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Encryption ransomware threatens Linux users

November 6, 2015

Doctor Web warns users about new encryption ransomware targeting Linux operating systems. Judging from the directories in which the Trojan encrypts files, one can draw a conclusion that the main target of cybercriminals is website administrators whose machines have web servers deployed on. There have been some cases, when virus makers exploited the CMS Magento vulnerability to launch attacks on web servers. Doctor Web security researchers presume that at least tens of users have already fallen victim to this Trojan.

Once launched with administrator privileges, the Trojan dubbed **Linux.Encoder.1** downloads files containing cybercriminals' demands and a file with the path to a public RSA key. After that, the malicious program starts as a daemon and deletes the original files. Subsequently, the RSA key is used to store AES keys which will be employed by the Trojan to encrypt files on the infected computer.

First, **Linux.Encoder.1** encrypts all files in home directories and directories related to website administration. Then the Trojan recursively traverses the whole file system starting with the directory from which it is launched; next time, starting with a root directory ("/"). At that, the Trojan encrypts only files with specified extensions and only if a directory name starts with one of the strings indicated by cybercriminals.

Compromised files are appended by the malware with the .encrypted extension. Into every directory that contains encrypted files, the Trojan plants a file with a ransom demand—to have their files decrypted, the victim must pay a ransom in the Bitcoin electronic currency.

```

1 Your personal files are encrypted! Encryption was produced using a unique public key RSA-2048
2 generated for this computer.
3
4 To decrypt files you need to obtain the private key.
5
6 The single copy of the private key, which will allow to decrypt the files, located on a secret
7 server at the Internet. After that, nobody and never will be able to restore files...
8
9 To obtain the private key and php script for this computer, which will automatically decrypt
10 files, you need to pay 1 bitcoin(s) (~420 USD).
11 Without this key, you will never be able to get your original files back.
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