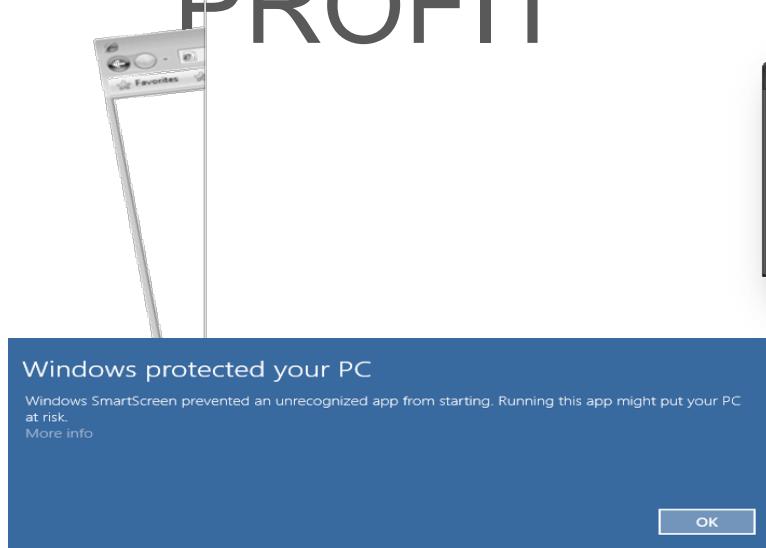


ABUSING BROWSERS FOR FUN SERIALIZED INTERFACES PROFIT



HELLO
MY NAME IS Rosario

sites.google.com/site/tentacoloviola/



SOCIALLY ENGINEERED

2012 200K NEW MALWARE SAMPLES
EVERY DAY

FACTS 15+ BILLIONS MALWARE ATTACKS
ORIGINATED FROM THE WEB

MOSTLY ORIGINATED BY USER
INITIATED DOWNLOADS

USERASK

- GUIDANCE WHILE SURFING THE WEB
- PROTECTION FROM MALICIOUS SITES
- RELIABLE BROWSER



VENDORS REPLIES

ENHANCED MEMORY PROTECTION TECHNOLOGIES FOR PROTECTING AGAINST EXPLOITS AND DRIVEBY DOWNLOADS (ASLR, DEP, GS, ETC)

EMBEDDED SECURITY FILTERS AGAINST WEB ATTACKS (XSS FILTER, ANTI FRAMING/CLICKJACKING, ETC)

MALWARE/PHISHING RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGIES (SAFE BROWSING, SMARTSCREEN FILTER, ETC)

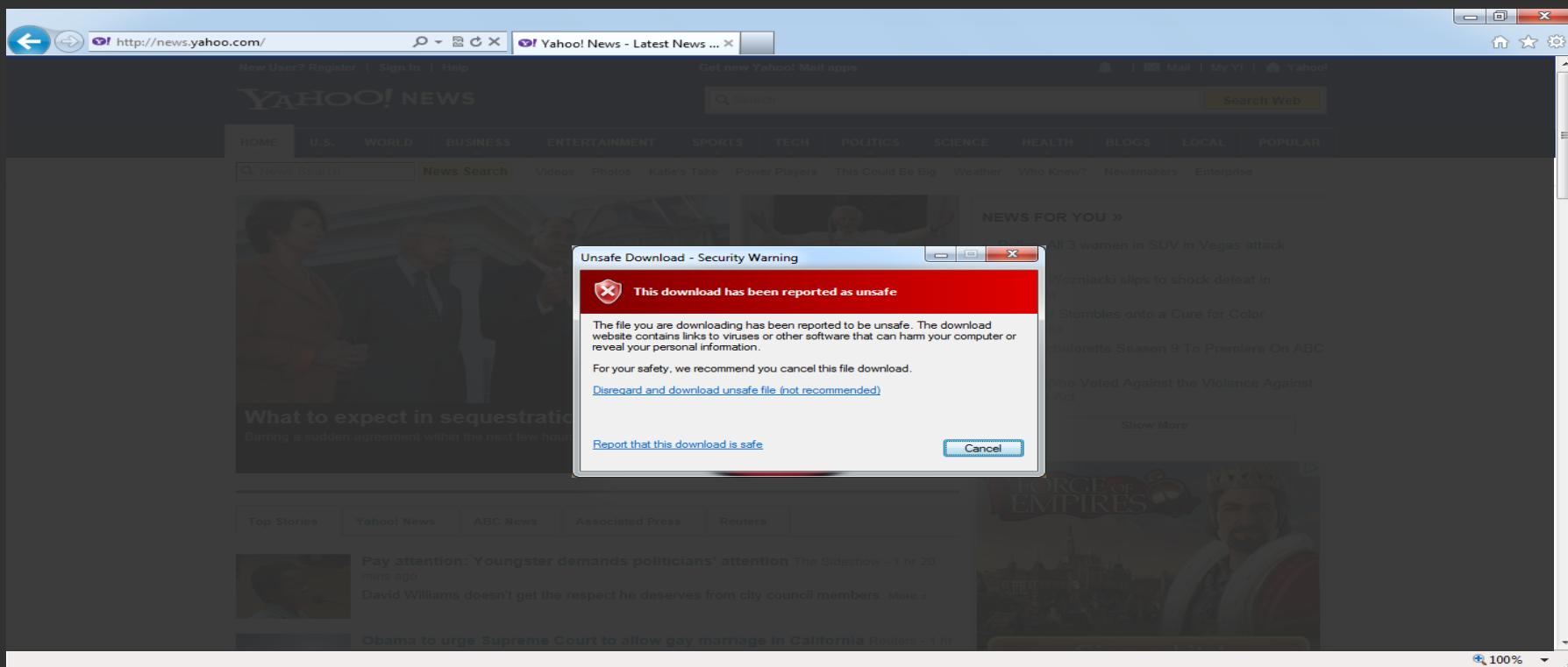
TRUSTED AND RECOGNIZABLE USER INTERFACES TO HELP USERS IN MAKING AWARE CHOICES WHILE SURFING THE WEB

CHROME

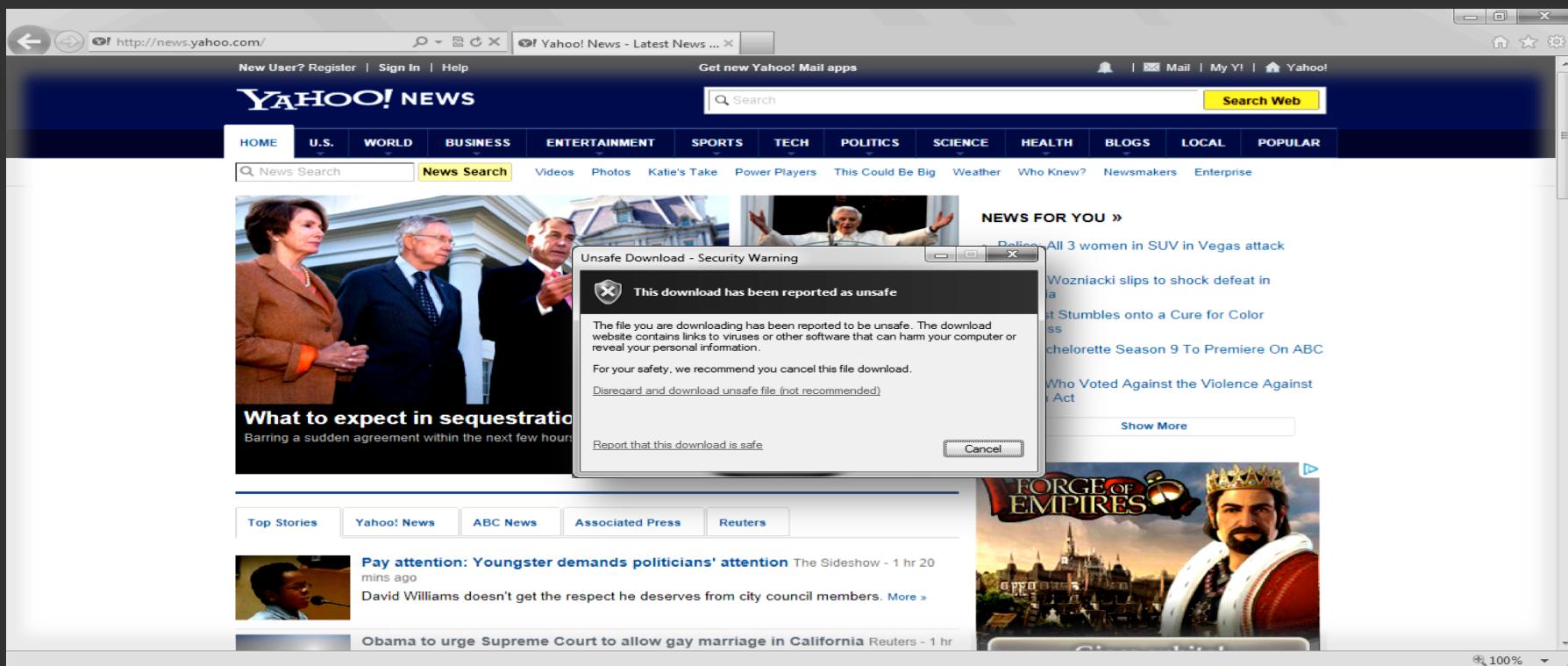
IN TRUST



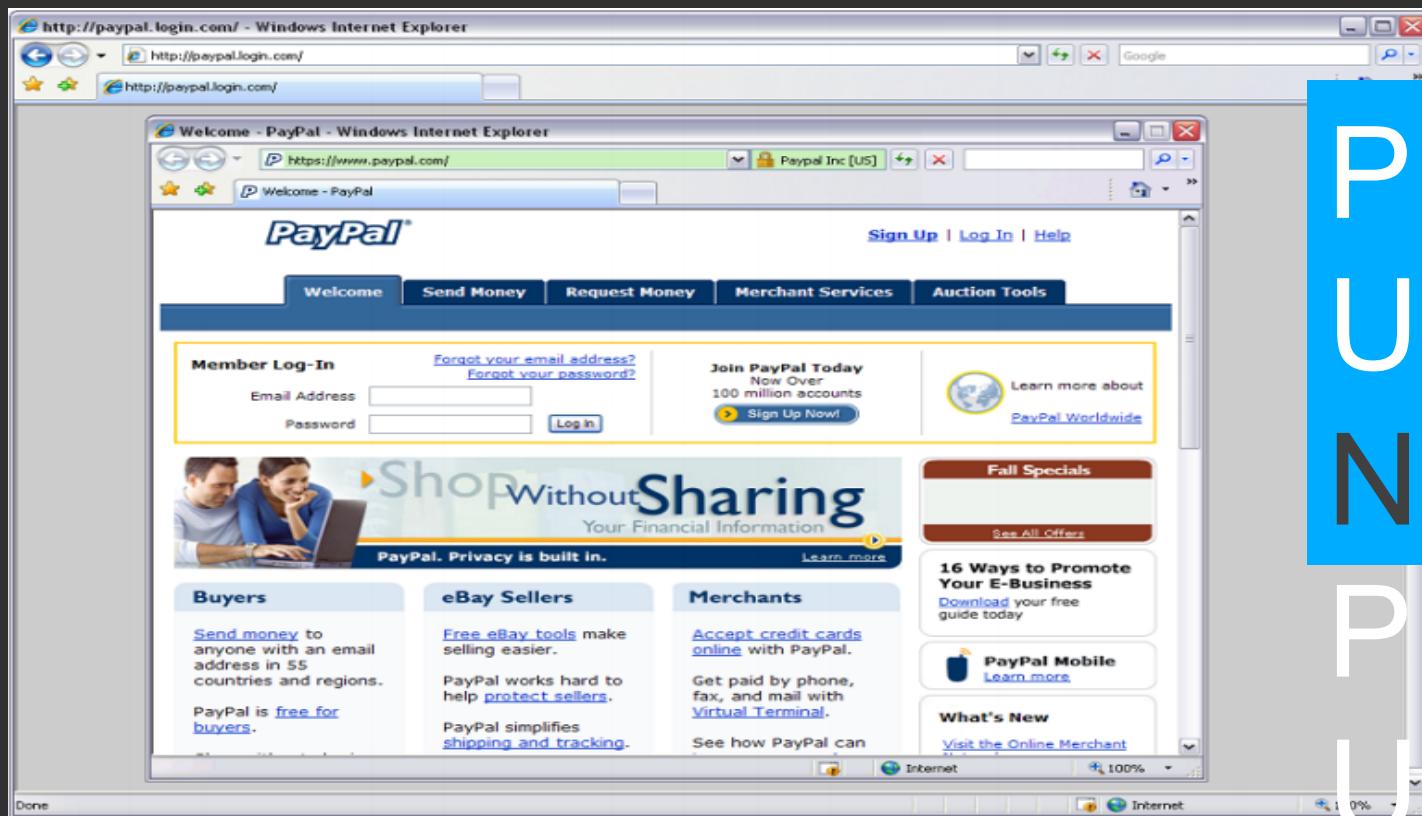
THIS IS CHROME



THIS IS CONTENT



WHICH IS CHROME?

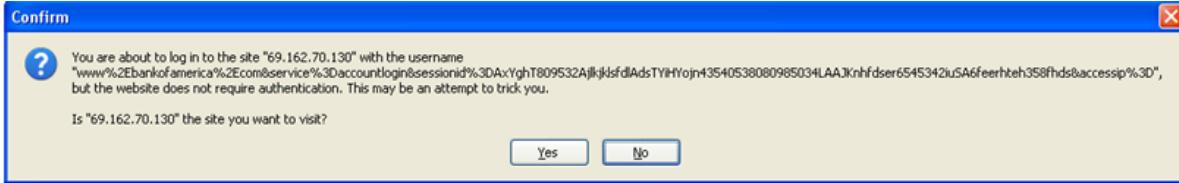


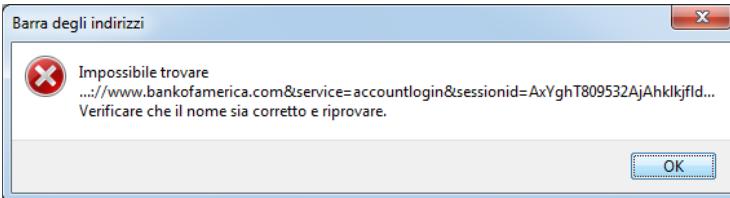
PICTURE IN PICTURE

URL OBFUSCATION FLAV

- EXPLOIT A DESIGN FLAW IN BROWSERS THAT ARE NOT ABLE TO RELIABLY RENDER THE URL REQUIRED BY THE USER
- URL FORMAT FOLLOWS THE GENERAL PATTERN <http://username:password@mysite.com> WITH OPTIONAL password FIELD

•     RAISE A WARNING





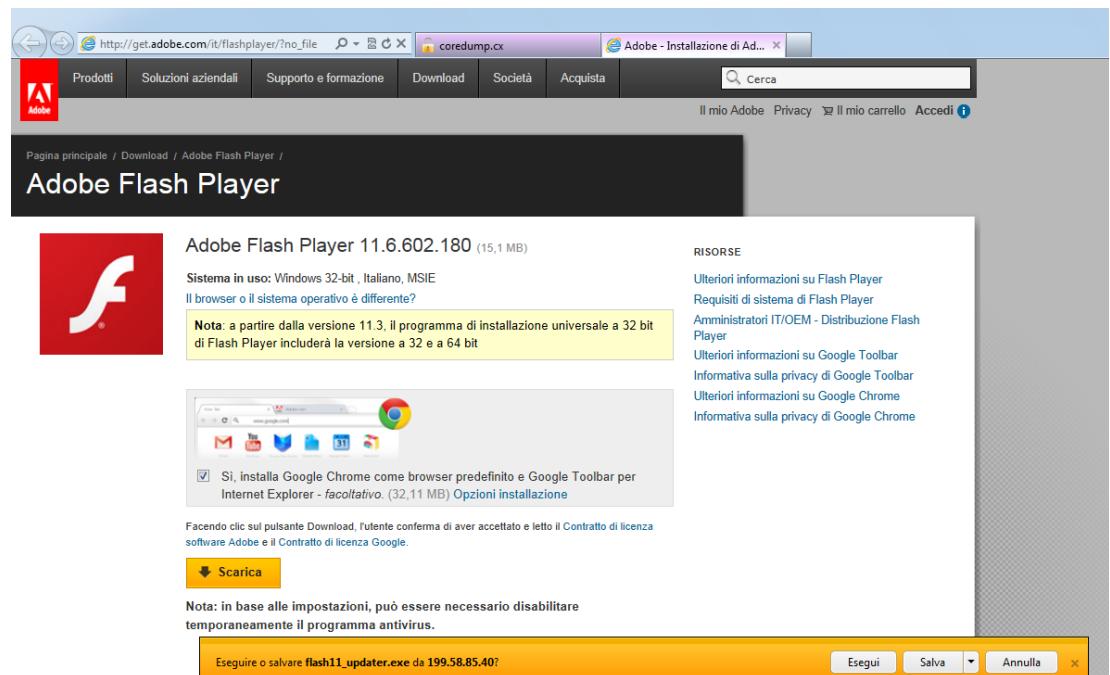
 DISABLES RESOLUTION FOR URLs WITH EMBEDDED CREDENTIALS

 RENDERS PAGE AND STRIPS CREDENTIALS FROM THE URL AND REVEALING TRUE NATURE OF THE DOMAIN

DOWNLOAD DIA

STILL WORKS ON IE9,
CHROME 25 AND

- VICTIM VISITS ROGUE WEBSITE
- WEBSITE IMMEDIATELY SPAWNS A NEW NAVIGATION WINDOW LINKING TO A BENIGN WEBPAGE
- ROGUE WEBSITE SETS THE NEW NAVIGATION WINDOW URL TO A RESOURCE SERVED WITH Content-Disposition: attachment HEADER
- A DOWNLOAD NOTIFICATION



<http://lcamtuf.coredump.cx/fld/>

BROWSERSECURIT



BROWSERSECURIT

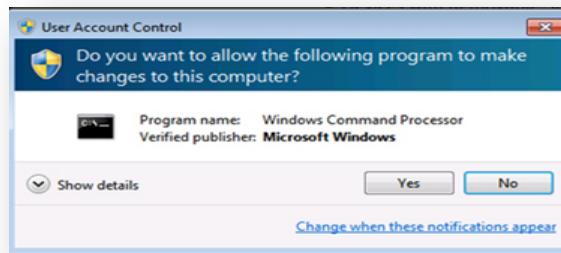
- CRUCIAL PART OF THE BROWSER
- NOTIFY USERS BEFORE MAKING IM
- COMMUNICATION MEDIUM BETWEEN
- NEED TO BE RECOGNIZABLE AND T

MODAL NOTIFICATION

STRONG VISUAL CONTRAST • GRAB USER ATTENTION • BLOCK WORKFLOW

OS GENERATED

BROWSER GENERATED



- IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS ONLY
- NOT STRICTLY PART OF CHROME
- DEFULT ANSWER
- TRIGGERED IN SEVERAL SCENARIOS
- SOMETIMES CAN BE VERY ANNOYING

MODELESS NOTIFICATIONS

- DESIGNED TO INFORM USER WITHOUT INTERRUPT
- STAY IN CONTEXT OF THE NAVIGATION WINDOW
- CHROME NOT DOM

 FILE DOWNLOAD
 ADING PLUGINS ACTIVATION

 HTML5 APIs

Do you want to open or save a-sample_mp3.mp3 (10.0 MB) from susanm10?





The publisher of dumptrash.exe couldn't be verified.

[Learn more](#)



MODALTOMOD

SHIFT



MODELESS MODELESS MODELESS FIXED MODAL



MODELESS MODELESS MODELESS MODAL MODAL



EXTENSIONS/ADDONS

MODAL MODAL MODAL MODAL MODAL



MODELESS MODELESS MODELESS MODELESS MODAL



4 PROBLEMS ABOUT MOD

1.DISPLAYED EVEN IF THE WINDOW





1.DISPLAYED EVEN IF THE WINDOW
2.KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS ENABLED

-
- 1.DISPLAYED EVEN IF THE WINDOW
 - 2.KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS ENABLED
 - 3.NOTIFICATION BARS CAN BE NAVIG

-
- The background image is a promotional poster for the 2005 movie "Fantastic Four". It features the four main characters of the Fantastic Four in a dark, futuristic setting. Reed Richards (Mr. Fantastic) is on the left, looking towards the camera. The Thing is in the center, showing his rocky, skin-like texture. Invisible Girl (Miles Mayday) is on the right, with her hair flowing. Human Torch (Johnny Storm) is partially visible on the far right. The overall tone is mysterious and sci-fi.
- 1.DISPLAYED EVEN IF THE WINDOW
 - 2.KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS ENABLED
 - 3.NOTIFICATION BARS CAN BE NAVIG
 - 4.NOTIFICATION BARS ARE BOUND T

NOTIFICATIONS IN BACK

SCENARIO:

1. USER BROWSES ON ATTACKER WEBSITE
2. WEB PAGE SPAWNS A POPUP WINDOW
3. POPUP IS OPENED ON THE BACKGROUND TAB
4. ON WINDOWS 7/8 THE POPUNDER INITIATES A DOWNLOAD
5. POPUNDER INITIATES A DOWNLOAD
6. MODELESS NOTIFICATION IS TRIGGERED (HIDDEN FROM THE USER)
7. POPUNDER TAB DOESN'T BLINK TO GIVE EVIDENCE OF A DOWNLOAD

A LITTLE BIT OF JS MAGIC IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TO WORK IN EVERY BROWSER. blur() DOESN'T WORK PROPERLY ON SOME IMPLEMENTATIONS.
[JSPOPUNDER PROJECT](#)

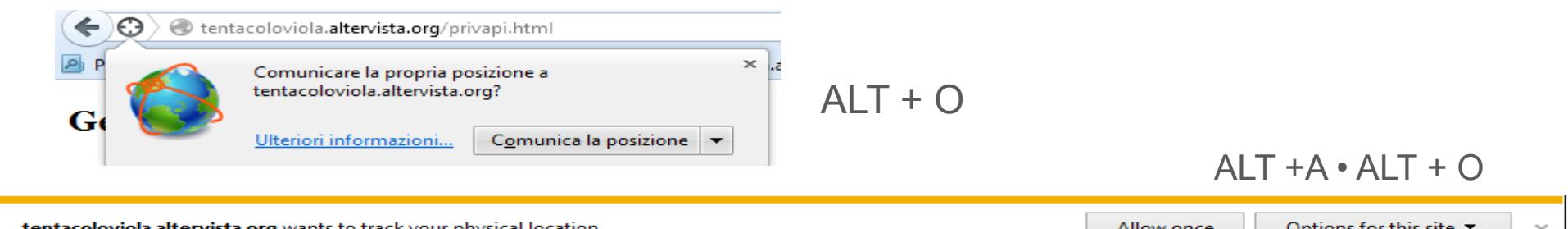


KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

- ARE AVAILABLE FOR ACTIVATING ACTIONS ON NOTIFICATIONS
- IE ALLOWS THIS FOR FILE DOWNLOAD NOTIFICATIONS



- IE & FF ALLOW THIS FOR HTML5 API NOTIFICATIONS



- NAVIGATION WINDOW NEEDS TO BE FOCUSED FOR USING

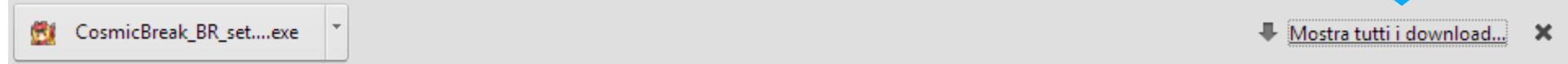
USING TAB IN NOTIFICATION

SOME BROWSERS ALLOW USING TAB KEY TO NAVIG

- IE ALLOWS THIS FOR FILE DOWNLOAD NOTIFICATION



- CHROME SKIPS THE FILE OPENING BUTTON

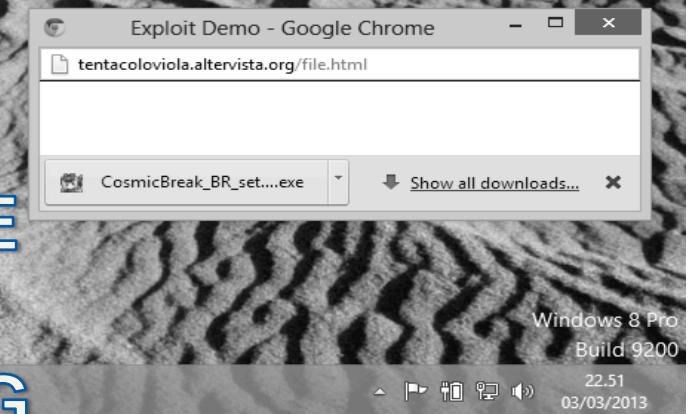


NOTIFICATION BAR IS PART OF CHROME: NO NAVIGATION US

BOUND TO NAVIGATION

AS THEY ARE BUILT IN CHROME,
NOTIFICATION BARS CAN BE:

- MOVED AROUND THE SCREEN ALONG WITH THE NAVIGATION WINDOW
- RESIZED ALONG WITH THE NAVIGATION WINDOW
- CLOSED TOGETHER WITH THE NAVIGATION WINDOW
- ALSO BOUND TO ORIGINATING



ATTACKSCENA



9 -10

1. USER BROWSES ON ATTACKER WEBSITE
2. WEB PAGE SPAWNS A POPUNDER WINDOW
3. ON WINDOWS 7/8 THE POPUNDER IS MERELY UNNOTICED
4. POPUNDER INITIATES A DOWNLOAD OF A .EXE FILE
5. MODELESS NOTIFICATION IS TRIGGERED (HIDDEN FROM USER VIEW)
6. POPUNDER TAB DOESN'T BLINK TO GIVE EVIDENCE OF A PENDING NOTIFICATION
7. AFTER NOTIFICATION IS READY, POPUNDER IS STILL IN BACKGROUND BUT HAS THE FOCUS!



ATTACKSCENARIC



- IN IE9 OPENING POPUNDER WINDOW USING:

```
<meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=EmulateIE7" />
```

WILL BRING THE FOCUS OF THE POPUNDER DIRECTLY ON THE
NOTIFICATION BAR

- THIS MEANS YOU CAN TRIGGER CODE EXECUTION BY JUST
TYPING A KEY:
 - R key (key changes according to OS language)
 - SPACE key
 - ENTER key

LIMITATIONS FOR ATTACK

1. SMARTSCREEN FILTER
2. USER ACCESS CONTROL



**RESTRICTED AREA
UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS
PROHIBITED**

MALICIOUS DOWNLOAD

BLOCKING ACCESS TO MALICIOUS URLs&FILES BEF

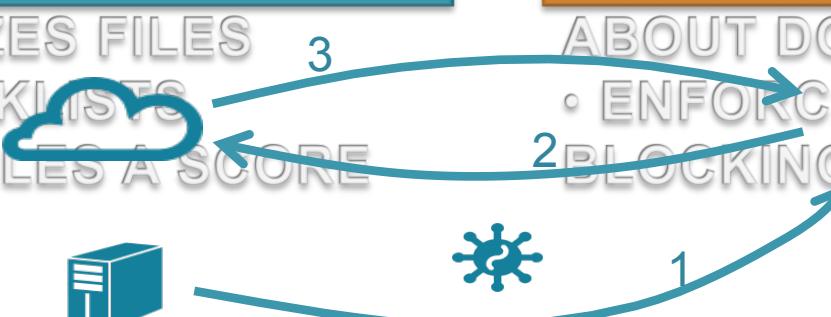
FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS:

- A CLOUD REPUTATION-BASED SYSTEM
- SCOURS THE WEB FOR MALWARE

- CATEGORIZES FILES USING BLACKLISTS
- ASSIGNS FILES A SCORE

- A BROWSER AGENT
- REQUESTS INFORMATIONS FROM THE CLOUD
- PROVIDES FEEDBACKS

- ENFORCES WARNING/BLOCKING FUNCTIONS

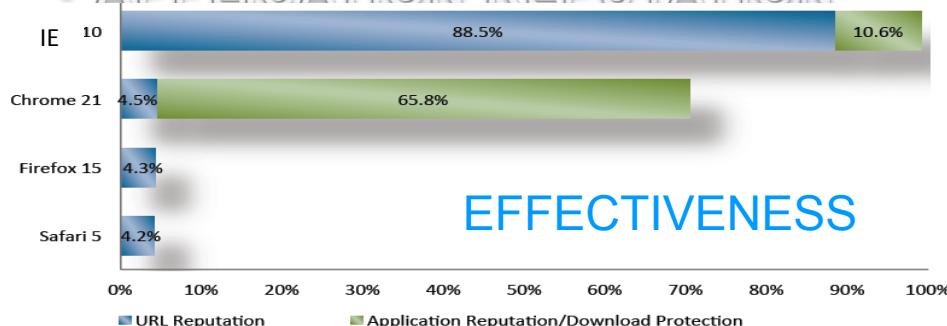


IMPLEMENTATIONS

SAFEBROWSING SMARTSCREENFILTER



- BASED ON GOOGLE SAFEBROWSING API V.2
- SUPPORTS URL REPUTATION
 - APPLICATION REPUTATION

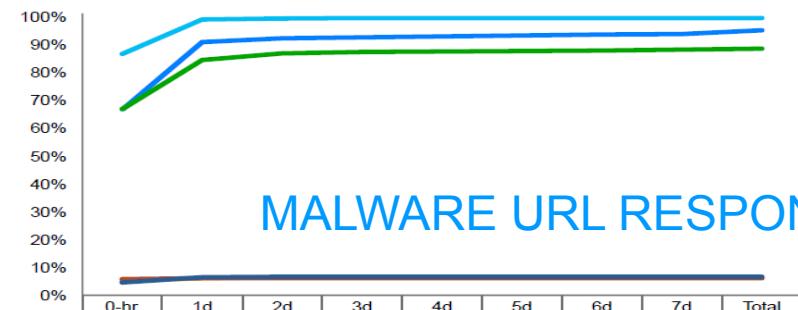


EFFECTIVENESS



- INTRODUCED IN IE8
- SUPPORTS APP REPUTATION SINCE IE9

• SYSTEM WIDE EXTENSION



MALWARE URL RESPONSE

CHARTS FROM NSS LABS REPORT 2012

SMARTSCREEN FILTER

INPUT: IP • URL • FILE HASH (SHA256) →

FILENAME (BASE64)

• SIGNING CERTIFICATE (if available)

<App>

<FName>U2FtZUdhbWUuZXhl</FName>

<FHash>d3ff5939726c9f8fa6e514fb65eb470

a1f9ec7a65b2706732a03749226c25

20</FHash>

<Sig>0</Sig>

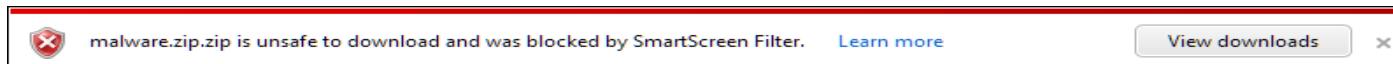
<Sz>45056</Sz>

<M>1</M>

<SR>100</SR>

</App>

OUTPUT:



BAR COLOR CHANGES ACCORDING TO THE
SIGNING CERTIFICATE + CHECK RESULT



SUCCEDE



BACKLIST



REPUTATION



FAILURE

(NOTSO)SMARTSCREEN

REPUTATION CHECK IS NOT 100%
RELIABLE

MORE THAN 20% SAMPLES ON
[http://minotauranalysis.com/
exetweet/default.aspx](http://minotauranalysis.com/exetweet/default.aspx) WILL PASS
BUT AN EV CERTIFICATE AND

RESPONSE TIME FOR
CATCHING NEW EXECUTABLE
SAMPLES ALLOWS FOR EASY
BYPASS IN THE FIRST
PUBLISHING DAYS

CAN REPUTATION...

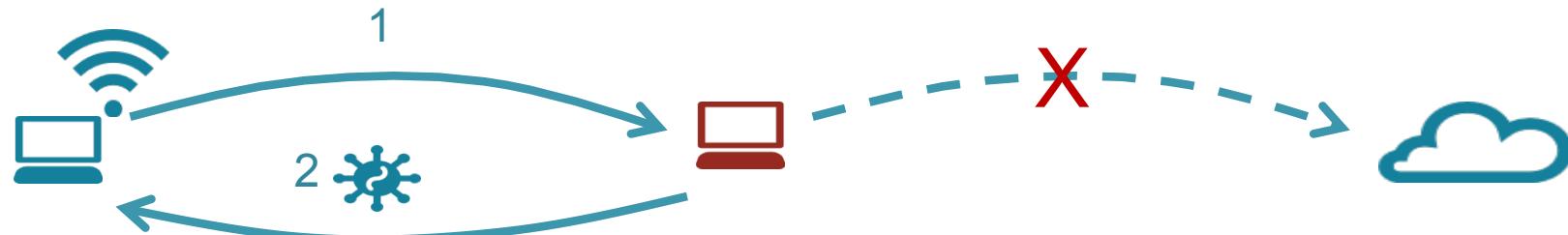
NEWLY PUBLISHED
EXECUTABLES SIGNED WITH
AN EV CERTIFICATE WILL
IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH A
GOOD REPUTATION EVEN IF

INTERNET CONNECTION
NEEDED FOR PERFORMING
THE CHECK (more on this
later...)

EXISTS

ATTACK SCENARIO #1 ON S

MITM SCENARIO



1. ATTACKER SETS UP A FREE ACCESS
2. BLOCKS COMMUNICATIONS TO SMA
3. RESULT IS:

 The publisher of dumptrash.exe couldn't be verified. [Learn more](#)

Run

View downloads

x

4. TRICK VICTIM TO TYPE "R"/ "Enter" /
5. ARBITRARY CODE EXECUTION!

USERACCESS



DL

ONLY TRIGGERED WHEN ADMINISTRATIVE PRIVILEGE

YOU CANNOT BYPASS THAT. FULL STOP.

DO YOU REALLY NEED THAT FOR CAUSING SERIOUS DAMAGE?

LIMITATIONS FOR ATTACK

- 1. SMART SCREEN FILTER **X**
- 2. USER ACCESS CONTROL



RESTRICTED AREA
UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS
PROHIBITED

ATTACK SCENARIO #2

TIMING/

POSITION/

AFT/



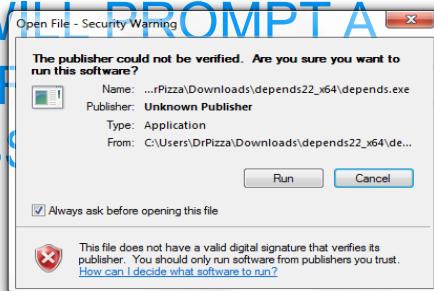
DYNAMIC WINDOW OVERLAY

1. USER BROWSES ON ATTACKER WEBSITE
2. WEB PAGE SPAWNS A POPUNDER WINDOW AT SOME GIVEN COORDINATES
3. POPUNDER INITIATES A DOWNLOAD OF A .EXE FILE
4. MODELESS NOTIFICATION IS TRIGGERED (HIDDEN FROM USER VIEW)
5. POPUNDER TAB DOESN'T BLINK TO GIVE EVIDENCE OF A PENDING NOTIFICATION
6. ATTACKER TRICKS VICTIM TO CLICK ON A GIVEN LINK/ BUTTON
7. PAGE IS LISTENING ON MOUSE MOVES
8. AS SOON AS THE MOUSE IS HOVERING ON THE BUTTON

ATTACKSCENARIO#2



- EVERY TIME A FILE IS DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEB THE OS ADDS A ZONE INFORMATION FILE TO THE DISK
- ZONE INFORMATION FILE IS WRITTEN IN AN ASD (alternate data stream)
- IT CONTAINS A REFERENCE TO THE SECURITY ZONE THE FILE WAS DOWNLOADED FROM (e.g. INTERNET)
- LAUNCHING AN UNKNOWN .EXE FILE DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEB WILL PROMPT A SECURITY WARNING, NOT BYPASS IT
 - A SMARTSCREEN CHECK IS PERFORMED (BUT YOU ALREADY KNOW HOW TO BYPASS IT)
 - NO FURTHER DIALOGS ARE DISPLAYED
 - CODE EXECUTION!



ATTACK SCENARIO #2




DYNAMIC WINDOW OVERLAY

1. USER BROWSES ON ATTACKER WEBSITE
2. WEB PAGE SPAWNS A POPUNDER WINDOW AT SOME GIVEN COORDINATES
3. POPUNDER LOADS A WEBPAGE REQUIRING SOME PRIVILEGES (e.g. YOUR POSITION)
4. MODELESS NOTIFICATION IS SHOWN (HIDDEN FROM USER VIEW)
5. POPUNDER TAB DOESN'T BLINK TO GIVE EVIDENCE OF A PENDING NOTIFICATION
6. ATTACKER TRICKS VICTIM TO CLICK ON A GIVEN LINK/ BUTTON
7. PAGE IS LISTENING ON MOUSE MOVES

ATTACK SCENARIO #2




DYNAMIC WINDOW OVERLAY

1. USER BROWSES ON ATTACKER WEBSITE
2. WEB PAGE SPAWNS A POPUNDER WINDOW AT SOME GIVEN COORDINATES
3. POPUNDER LOADS A WEBPAGE SERVED WITH X-FRAME-OPTIONS (e.g. TWITTER)
4. ATTACKER TRICKS VICTIM TO CLICK ON A GIVEN LINK/BUTTON
5. PAGE IS LISTENING ON MOUSE MOVES
6. AS SOON AS THE MOUSE IS HOVERING ON THE BUTTON, WINDOW IS CLOSED
7. IF TIMING IS APPROPRIATE THERE GOOD CHANCES THE VICTIM CLICKS ON THE UNDERLYING POPUNDER

SOME PROPOSALS

1. NOTIFICATIONS ON BACKGROUND WINDOWS ARE USELESS (AT BEST). LET THE NOTIFICATION POPS-UP AFTER SOME SECONDS SINCE THE WINDOW HAS REGAINED FOCUS
2. DISABLE TAB KEY IN THE NOTIFICATION BAR, JUST USE THE MOUSE. IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY ENABLE COMPLEX KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS IN ORDER TO LIMIT THE CHANCE OF BEING SOCIAL ENGINEREED
3. SOME SENSITIVE NOTIFICATIONS (E.G. FILE DOWNLOADING) SHOULD BE EVER KEPT IN A STATIC FRAME OF THE CHROME, NOT BOUND TO NAVIGATION WINDOW

CONCLU

1. THE BROWSERS SHIFT FROM MODAL TO MODELESS NOTIFICATIONS IS STILL NOT MATURE
2. IMPLEMENTATIONS ARE NOT SECURE ENOUGH TO PROTECT USERS SAFETY: AT LEAST TWO TECHNIQUES ALLOW FOR STEALTH REMOTE CODE EXECUTION

THAYC
K

valotta.rosario@gmail.com @tentacolo_Viola sites.google.com/site/tentacol