

EMOTET

Malware Analysis Report

# ANALYSIS DETAILS

## STAGE 1

FileName	Electronic Form.xls
Size	48640 bytes
MD5	669f206a1c8e7f83a4a1ce4d273cef4e
SHA-256	af436d0c3c763f7205d0217fe4f8c4e4c0940ac892edf4fa404aea24fd62fc07
File Type	Microsoft Excel 97-2003 Worksheet (.xls)

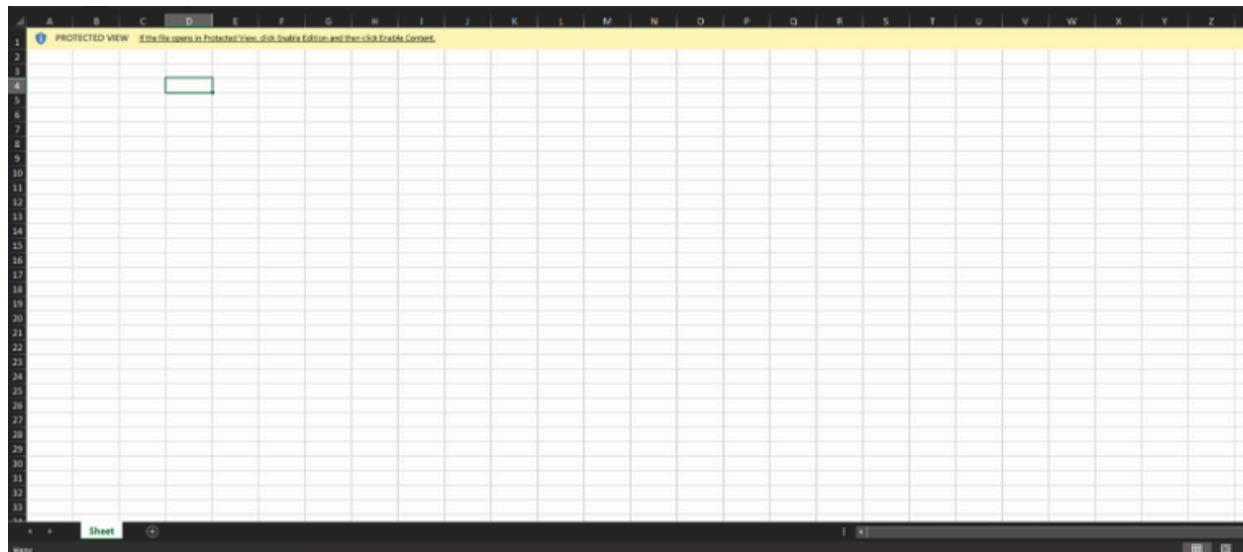
Metadata

In our case, Emotet tries to gain access through embedded malicious macro which is placed in a **".xls" file**. If it manages to connect to the server, then it downloads its Stage 2 payload. In **exif data** we have seen that author of the file is user **"Posik"** and **"RHfdh"** is the last account that modified the file.

When we open the file, we see an empty excel file with an image at first row imitating excel pop-ups to convince victim to enable macros in the file.

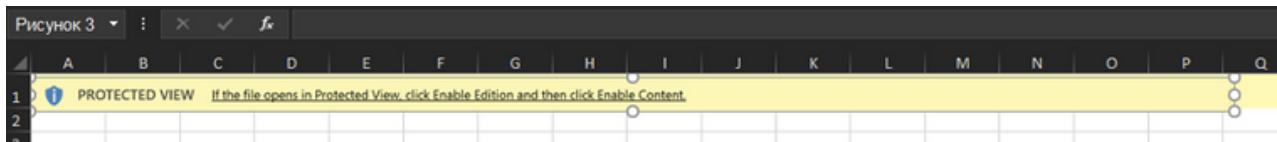
Origin	
Authors	Posik
Last saved by	RHfdh
Revision number	
Version number	
Program name	Microsoft Excel
Company	
Manager	
Content created	6/5/2015 11:19 AM
Date last saved	4/21/2022 12:37 PM
Last printed	

File Information



What user will be seeing when the file is opened

When we click the image we can see the image name written in **Russian**.



Russian name for the image. When translated into English, it means: "Figure 3"

Timeshift	Status	Rep	Domain	IP
1773 ms	Responded	⚠️	www.escueladecinemza.com.ar	179.43.117.122
23299 ms	Responded	⚠️	ciencias-exactas.com.ar	66.97.40.172
24300 ms	Requested	⚠️	ciencias-exactas.com.ar	IP Addresses not found

Any.Run Sandbox Output.

The malware tries to connect to the domains shown below until it manages to connect to one of them. After looking at these domains, we noticed that there is a high probability that these websites do not belong to the attacker. In fact, these websites are hacked by the attacker to be used as a file server for malware.

```
"https://www.escueladecinemza.com.ar/_installation/IBlj/  
"http://counteract.com.br/wp-admin/WWcACJFy3Yn/  
"http://dancefox24.de/templates/owT/  
"https://ciencias-exactas.com.ar/old/Bupubz1trh/  
"https://creemo.pl/wp-admin/0uDUHJ4KVAw/  
"http://focusmedica.in/fmlib/TYiQdcEj9FW0/
```

Domains found in the file

We noticed that the domains, to which the malicious payload tries to connect, are all from different countries. The reason behind this is probably that the attacker wanted to evade potential country or region based ip/domain blockings.

## STAGE 2

FileName	Regex: "[a-zA-Z]{unknown Length}.[a-zA-Z]{3}"
Size	635392 bytes
MD5	dfceeb38c136043ab3cf99c0bebdd3bb
SHA-256	c771872ba3e0724e5a0b844f8b1067e8d03e2537e27827f5b253edb0e1e4536b
File Type	Dynamic Linked Library(DLL)

### Metadata

After initial access, the malicious payload downloads a DLL, then executes it. The DLL is executed with the "**regsvr32.exe**" program. As seen above, the DLL file does not have a static name. When it is executed, it makes a copy of itself into the "**%APPDATA%\Local\{a-z}{unknown Length}\<filename>**" path. The name of the DLL is dynamically changed but it consists of letters, using both upper and lower case. Moreover, the file extension uses 3 randomized letters. The file path, where the DLL copied is dynamically assigned too. The name of the folder in APPDATA that is created by malware too, consists of lower and upper case letters with unknown length. We can see that the DLL is classified as "Emotet" by a number of software in the VirusTotal output below. After analyzing the code, we have detected anti-debugging, evasion and persistence capabilities in the DLL.

Security Vendors' Analysis			
Detection	Description	Vendor	Confidence
Ad-Aware	Trojan.GenericKD.50171266	AhnLab-V3	TrojanWin.Generic.C5097912
Alibaba	Trojan:Win64/Zenpak.e0cf4bb9	ALYac	Trojan.Agent.Emotet
Arcabit	Trojan.Generic.D2FD8D82	Avast	Win64:Trojan-gen
AVG	Win64:Trojan-gen	BitDefender	Trojan.GenericKD.50171266
CrowdStrike Falcon	Win/malicious_confidence_100% (W)	Cyren	W64/Emotet.EJB.gen/Eldorado
DrWeb	Trojan.Emotet.1170	Elastic	Malicious (moderate Confidence)
Emsisoft	Trojan.GenericKD.50171266 (B)	eScan	Trojan.GenericKD.50171266
ESET-NOD32	Win64/Emotet.AH	Fortinet	W64/Emotet.AHitr

### VirusTotal findings of malicious DLL

In the second payload, a lot of **Chinese strings** can be seen, which could point us to the single or many attackers' motives. There is a suspicious string "AdEdit" too.

	unicode u"MS Shell Dlg" (DialogResource.Dialog.Font.Typeface)	u"MS Shell Dlg"
	p_unicode u"关于 AdEdit(&A)..."	u"AdEdit(&A)..."
	p_unicode u"另存为"	"\$X!N\n"
	p_unicode u"所有文件 (*.*)"	u"所有文件 (*.*)"
	p_unicode u"一个未命名的文件"	u"一个未命名的文件"
	p_unicode u"隐藏(&H)"	u"隐藏(H)"
Rsrc_StringTable_f03_804	p_unicode u"无法获取错误信息。"	u"无法获取错误信息。"
	p_unicode u"试图执行系统不支持的操作。"	u"试图执行系统不支持的操作。"
	p_unicode u"无法获取所需资源。"	u"无法获取所需资源。"
	p_unicode u"内存不足。"	u"内存不足。"
	p_unicode u"发生未知错误。"	u"发生未知错误。"
	p_unicode u"遇到无效参数。"	u"遇到无效参数。"
Rsrc_StringTable_f11_804	p_unicode u"无效的文件名。"	u"无效的文件名。"
	p_unicode u"打开文档失败。"	u"打开文档失败。"
	p_unicode u"保存文档失败。"	u"保存文档失败。"
	p_unicode u"是否将改动保存到 %1 ?"	"0X 0R"
	p_unicode u"建立空文档失败。"	u"建立空文档失败。"
	p_unicode u"该文件太大，无法打开。"	u"该文件太大，无法打开。"
	p_unicode u"无法启动打印作业。"	u"无法启动打印作业。"
	p_unicode u"启动帮助失败。"	u"启动帮助失败。"
	p_unicode u"内部应用程序出错。"	u"内部应用程序出错。"
	p_unicode u"命令失败。"	u"命令失败。"
	p_unicode u"没有足够的内存执行操作。"	u"没有足够的内存执行操作。"
	p_unicode u"系统注册项已被移除并且相应的 INI 文件(如存在)也被删除。"	u"系统注册项已被移除并且相应的 INI 文件(如存在)也被删除。"
	p_unicode u"不是所有的系统注册项(或 INI 文件)都被移除。"	u"不是所有的系统注册项(或 INI 文件)都被移除。"
	p_unicode u"在系统中没有找到该程序所需的文件 %s。"	u"在系统中没有找到该程序所需的文件 %s。"
	p_unicode u"该程序连接到文件 %s 中丢失的输出 %s。该计算机上可能装有一个与 %s 不兼容的驱动程序。"	u"该程序连接到文件 %s 中丢失的输出 %s。该计算机上可能装有一个与 %s 不兼容的驱动程序。"
Rsrc_StringTable_f12_804	p_unicode u"请输入一个整数。"	u"请输入一个整数。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个数。"	u"请输入一个数。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个在 %1 和 %2 之间的整数。"	"N!N(W"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个在 %1 和 %2 之间的数字。"	"N!N(W"
	p_unicode u"请输入不多于 %1 个的字符。"	u"请输入不多于 %1 个的字符。"
	p_unicode u"请选择一个按钮。"	u"请选择一个按钮。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个在 0 和 255 之间的整数。"	"N!N(W"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个正整数。"	u"请输入一个正整数。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个日期和/或时间值。"	u"请输入一个日期和/或时间值。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个货币值。"	u"请输入一个货币值。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个 GUID。"	u"请输入一个 GUID。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个时间值。"	u"请输入一个时间值。"
	p_unicode u"请输入一个日期值。"	u"请输入一个日期值。"
Rsrc_StringTable_f13_804	p_unicode u"意外的文件格式。"	u"意外的文件格式。"

### Strings found on malicious DLL

There is a function that creates Windows registry keys. We can see the code below.

```

HKEY FUN_10012154(longlong param_1)

{
    LSTATUS LVar1;
    DWORD local_res10 [2];
    HKEY local_res18;
    HKEY local_res20;
    HKEY local_18 [2];

    local_18[0] = (HKEY)0x0;
    local_res18 = (HKEY)0x0;
    local_res20 = (HKEY)0x0;
    LVar1 = RegOpenKeyExA((HKEY)0xffffffff80000001,"software",0,0x2001f,&local_res18);
    if (LVar1 == 0) {
        LVar1 = RegCreateKeyExA(local_res18,* (LPCSTR *) (param_1 + 0xa8),0,(LPSTR)0x0,0,0x2001f,
                               (LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES)0x0,&local_res20,local_res10);
        if (LVar1 == 0) {
            RegCreateKeyExA(local_res20,* (LPCSTR *) (param_1 + 0xd0),0,(LPSTR)0x0,0,0x2001f,
                           (LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES)0x0,local_18,local_res10);
        }
    }
    if (local_res18 != (HKEY)0x0) {
        RegCloseKey(local_res18);
    }
    if (local_res20 != (HKEY)0x0) {
        RegCloseKey(local_res20);
    }
    return local_18[0];
}

```

Code that interacts with the Windows registry

Registry keys found in the file:

```
Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Explorer  
Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Network  
Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\Comdlg32  
Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
```

Windows registry keys under the Software key

```
* WARNING: Globals starting with '_' overlap smaller symbols at the same address */  
  
void FUN_10029a80(longlong param_1)  
  
HANDLE hProcess;  
DWORD64 in_stack_00000000;  
longlong local_res8 [4];  
PVOID local_48;  
ullong local_40;  
PRUNTIME_FUNCTION local_38;  
DWORD64 local_30;  
DWORD64 local_28;  
longlong local_20;  
undefined8 local_18;  
  
if ((param_1 == DAT_10068a20) && ((short)((ullong)param_1 >> 0x30) == 0)) {  
    return;  
}  
local_res8[0] = param_1;  
RtlCaptureContext(&DAT_1006dfb0);  
local_30 = DAT_1006e0a8;  
local_38 = RtlLookupFunctionEntry(DAT_1006e0a8,&local_28,(PUNWIND_HISTORY_TABLE)0x0);  
if (local_38 == (PRUNTIME_FUNCTION)0x0) {  
    _DAT_1006e048 = local_res8;  
    DAT_1006e0a8 = in_stack_00000000;  
}  
else {  
    RtlVirtualUnwind(0,local_28,local_30,local_38,(PCONTEXT)&DAT_1006dfb0,&local_48,&local_40,  
                      (PKNONVOLATILE_CONTEXT_POINTERS)0x0);  
}  
_DAT_1006df20 = DAT_1006e0a8;  
_DAT_1006e030 = local_res8[0];  
_DAT_1006df10 = 0xc0000409;  
_DAT_1006df14 = 1;  
local_20 = DAT_10068a20;  
local_18 = DAT_10068a28;  
_DAT_1006dfa8 = IsDebuggerPresent();  
FUN_1003a570();  
SetUnhandledExceptionFilter((LPTOP_LEVEL_EXCEPTION_FILTER)0x0);  
UnhandledExceptionFilter((EXCEPTION_POINTERS *)&PTR_DAT_100543b8);  
if (_DAT_1006dfa8 == 0) {  
    FUN_1003a570();  
}  
hProcess = GetCurrentProcess();  
TerminateProcess(hProcess,0xc0000409);  
return;
```

```

{
    BOOL BVar1;
    LONG LVar2;
    code *pcVar3;
    HANDLE hProcess;
    _EXCEPTION_POINTERS local_5a8;
    EXCEPTION_RECORD local_598;
    _CONTEXT local_4f8;

    pcVar3 = (code *)_decode_pointer(DAT_1006e498);
    if (pcVar3 == (code *)0x0) {
        FUN_1003a570();
        RtlCaptureContext(&local_4f8);
        FUN_1002ad40((ulonglong *)&local_598, 0, 0x98);
        local_598.ExceptionCode = 0xc000000d;
        local_5a8.ExceptionRecord = &local_598;
        local_5a8.ContextRecord = &local_4f8;
        BVar1 = IsDebuggerPresent();
        SetUnhandledExceptionFilter((LPTOP_LEVEL_EXCEPTION_FILTER)0x0);
        LVar2 = UnhandledExceptionFilter(&local_5a8);
        if ((LVar2 == 0) && (BVar1 == 0)) {
            FUN_1003a570();
        }
        hProcess = GetCurrentProcess();
        TerminateProcess(hProcess, 0xc000000d);
    }
    else {
        (*pcVar3)(param_1, param_2, param_3, param_4, param_5);
    }
    return;
}

```

We can see below that payload enumerates the system language. This is a common behavior that is used as a prevention against targeting allies. Or rather than blacklisting some languages, it can be used for whitelisting (target list) too.

```

local_2b8 = 0xfffffffffffffe;
local_38 = DAT_10068a20 ^ (ulonglong)auStackY808;
local_2f8[0] = 0;
iVar5 = 0;
iVar13 = 0;
pHVar7 = GetModuleHandleA("kernel32.dll");
pFVar8 = GetProcAddress(pHVar7,"GetUserDefaultUILanguage");
if (pFVar8 == (FARPROC)0x0) {
    DVar4 = GetVersion();
    if ((int)DVar4 < 0) {
        local_2d8 = (HKEY)0x0;
        LVar3 = RegOpenKeyExA((HKEY)0xffffffff80000001,"Control Panel\\Desktop\\ResourceLocale",0
                                ,0x20019,&local_2d8);
        if (LVar3 == 0) {
            local_2f4 = 0x10;
            lpType = &local_2dc;
            LVar3 = RegQueryValueExA(local_2d8,(LPCSTR)0x0,(LPDWORD)0x0,lpType,local_278,&local_2f4
            iVar13 = iVar5;
            if (((LVar3 == 0) && (local_2dc == 1)) &&
                (uVar10 = FUN_1002be70((char *)local_278,&DAT_1004e24c,(longlong *)&local_2e0,lpType
                (int)uVar10 == 1)) {
                local_2f8[0] = (ushort)local_2e0;
                local_2d0[0] = ConvertDefaultLocale((uint)(local_2f8[0] & 0xfc00) | local_2e0 & 0x3ff
                local_2d0[1] = ConvertDefaultLocale(local_2e0 & 0x3ff);
                iVar13 = 2;
            }
            RegCloseKey(local_2d8);
        }
    }
} else {
    pHVar7 = GetModuleHandleA("ntdll.dll");
    if (pHVar7 != (HMODULE)0x0) {
        local_2f8[0] = 0;
        EnumResourceLanguagesA
            ((pHVar7,&DAT_00000010,(LPCSTR)0x1,(ENUMRESLANGPROCA)&LAB_10002c14,
            (LONG_PTR)local_2f8);
        if (local_2f8[0] != 0) {
            uVar6 = (uint)local_2f8[0];
            local_2d0[0] = ConvertDefaultLocale((uint)(local_2f8[0] & 0xfc00) | uVar6 & 0x3ff);
            local_2d0[1] = ConvertDefaultLocale(uVar6 & 0x3ff);
            iVar13 = 2;
        }
    }
}

```

Payload tries to find language of the system

In some parts of the code we encountered a suspicious file named "hhctrl.ocx" which is an ActiveX Control file. Also, the ".ocx" files are used for exploiting the "Regsvr32" utility's functionality.

```

undefined8 FUN_1000e544(undefined8 param_1,undefined8 param_2,undefined4 param_3,undefined8
{
    code *pcVar1;
    CNoTrackObject *pCVar2;
    undefined8 uVar3;
    HMODULE hModule;
    FARPROC pFVar4;

    AfxLockGlobals(0xc);
    pCVar2 = CProcessLocalObject::GetData((CProcessLocalObject *)&DAT_1006d8a0.CreateObject);
    if (pCVar2 == (CNoTrackObject *)0x0) {
        FUN_10004f10();
        pcVar1 = (code *)swi(3);
        uVar3 = (*pcVar1)();
        return uVar3;
    }
    if (*(longlong *)(pCVar2 + 0x10) == 0) {
        hModule = FID_conflict:AfxCtxLoadLibraryA("hhctrl.ocx");
        *(HMODULE *)(pCVar2 + 8) = hModule;
        if (hModule != (HMODULE)0x0) {
            pFVar4 = GetProcAddress(hModule,"HtmlHelpA");
            *(FARPROC *)(pCVar2 + 0x10) = pFVar4;
            if (pFVar4 != (FARPROC)0x0) goto LAB_1000e5d3;
            FreeLibrary(*(HMODULE *)(pCVar2 + 8));
            *(undefined8 *)(pCVar2 + 8) = 0;
        }
        uVar3 = 0;
    }
    else {
LAB_1000e5d3:
        AfxUnlockGlobals(0xc);
        uVar3 = (**(code **)(pCVar2 + 0x10))(param_1,param_2,param_3,param_4);
    }
    return uVar3;
}

```

### Suspicious ocx file and access to HtmlHelpA function

For anti-debugging and evasion, the payload uses “**LdrGetProcedureAddress**” function to get starting addresses of functions it will execute. “**LdrGetProcedureAddress**” function takes ordinal or name as a parameter, in this payload name parameter is given. The name parameters are decoded from the executable at runtime to make detection harder. We can see a part of the code below, where this method of calling is utilized, and function names found in the stack that are used in this call as parameters.

```

debug108:000001513320019C lea    rax, [rbp+8]
debug108:00000151332001A0 xor   edx, edx
debug108:00000151332001A2 lea    r9, [rsp+30h]
debug108:00000151332001A7 mov   [rbp+48h], rax
debug108:00000151332001AB lea    r8, [rbp+40h]
debug108:00000151332001AF xor   ecx, ecx
debug108:00000151332001B1 call  rbx
debug108:00000151332001B3 lea    rax, [rsp+40h]
debug108:00000151332001B8 mov   dword ptr [rsp+20h], 0C000Ch
debug108:00000151332001C0 mov   [rsp+28h], rax
debug108:00000151332001C5 lea    r9, [rbp+0]
debug108:00000151332001C9 xor   r8d, r8d
debug108:00000151332001CC mov   rcx, [rsp+30h]
debug108:00000151332001D1 lea    rdx, [rsp+20h]
debug108:00000151332001D6 call  r12
debug108:00000151332001D9 mov   rcx, [rsp+30h]
debug108:00000151332001DE lea    rax, [rbp-80h]
debug108:00000151332001E2 xor   r8d, r8d
debug108:00000151332001E5 mov   [rsp+28h], rax
debug108:00000151332001EA lea    r9, [rbp+30h]
debug108:00000151332001EE mov   dword ptr [rsp+20h], 0E000Eh
debug108:00000151332001F6 lea    rdx, [rsp+20h]
debug108:00000151332001F8 call  r12

```

UNKNOWN 00000151332001D6: debug108:00000151332001D6 (Synchronized with RIP)

After setting the parameters, LdrGetProcedureAdress is called several times. We can see instructions that call LdrGetProcedureAdress from its adress that is loaded into r2 register.  
Call happens at "call r12" instruction.

RAX 0000004FCECBDD80 ↳ "VirtualAlloc0"	ID 0
RBX 00007FFA5BE157D0 ↳ ntdll.dll:ntdll_LdrLoadDll	VIP 0
RCX 00007FFA5A2D0000 ↳ KERNEL32.DLL:00007FFA5A2D0000	VIF 0
RDX 0000004FCECBDD90 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDD90	AC 0
RSI 0000000010000000 ↳ HEADER: __ImageBase	VM 0
RDI 000000000496D33E ↳	RF 0
RBP 0000004FCECBDE70 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE70	NT 0
RSP 0000004FCECBDD70 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDD70	IOPL 0
RIP 00000151332001D6 ↳ debug108:00000151332001D6	OF 0
R8 0000000000000000 ↳ DF 0	DF 0
R9 0000004FCECBDE70 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE70	IF 1
R10 0000004FCECBDB48 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDB48	TF 0
R11 0000004FCECBDA00 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDA00	SF 0
R12 00007FFA5BE526E0 ↳ ntdll.dll:ntdll_LdrGetProcedureAddress	ZF 1
R13 0000004FCECBEA00 ↳ Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBEA00	AF 0
R14 0000000010000000 ↳ HEADER: __ImageBase	PF 1
R15 0000000000000014 ↳	CF 0
EFL 00000246	

Registers, we can see name parameter on RAX and function address at R12 register.

```

Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE1D db 1
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE1E db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE1F db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE20 aGetnativesyste db 'GetNativeSystemInfo3Q'
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE35 db 1
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE36 db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE37 db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE38 aRtladdfunction db 'RtlAddFunctionTable'
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE4B db 5
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE4C db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE4D db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE4E db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE4F db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE50 aFlushinstructi db 'FlushInstructionCache'
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE65 db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE66 db 0
Stack[00000CB4]:0000004FCECBDE67 db 0

```

Strings on Stack to be used as a parameter when LdrGetProcedure Function called

Our team has reverse engineered most of dllMain function. Summary of what dllMain does: first, it allocates a memory block for obfuscated code, then copies the obfuscated code into memory block. After that it deobfuscates the code and executes it as a function. In that function, DLL creates 2 more memory blocks: one for **another DLL in memory** and another for later uses of DLL in **dllRegisterServerFunction**. Both memory block go through similar processes with first memory block (deobfuscation). For more detailed information the created pseudocode below can be inspected:

```

1 int dllMain(){
2     payload_1 = VirtualAlloc(NULL, 0xB35, MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE);
3     // deobfuscatePayloadAndLoadToMemory(memory_block, dataPtr_1, dataPtr_2)
4     deobfuscatePayloadAndLoadToMemory(payload_1, 0x107e310, 0x107d7d0);
5     payload_1();
6 }
7
8 payload_1() {
9     // loads stack with function names that will be used in dllMain
10    loadDll = getLdrFunctionPointers("LdrLoadDll");
11    getProcAddr = getLdrFunctionPointers("LdrGetProcedureAddress");
12    loadDll("kernel32.dll");
13    /* This is how actual program works, but for sake of simplicity we will mention
14       these functions with their original names rather than using pointers for the
15       rest of the code.
16    virAlloc = getProcAddress("VirtualAlloc");
17    virProtect = getProcAddress("VirtualProtect");
18    flushCache = getProcAddress("FlushInstructionCache");
19    getInfo = getProcAddress("GetNativeSystemInfo");
20    sl = getProcAddress("sleep");
21    funcTable = getProcAddress("RtlAddFunctionTable");
22    loadLib = getProcAddress("LoadLibraryA");
23    findR = getProcAddress("FindResourceW");
24    loadR = getProcAddress("LoadResource");
25    sizeofR = getProcAddress("SizeofResource");
26    lockR = getProcAddress("LockResource");
27    */
28    res = FindResourceW(NULL, 0xD33E, 0xA); // hModule, lpName, lpType
29    resHandle1 = LoadResource(NULL, res); // hModule, hResInfo
30    resSize = SizeofResource(NULL, res); // returns 0x26C00
31    LockResource(resHandle1); // hResData
32    payload_2 = VirtualAlloc(NULL,
33                            resSize,
34                            MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE);
35    // payload_2 contains another dll file!
36    // in this part payload_2 is deobfuscated
37    infoHandle;
38    GetNativeSystemInfo(infoHandle); // handle is allocated to infoHandle
39    payload_3 = VirtualAlloc(0x18000000, 0x2a000, MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_READWRITE);
40    // payload_3 codes will be executed when dllRegisterServerFunction ran
41    //deobfuscates some memory block then copies that memory to the new block
42    VirtualProtect(payload_3 + 0x1000, 0x24C00, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ);
43    VirtualProtect(payload_3 + 0x26000, 0xC00, PAGE_READONLY, PAGE_READONLY);
44    VirtualProtect(payload_3 + 0x27000, 0x400, PAGE_READWRITE, PAGE_READWRITE);
45    VirtualProtect(payload_3 + 0x29000, 0xC00, PAGE_READONLY, PAGE_READONLY);
46    FlushInstructionCache();
47    RtlAddFunctionTable(payload_3+0x29000, 0xEB, payload_3);
48    // FunctionTable, EntryCount, BaseAddress
49    return
50 }

```

Pseudocode of dllMain function

After `dllMain`, `DllRegisterServer` function is executed. `DllRegisterServer` function calls the internal DLL. After analyzing the internal DLL, we noticed that DLL makes calls to external DLLs through layers of obfuscation. Instead of calling functions directly, it resolves the addresses of functions, then calls them through RAX register. In our analysis, each time we external function executed, DLL executes “`jmp rax`” instruction to jump to that function rather than calling the address of that function in external DLL. This could evade sandboxes that only traces function calls.

```

debug112:00000000180013431 db 0C4h
debug112:00000000180013432 db 48h ; H
debug112:00000000180013433 db 48h ; H
debug112:00000000180013434 ; -----
debug112:00000000180013434 jmp rax
debug112:00000000180013434 ; -----
debug112:00000000180013436 db 0CCh
debug112:00000000180013437 db 0CCh
debug112:00000000180013438 db 48h ; H
debug112:00000000180013439 db 89h
debug112:0000000018001343A db 54h ; T
debug112:0000000018001343B db 24h ; $ 
debug112:0000000018001343C db 10h
debug112:0000000018001343D db 48h ; H
debug112:0000000018001343E db 89h
debug112:0000000018001343F db 4Ch ; L
debug112:00000000180013440 db 24h ; $ 
debug112:00000000180013441 db 8
debug112:00000000180013442 db 55h ; U

```

RAX 00007FFE78306340 ← KERNEL32.DLL:kernel32\_GetProcessHeap  
RBX 0000000000000070 ←  
RCX 00000000000002CB ←  
RDX 000000004435EFAS ←  
RSI 000000000000A688A ←  
RDI 000000000000A688A ←  
RBP 0000000000C9E7F0 ← Stack[00001948]:0000000000C9E7F0  
RSP 0000000000C9E648 ← Stack[00001948]:0000000000C9E648  
RIP 00000000180013434 ← debug112:00000000180013434  
R8 000000004435EFAS ←  
R9 000000000035D00 ←  
R10 00007FFE783909A5 ← KERNEL32.DLL:kernel32\_GetProcessDefaultCpuSets+7B  
R11 00000000000000006 ←  
R12 000000001000000 ← HEADER: \_\_ImageBase  
R13 00000000000000000 ←  
R14 000000000000C86B9 ←

Example: We can see “`jmp rax`” instruction is executed, when RAX holds “`GetProcessHeap`” functions address

After we found out “`jmp rax`” instruction is executed every time an external DLL execution happened, we used this information to gather names of executed external functions.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCryptCloseAlgorithmProvider</li> <li>• BCryptDeriveKey</li> <li>• BCryptDestroyHash</li> <li>• BCryptDestroyKey</li> <li>• BCryptDestroySecret</li> <li>• BCryptExportKey</li> <li>• BCryptFinalizeKeyPair</li> <li>• BCryptFinishHash</li> <li>• BCryptGenerateKeyPair</li> <li>• BCryptGenRandom</li> <li>• BCryptGetProperty</li> <li>• BCryptHashData</li> <li>• BCryptImportKey</li> <li>• BCryptImportKeyPair</li> <li>• BCryptOpenAlgorithmProvider</li> <li>• BCryptSecretAgreement</li> <li>• BCryptVerifySignature</li> <li>• CloseHandle</li> <li>• CommandLineToArgvW</li> <li>• CryptBinaryToStringW</li> <li>• FindFirstFileW</li> <li>• GetCommandLineW</li> <li>• RegCloseKey</li> <li>• RtlAllocateHeap</li> <li>• RtlCopyMemory</li> <li>• RtlGetVersion</li> <li>• SHGetFolderPathW</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GetComputerNameA</li> <li>• GetCurrentProcessId</li> <li>• GetFileInformationByHandleEx</li> <li>• GetModuleFileNameW</li> <li>• GetModuleHandleA</li> <li>• GetProcessHeap</li> <li>• GetSystemTimeAsFileTime</li> <li>• GetWindowsDirectoryW</li> <li>• HeapFree</li> <li>• HttpSendRequestW</li> <li>• InternetCloseHandle</li> <li>• InternetOpenWS</li> <li>• InternetQueryOptionW</li> <li>• InternetReadFile</li> <li>• InternetSetOptionW</li> <li>• LoadLibraryW</li> <li>• LocalFree</li> <li>• lstrcpyW</li> <li>• CreateEventW</li> <li>• OpenSCManagerW</li> <li>• PathFindFileNameW</li> <li>• ProcessIdToSessionId</li> <li>• RegSetValueExW</li> <li>• WaitForSingleObject</li> <li>• snwprintf</li> <li>• snprintf</li> <li>• memset</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Malware achieves persistence by adding registry key under "**HKCU\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run**". Malicious functionality of DLL is loaded in "payload\_3" where malicious payload achieves persistence and discovers filesystem, users, operating system information, etc.

```

• debug017:0000000001189716 db 6Fh ; o
• debug017:0000000001189717 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189718 db 6Ch ; l
• debug017:0000000001189719 db 0
• debug017:000000000118971A db 73h ; s
• debug017:000000000118971B db 0
• debug017:000000000118971C db 5Ch ; \
• debug017:000000000118971D db 0
• debug017:000000000118971E db 72h ; r
• debug017:000000000118971F db 0
• debug017:0000000001189720 db 61h ; a
• debug017:0000000001189721 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189722 db 64h ; d
• debug017:0000000001189723 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189724 db 61h ; a
• debug017:0000000001189725 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189726 db 72h ; r
• debug017:0000000001189727 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189728 db 65h ; e
• debug017:0000000001189729 db 0
• debug017:000000000118972A db 32h ; 2
• debug017:000000000118972B db 0
• debug017:000000000118972C db 5Ch ; \
• debug017:000000000118972D db 0
• debug017:000000000118972E db 62h ; b
• debug017:000000000118972F db 0
• debug017:0000000001189730 db 69h ; i
• debug017:0000000001189731 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189732 db 6Eh ; n
• debug017:0000000001189733 db 0
• debug017:0000000001189734 db 3Bh ; ;

```

Malicious payload checks several folders' contents. What we see here is one of radare2's folders.

000069ea	0000001a A	6USERDOMAIN=WINDEV2110EVAL
00006a1a	00000029 A	7USERDOMAIN_ROAMINGPROFILE=WINDEV2110EVAL
00006a59	0000000e A	2USERNAME=User
00006a7d	0000001a A	6USERPROFILE=C:\Users\User
00006aad	00000022 A	>VM_COMMON_DIR=C:\ProgramData\FEVM
00006ae5	00000012 A	>windir=C:\Windows
00006b0d	00000058 A	8_NT_SYMBOL_PATH=symsrv*symsrv.dll*C:\symbols"http://msdl.microsoft.com/download/symbols
000070a8	0000001f A	1ALLUSERSPROFILE=C:\ProgramData
000070f1	00000026 A	

We can see the data that malicious file gathered in here

We noticed that DLL connects to 2 (two) different IP addresses using HTTPS protocol. We think these addresses are used as **Command & Control** centers because malware already achieved persistence at this moment.

9	200	HTTP	Tunnel to	138.201.142.73:8080	0	regsvr32:4200
10	200	HTTP	Tunnel to	138.197.147.101:443	0	regsvr32:4200
11	200	HTTPS		/dmxqNIVKuWJQAaWPMJOduQCISkPRyOHFTz...	177	text/html; charset... regsvr32:4200

Fiddler Proxy output. We can see that DLL is sending some data in 11th request

The cookie that is send to server is obfuscated. Server responds this request but the response is obfuscated too.

## Indicator of Compromise

Type	Description	Indicator
URL	Stage 2 DLL	https[:]//dancefox24[.]de/templates/owT/
URL	Stage 2 DLL	https[:]//creemo[.]pl/wp-admin/OuDUHJ4KVAw/
URL	Stage 2 DLL	http[:]//focusmedica[.]in/fmlib/TYiQdcEj9FW0/
FILE	Stage 2 DLL	hhctl.ocx
URL	Stage 1 xls	https[:]//138[.]201.142[.]73/LlzfFOkXejhkkwKznWmaweETfyarhDC
URL	Stage 1 xls	https[:]//138[.]201.142[.]73/nzQqtfpKvlXrdedLOhwauLgz
URL	Stage 2 DLL	https[:]//dp-flex.co[.]jp/cgi-bin/Bt3Ycq5Tix/
URL	Stage 2 DLL	http[:]//dharma comunicacao[.]com[.]br/OLD/PjBkBhUH
URL	Stage 2 DLL	https[:]//www[.]fantasyclub[.]com[.]br/imgs/rggmVTfvT/
URL	Stage 2 DLL	http[:]//eleselektromekanik[.]com/69lq5Pwbd0/s/
IP	Stage 2 DLL Possible C2	138[.]201.142.73:8080 (https)
IP	Stage 2 DLL Possible C2	138[.]197.147.101:443 (https)

# Mitre ATT&CK

ID	Tactic	Technique
T1071.001	COMMAND AND CONTROL	Application Layer Protocol: Web Protocols
T1001.003	COMMAND AND CONTROL	Data Obfuscation: Protocol Impersonation
T1008	COMMAND AND CONTROL	Fallback Channels
T1105	COMMAND AND CONTROL	Ingress Tool Transfer
T1572	COMMAND AND CONTROL	Protocol Tunneling
T1005	COLLECTION	Data from Local System
T1087	DISCOVERY	Account Discovery
T1083	DISCOVERY	File and Directory Discovery
T1057	DISCOVERY	Process Discovery
T1012	DISCOVERY	Query Registry
T1082	DISCOVERY	System Information Discovery
T1140	DISCOVERY	Deobfuscate/Decode Files or Information
T1564.007	DEFENSE EVASION	Hide Artifacts: VBA Stomping
T1070.004	DEFENSE EVASION	Indicator Removal on Host: File Deletion
T1112	DEFENSE EVASION	Modify Registry
T1055.001	DEFENSE EVASION	Process Injection: Dynamic-link Library Injection
T1620T	DEFENSE EVASION	Reflective Code Loading
T1218.010	DEFENSE EVASION	System Binary Proxy Execution: Regsvr32
T1547.001	PERSISTENCE	Boot or Logon Autostart Execution: Registry Run Keys / Startup Folder
T1059.005	EXECUTION	Command and Scripting Interpreter: Visual Basic
T1204.002	EXECUTION	User Execution: Malicious File
T1566	INITIAL ACCESS	Phishing
T1608.001	RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT	Stage Capabilities: Upload Malware
T1592.002	RECONNAISSANCE	Gather Victim Host Information: Software