



Game hackers and you

Knowledge extraction from toxic places

@DE7AULTsec



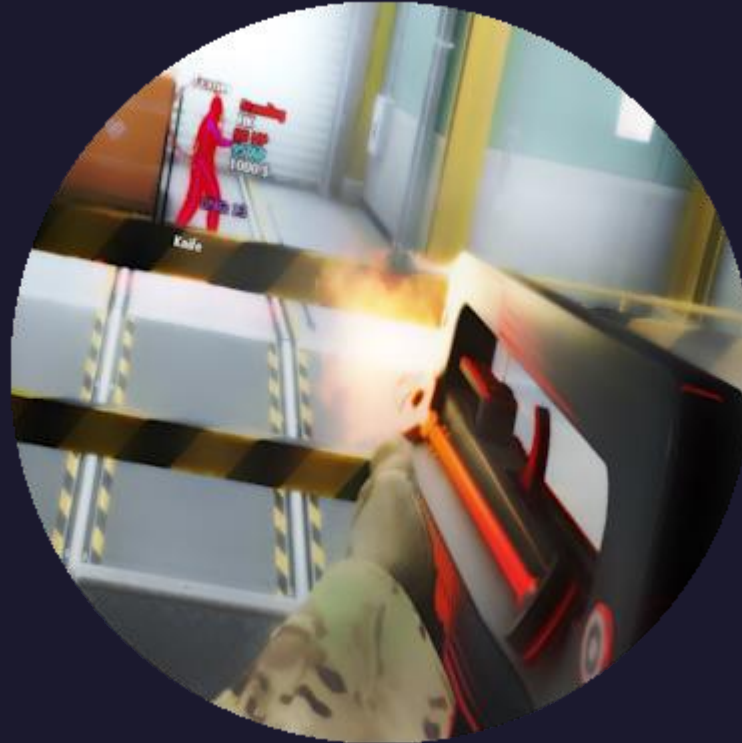
./whoami

Student

Researcher

Hacker

Got my start with game hacking



Outline

- > Introduce game hacking as a concept
- > See how this community overlaps with infosec
- > Endure the toxicity
- > Extract vital knowledge

Why hack a video game in the first place?



GAMING MARKET WORTH
OVER HALF A TRILLION
USD (546.99B)



GAMES ARE OFTEN COMPETITIVE,
REQUIRE LARGE TIME COMMITMENTS
FOR DIMINISHING REWARDS



PLAYERS LOOK FOR WAYS
TO INCREASE
PERFORMANCE



HACKERS DEVELOP
EXPLOITS TO ALLOW FOR
BETTER PERFORMANCE



SOME PLAYERS ARE
WILLING TO PAY FOR
ACCESS



A NEW MARKET AND
UNDERGROUND
ECONOMY IS BORN

Two sides, same coin

CLOSED-SOURCE COMMUNITY

- Also known as the “P2C” community
- Secretive, methods and exploits are sold, not shared
- Operate as businesses, only a few actual developers in the P2C scene, many resellers using different names and GUI's
- Often just resell code releases from the open-source community
- Larger P2C's usually backed by larger businesses, often Chinese, sometimes ties to APT groups

OPEN-SOURCE COMMUNITY

- Comprised of 3 primary forums (UC, MPGH, GH)
- Forum rules prevent promotion of “paid cheats”
- Act as places to share knowledge
- Has threads assigned to most modern games for finding offsets, anti-cheat reversing, hooking methods and releases
- As a security researcher, this is where you want to be

Before we move on

If you want a better look at the P2C community;

I recommend @BushidoToken's 2022 blog post: "Gamer, Cheater, Hacker, Spy",

Which treads similar ground to this talk, but takes a closer look at the threat actors tied to the gaming industry





When did you first hear about BYOVD?

(Bring Your Own Vulnerable Driver)

BYOVD timeline

First mention and guide on using vulnerable drivers for an anti-cheat bypass on UC, BYOVD becomes the go-to method for AC bypass

CVE-2021-21511
(Vulnerable Dell driver) discovered

ESET discovers the attack and creates their write-up

2017

2019

2021

2021-2022

2022

Vulnerable driver mega-thread is created, listing over 131 drivers from 40 manufacturers (ASUS, Avast, Huawei, Intel, etc) allowing for less technical users to use the method

First example of an APT group using BYOVD in the wild (Lazarus)
Using CVE-2021-21511



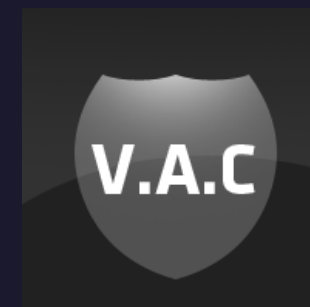
Anti-cheat

Hacking games is easy, not getting banned is hard

All modern, multiplayer competitive games utilise software called Anti-Cheat (AC) designed to monitor your game and detect the use of cheats.

AC can be client-side, serverside, or for some games both, defending the fairplay and integrity of these competitive esports is itself a multi-billion dollar industry.

Best in class anticheats will be both server and clientside, with the clientside running at kernel level and always being active on the users PC.



The arms race

Game hacking is a constant arms race between cheat developers and anti-cheat developers.

The same way threat researchers sit in cybercrime forums looking for leads, AC developers will do the same, looking for new exploits in their anticheat to patch.

Running a kernel level, “always-on” anticheat provides security risks however;

Employee creates Bitcoin botnet to exploit ESEA's 500,000-member gaming community



By Aaron Souppouris
Via Wired | Source ESEA
May 2, 2013, 11:42 AM GMT+1 | 0 Comments / 0 News

bitcoin_lead

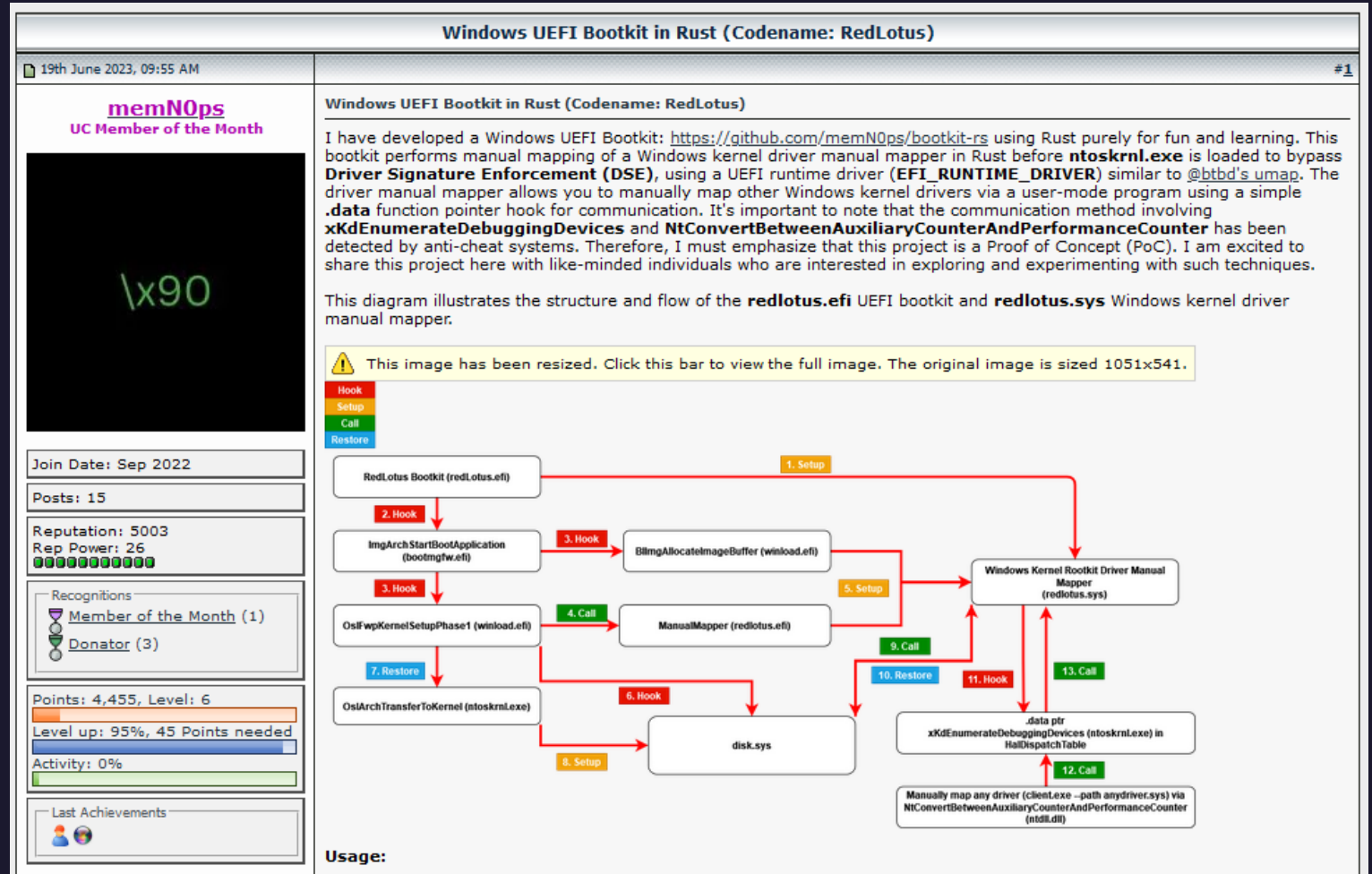


Bypassing AC

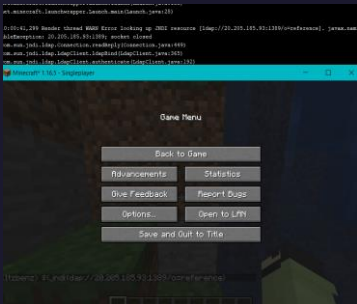
The levels the game-hacking community will go to get their hands on a new AC bypass should never be underestimated.

Multiple zero-day exploits discovered in the game-hacking community have later been extrapolated and used in the wider world (Log4j)

Only a few weeks ago, a new UEFI bootkit was developed, inspired by blacklotus, with the intention of being an AC bypass.



Notable releases



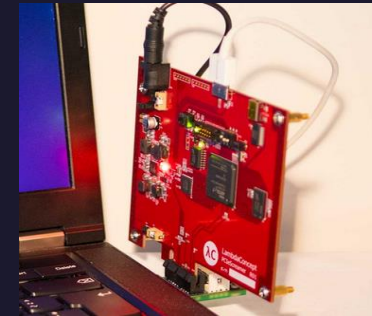
Log4j

CVE-2021-4428



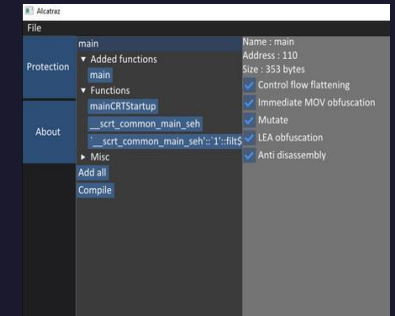
RedLotus

UEFI-BOOTKIT



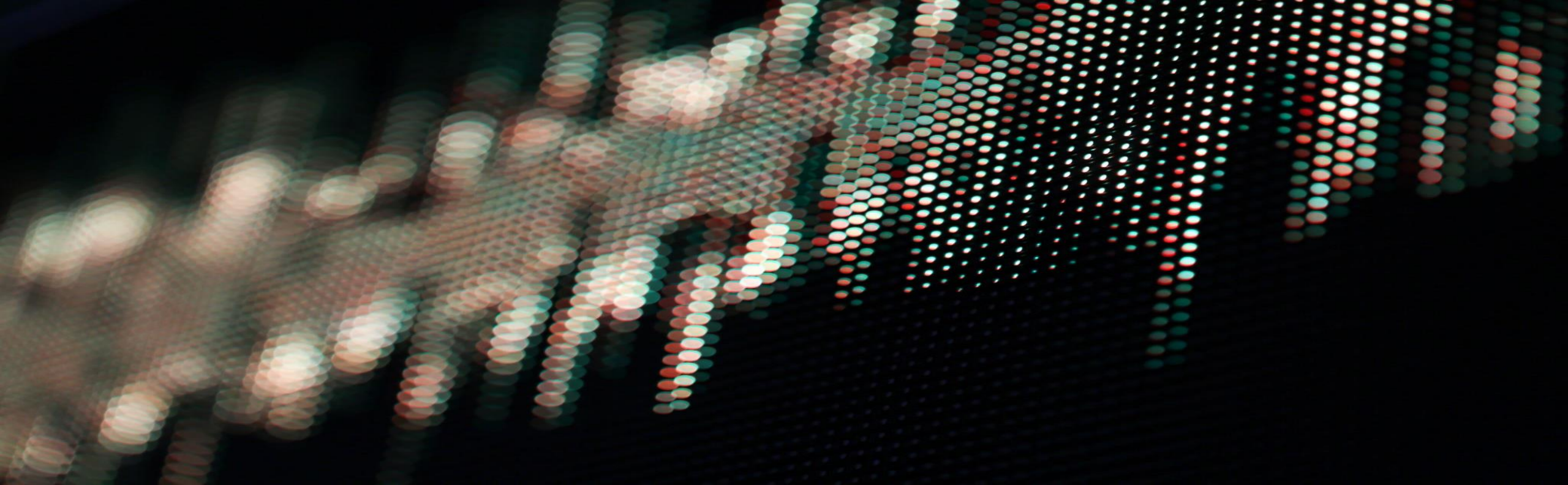
PCIleech

DMA attack framework



Alcatraz

Binary Obfuscator



Cool, but what is there to learn here?

(Plenty, you just need to look in the right places)

Good places to start

Unknowncheats.me (UC) usually has the highest quality posts

GuidedHacking.com (GH) is a mix of classic hacking forum and video-game hacking

Advanced search (title only) >>> Member of the month, to find the “milestone” releases

From there you can branch out, remember to search by [RELEASE]

Now you can start finding interesting stuff, for example...




Member of the Month - July 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] July 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - June 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] June 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - May 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] May 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - April 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] April 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - March 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] March 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - February 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] February 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - January 2023 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] January 2023 Member of the Month Snowyy
Member of the Month - December 2022 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] December 2022 Member of the Month (1 2) Snowyy
Member of the Month - November 2022 Snowyy
Poll: [VOTE] November 2022 Member of the Month Snowyy

Advanced Forum Search	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Go"/>

Yet another EFI bootkit

otiosum

Windows 10 Enterprise LTSC




Join Date: Aug 2017

Posts: 621

Reputation: 45187
Rep Power: 194
000000000000

Recognitions


 [Former Staff](#)

Points: 71,061, Level: 39

Level up: 21%, 3,239 Points needed

Activity: 0%

Last Achievements



rainbow - EFI bootkit like HWID spoofer (SMBIOS/disk/NIC)


Hello everyone,

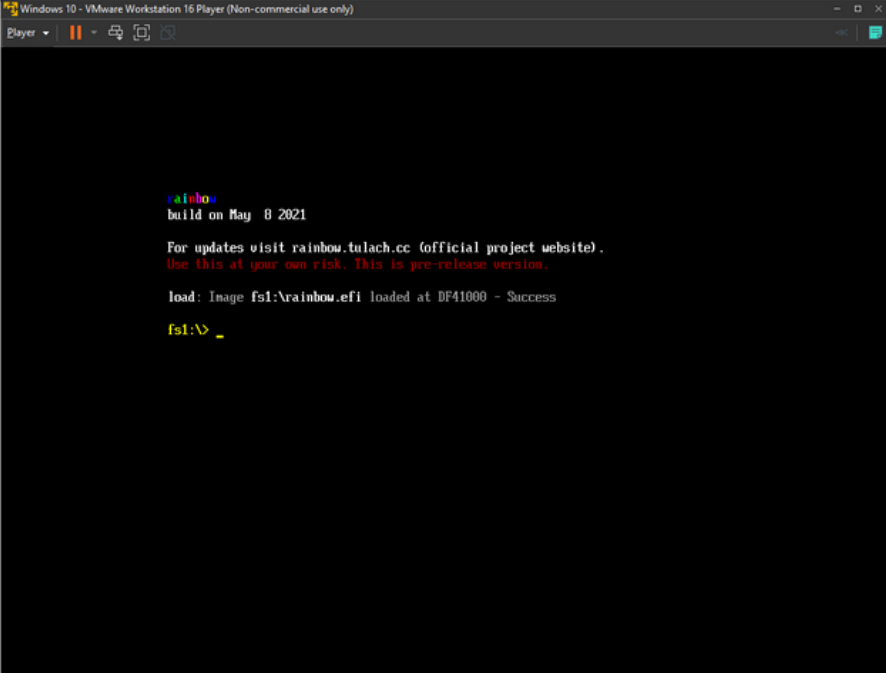
I had this in mind for a long time but I finally got to do it. Originally I was intending to either keep it for myself or sell it, but you know what? Fuck it.

This rainbow spoofer essentially hooks ExitBootServices to get return address to OslFwpKernelSetupPhase1, then it runs sigscan to find OslLoaderBlock and other crap from there. It hooks IopLoadDriver to perform the spoofing and then unhooks itself.

I have decided not to release the source code yet, because I want to keep it fine for some time until it starts to get flagged. Once it gets flagged, I will publish the source code. The source will be pushed to [this GitHub repo](#).

Screenshots


 This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 1026x825.



Entire memory hacking libraries

16th March 2023, 03:29 AM

MellowNight
Hacker Supreme



Join Date: Feb 2021

Posts: 237

Reputation: 15643
Rep Power: 77
000000000000

Recognitions
Member of the Month (1)

Points: 18,464, Level: 18
Level up: 45%, 836 Points needed
Activity: 0%

Last Achievements

AetherVisor - Memory hacking library powered by AMD SVM

<https://github.com/MellowNight/AetherVisor>

Hello, I don't have time to maintain this project anymore + i want to move on to this other project ive been working with, have fun!

FEATURES

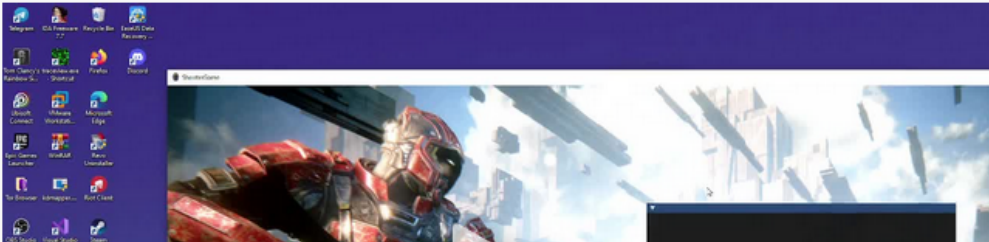
Syscall hooks via MSR_LSTAR
NPT hooks
Branch tracing
Sandboxing and Read/Write/Execute instrumentation

Instructions:

1. include aethervisor.h (AetherVisor-lib/includes)
2. compile AetherVisor-lib
3. statically link AetherVisor-lib to your project
4. map AetherVisor.sys
5. Use AetherVisor API

Tested and UD on BE/EAC*
**not guaranteed to be stable on BE/EAC*

NPT hook:




Vulnerable driver releases

2nd May 2019, 04:39 PM

IChooseYou

ICY



Join Date: Jun 2005

Posts: 3,468

Reputation: 170651
Rep Power: 644
000000000000

Recognitions


Member of the Month (6)
Former Staff

Points: 262,739, Level: 59


Level up: 29%, 231,261 Points needed

Activity: 0%

Last Achievements



Award-Showcase



Vulnerable Driver Megathread

#1

Vulnerable Driver Megathread

Collection of signed system drivers that let you read/write privileged memory or expose some other serious vulnerability. If the driver has input buffer validation for IOCTL codes please state so before submitting to the list.

ASUS

EIO64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace
IOMap64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace

ATSZIO64.sys ZwMapViewOfSection/ZwUnmapViewOfSection/MmGetPhysicalAddress

Device Name: "\\.\ATSZIO"
Map Physical IOCTL: 0x8807200C
Unmap Physical IOCTL: 0x88072010

Example: <https://github.com/LimiQS/AsusDriver...r/PoC-fixed.cs>

ATI

atilk64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace/MmBuildMdlForNonPagedPool/MmMapLockedPages

Device Name: "\\.\atilk64"
Map/Unmap IOCTLs: 0x9C402534, 0x9C402538, 0x9C402544, 0x9C402548
MDL IOCTLs: 0x9C40254C, 0x9C402558, 0x9C402560, 0x9C402564

Avast

aswVmm.sys SSDT Hooking

Device Name: "\\.\aswVmm"
Hook IOCTL: 0xA000E804
Example: <https://github.com/tanduRE/AvastHV/>

Biostar

BS_Flash64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace/MmMapLockedPages/ExAllocatePoolWithTag/ExFreePoolWithTag

Device Name: "\\.\BS_Flash64"
Map/Unmap IOCTL: 0x222000
Allocate IOCTL: 0x22203C

BS_I2c64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace
BSMEMx64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace/MmGetPhysicalAddress
BSMIXP64.sys MmMapIoSpace/MmUnmapIoSpace/MmGetPhysicalAddress

Capcom

Capcom.sys MmGetSystemRoutineAddress

Device Name: "\\.\Htsysm72FB"
Execute IOCTL: 0xAA013044

BMTH2600

@DE7AULTsec

17

Even more vulnerable driver releases

8th May 2019, 02:02 AM

#1

namazso

free(malloc(sizeof(int)))

Join Date: Oct 2014

Posts: 1,508

Reputation: 84737
Rep Power: 312

Recognitions

Member of the Month (1)

Donator (3)

Former Staff

Contest Winner (1)

Points: 115,892, Level: 49

Level up: 4%, 5,008 Points needed
Activity: 0%

Last Achievements

Some vulnerable drivers

Here are a few vulnerable drivers. No testing and PoC has been done on them. I kept some cool ones to myself (those are not listed here). Some might be 0days, didn't check.
Have fun

Drivers in this package:

Code:

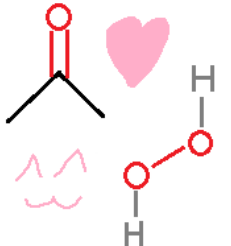
Name	Signer	Description	SHA256
1. Name	Signer	Description	SHA256
2. ----	-----	-----	-----
3. ADV64DRV.sys	"FUJITSU LIMITED "		04A85E359525D662338CAE86C1E5981D7AA9BD12B920E8067503723DC1E03162
4. Agent64.sys	"eSupport.com, Inc."	DriverAgent Direct I/O for 64-bit Windows	05F052C640192CF69A462A5EC16DDA0043CAD5D0245900C9FCB9201685A2E7748
5. Agent64.sys	Phoenix Technologies Ltd	DriverAgent Direct I/O for 64-bit Windows	4045AE7785981DBF13972451972EA6F3C97BEA423E9E78F1C2F14338CD47CA
6. Agent64.sys	Phoenix Technologies Ltd	DriverAgent Direct I/O for 64-bit Windows	6948480954137987A08E626C24CF594390968242CD75F094CD6AAA5C2E7A54FA
7. Agent64.sys	"eSupport.com, Inc"	DriverAgent Direct I/O for 64-bit Windows	8CB62C5D41148DE416014F08BD1FD033FD4D28D504C805890EE86992A382D58F
8. Agent64.sys	"eSupport.com, Inc."	DriverAgent Direct I/O for 64-bit Windows	B1D96233235A62DBB2188DBE2D1AE333199669F676648107BF1AD49841D9414
9. ALSysIO64.sys	Artur Liberman	ALSysIO	7196187FB1EF8D1088380D37B2AF8FEDEB3CA1F6EEFD37B5DC114C609147216D
10. ALSysIO64.sys	Artur Liberman	ALSysIO	7F375639A0DF7FE51E5518CF87C3F513C55BC1170B47D28DA8C615642E8188FA
11. amifidrv64.sys	"American Megatrends, Inc."		42579A759F3F95F20A2C51D5AC2047A2662A2675B3F89F46C1ED7F23393A0F00
12. ASIO.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.		2DA330A2088409EFC35118445A824F11ED8E51CF36538298053785097FE40E
13. ASIO.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.		436CCAB6F62FA2D29827916E054ADE7ACA4E85B3DE1D3E5C6C62030E8F1480E7
14. ASIO.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.		B4D47EA790892044531E3DF5A4848072187FEA6849A35679F0652F1E590422602
15. ASIO.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.		D0E6F28B3FF72AB8EE59D4864435108791631E9CB4CDFB1F178E5A9859956D8
16. AsrAutoChkupdDrv.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	AsrAutoChkupdDrv Driver	2AA1B08F47FB81E28D2E4A492F5D616968E783E1359A921F6283888E4662F8C4
17. AsrDrv10.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	ASRock IO Driver	ECE0A900EA089E730741499614C0917432246CE85E11599EE3A1BB679E24FD02C
18. AsrDrv101.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	ASRock IO Driver	F4043548838984FB3B945CA21A8325A51E1B5F80F045AB019748D0EC66056A88
19. AsrIDrv.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	RW-Everything Read & Write Driver	2A652DE668805AD92376AD3230218508AB2C653ABF06E0F26120F771488E08A
20. AsrOmngDrv.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	ASRock IO Driver	950A4C0C772821CEE26011A92194F0E58061588F77F2873A085990F52A160C9
21. AsrRapidStartDrv.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	RW-Everything Read & Write Driver	0AAF9A9F47ACF69D46C9542895994FF5321F00842A28DF2396D4A3076776A83CB
22. AsrSmartConnectDrv.sys	ASROCK Incorporation	RW-Everything Read & Write Driver	47F08F7D380824A8F48B8A98916401A37C8FD08502D8308ABA91FE3112B892DCC
23. AspUpIO.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.		B9A4E40A5D08FDD01037EAD0958F9F9FEFD41E081ADA73D51B5DC086E27E0CBF
24. atilik64.sys	"ATI Technologies, Inc"	ATI Diagnostics Hardware Abstraction Sys	5C04C274A708C9A7D993E33BE3EA9E6119DC29527A7674100BAF93996F87369A
25. BS_Def64.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.	Default BIOS Flash Driver	0040153302888EE27EB4F1ECA6855039E1A057370F5E8C615724FA5215BADA3
26. BS_Def64.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.	Default BIOS Flash Driver	3326E2D32BBA0D69FEB6024809AFC56C7E39241EBE70A53728C77E80995422A5
27. BS_Def64.sys	ASUSTek Computer Inc.	Default BIOS Flash Driver	3689E31240AB0341873C7092B63E2E0F2CAB2962E8F9825721C3A12168769E8
28. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		29E0062A017A9382F2F5207A608A9D6F4D554C5DE9768D0276C2590A038D3E94
29. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		45ABD8CD4C0916B7D9FAAF1CD08543A3A5178871074628E0126A6EDA890D26E0
30. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		500B54880039247DD6AB5DF98389DC24D1ED1E9C98C9C35964819DABCD6DC67F
31. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		607DC47C5AC7AEF82AE0616A453866B383586CFC5F89D29E4D37F844306B97C
32. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		61D6E40601FA368800980801A662A5B3836E3C23296E8AE1C85726A56E18CC8
33. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		74AB46C61ADC53692D3040AFF4C1916F32987AD72B07FE226E97D0BEFF1036C4
34. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		76FB4DEAE57EF30E56C382C92ABFF2ECF616D08DBEC38368C8EE6802E59F303
35. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		81939E5C12D06277F268E9887D6F857E95E6049F28921F3437898757E7F21469
36. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		9790A789D624828187688B65SDDA4A05A9929633CEF081521E79E40D70E8A058
37. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		9A1D66036808688B18283209FDEA61A301D5D0245F8E7D3908D31E52D663E
38. CITMDRV_AMD64.sys	IBM Polska Sp. z o.o.		AA9AB1195DC866270E984F18DE5E13



Methods to load these drivers

5th May 2023, 04:20 AM

xtremegamer1
God-Like



Join Date: Apr 2021

Posts: 158

Reputation: 7612
Rep Power: 63
0000000000

Recognitions
Member of the Month (1)

Points: 12,596, Level: 14
Level up: 23%, 1,004 Points needed

Activity: 0%

Last Achievements

xigmapper (boot-time driver mapper that loads your driver before Vanguard)

This is a simple efi driver project that manual maps your Windows driver before Vanguard loads.
<https://github.com/xtremegamer1/xigmapper>

This image has been resized. Click this bar to view the full image. The original image is sized 744x492.

```
IoInitSystem      IoInitSystem      proc near          ; CODE XREF: Phase1Initialization+361p
IoInitSystem      ; DATA XREF: .rdata:000000014009FE04fo ...
IoInitSystem
IoInitSystem      arg_8              = qword ptr 10h
IoInitSystem
IoInitSystem      ; FUNCTION CHUNK AT INIT:0000000140A80064 SIZE 00000030 BYTES
IoInitSystem
IoInitSystem      sub                rsp, 20h
IoInitSystem+4    lea                rax, IopInitFailCode
IoInitSystem+8    mov                [rsp+20h+arg_8], rax
IoInitSystem+10   call               IopInitSystemPreDrivers
IoInitSystem+15   test               al, al
IoInitSystem+17   jz                 loc_140A80078
IoInitSystem+1D   call               cs:_imp_MerLiveKernelInitSystem
IoInitSystem+24   nop                dword ptr [rax+rax+00h]
IoInitSystem+29   call               IopInitializeSystemDrivers
IoInitSystem+2E   test               eax, eax
IoInitSystem+30   jz                 loc_140A8007F
IoInitSystem+36   cmp                cs:PnpBootOptions, 0
IoInitSystem+3D   jz                 short loc_140A48A01
IoInitSystem+3F
IoInitSystem+3F   loc_140A489E8:                ; CODE XREF: IoInitSystem+5A1j
IoInitSystem+3F   cmp                cs:ViVerifierEnabled, 0
IoInitSystem+46   jnz                 short loc_140A48A08
IoInitSystem+48
IoInitSystem+48   loc_140A489F4:                ; CODE XREF: IoInitSystem+634j
IoInitSystem+48   call               IopRegistryInitializeCallbacks
IoInitSystem+4D   mov                al, 1
IoInitSystem+4F   loc_140A489FB:                ; CODE XREF: IoInitSystem+376CE4j
IoInitSystem+4F   add                rsp, 20h
IoInitSystem+53   retn
```

The EFI driver creates a hook inside of IoInitSystem that comes after IoInitSystemPreDrivers, but before IopInitializeSystemDrivers (the routine that starts Vanguard), meaning you are essentially running in the same environment as a SYSTEM_START driver. This conveys the advantage of not having to worry about the exoticism of the Windows boot environment, as you will be running in a what amounts to a fully initialized kernel. In fact, I have used this to load a hypervisor that was made to be run on an already running system, and my loader worked to start the hypervisor before Vanguard without causing BSOD or any other problems.

The tradeoff between using this and a leaked cert/vulnerable driver is that you will need to have SB off (so no windows 11 unless you are a SB spoofing god), but it is easier and you don't have to worry about Vanguard finding traces of the vulnerable driver or noticing a suspicious signing certificate.

Trying to lift vm traces to vtil for optimization and recompilation.

Exploits that haven't been reported

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository for 'logitech-cve'. The repository is public and has 7 watchers, 67 forks, and 137 stars. It was last updated on Nov 10, 2020, with 3 commits. The repository contains several files, including README.md, logitech-cve.sln, logitech-cve.vcxproj, logitech-cve.vcxproj.filters, logitech-cve.vcxproj.user, main.c, mouse.c, and mouse.h. The README.md file is selected, showing the project name 'logitech-cve', the date '10/11/2020', and sections for 'Requirements' and 'Why releasing?'. The 'Requirements' section states 'Logitech GHUB installed'. The 'Why releasing?' section explains that the vulnerability was used in another project, but the author was too lazy to remove the logitech driver from the project.

logitech-cve Public

Watch 7 Fork 67 Star 137

main 1 branch 0 tags

Go to file Add file <> Code

About

10/11/2020

Readme Activity 137 stars 7 watching 67 forks Report repository

Releases

No releases published

Packages

No packages published

Languages

C 100.0%

logitech-cve

10/11/2020

Requirements

Logitech GHUB installed

Why releasing?

This vulnerability was used my other project: https://github.com/ekknod/EC_PRO-LAN/ but because of that project DMA driver (AmdRyzenMaster) got published, and i was too lazy to remove logitech

Bad places to start

For the love of god, do not go into the replies:

Infosec is a joke. [redacted] just learning to code hyping each other up

13th June 2023, 03:54 PM

[redacted]
Junior Member
★ ★ ★

?

So.... You're telling me I could have been SELLING THESE VULNERABLE DRIVERS?!?!? Are you [redacted] my fat [redacted] right now?

13th June 2023, 04:54 PM

[redacted]
Super H4x0r
★ ★ ★ ★

?

security researchers are braindead
Signature

13th June 2023, 04:50 PM

[redacted]
The Legendary Cheater
★ ★

🦅

#redteam [redacted] will hype up any ancient technology and reinvent the wheel 500x because they lack any reverse engineering skills. Since everyone in that [redacted] is braindead of course they will find old [redacted] exciting, monkey see monkey do.

15th June 2023, 02:48 PM

[redacted]

?

This whole thread is a bit embarrassing if I'm being honest with you.

vx-underground in the replies is one of the funniest ones. You check his library on github? Absolute [redacted] meme lmao

[redacted]

eac's most wanted

14th June 2023, 02:46 PM

[redacted]


Quote:
Originally Posted by **Rafael4096** ♫
Screw p2cs dude, real business is selling meme drivers.

damn, seems like I wasted \$300k right here: https://github.com/namazso/physmem_drivers
All original code posted by me is licensed under WTFPL unless stated otherwise

The worst part?

All of these replies were in response to someone who would win member of the month 2 weeks later for their UEFI bootkit (RedLotus)...

<https://twitter.com/memN0ps/status/1667440217496887296>
dudes entire portfolio is just him rewriting cheat crap in rust

Member of the Month - July 2023	
1st July 2023, 05:38 PM	
<p>Snowyy Forum Administrator</p> 	<p>Member of the Month - July 2023</p> <p>It is my pleasure to announce the new MotM for July, as voted by the UnKnoWnCheaTs community:</p> <p><u>memN0ps</u></p> <p>memN0ps was nominated for their <u>Windows UEFI Bootkit in Rust (Codename: RedLotus)</u>.</p> <p>We offer our wholehearted congratulations to memN0ps on this well-deserved award!</p>



Takeaway

- Good releases and important knowledge can be extracted from these places
- Clear overlap between the infosec, hacking and cheating community
- Technical knowledge and exploits sometimes surfaces in these communities first
- All in all, the game hacking community should not be overlooked as a useful resource for anyone in the infosec community

Fin

