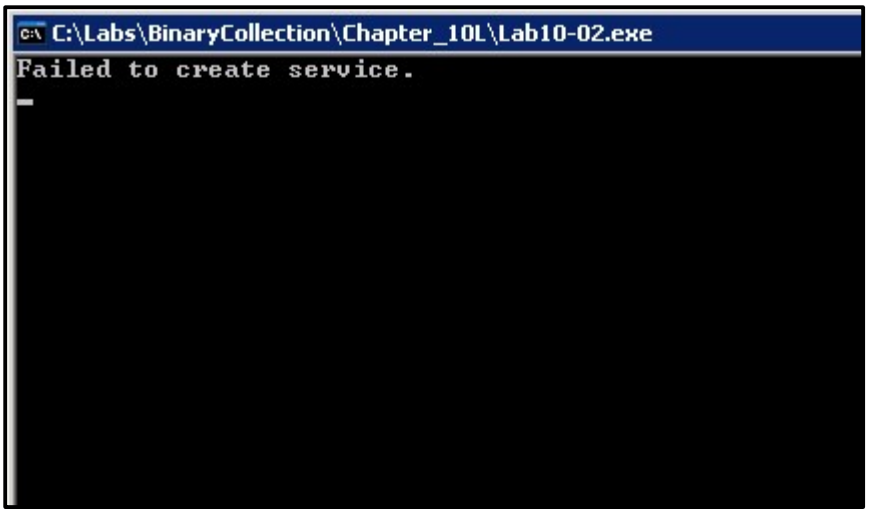



*Figure 32: Error message when debugging.*