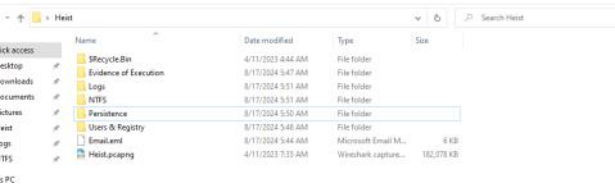


Story:
Forela recently received complaints from viewers that the live stream on their YouTube channel was showing strange content.
Instead of the usual company content, the live stream showed videos promoting cryptocurrency scams.
The channel was used to showcase the company's products and services and provide educational content related to the industry they were in.
Alonzo Spire, the IT administrator of Forela, managed the YouTube channel.
The incident response team was notified of an incident as soon as complaints were received. Alonzo's system was triaged and artefacts were acquired from his system for forensics analysis to confirm how the company's channel got hacked.

- I'm highly recommending to split the disk to parts:

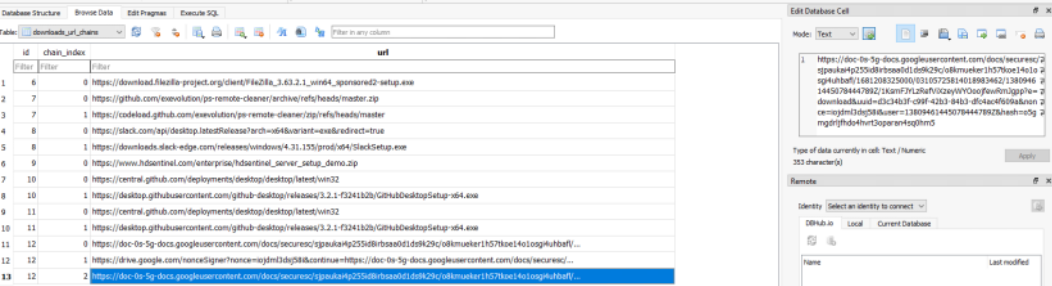


Task1: At what time was the suspected phishing email received in the victim's inbox? (UTC)

- To find the answer, you should open the 'Email.eml' file via 'notepad++' and look for the 'Received' field:
Received: from authenticated-user (s8.etsentralimpact.info [5.188.190.54])
(using TLSv1.3 with cipher TLS_AES_256_GCM_SHA384 (256/256 bits))
(No client certificate requested)
by s8.etsentralimpact.info (Postfix) with ESMTPSA id 5IF59101A7E
for <alanzo.spire@forela.co.uk>; Tue, 11 Apr 2023 08:55:22 +0000 (UTC)
- This timestamp is when the email was processed by the sending server in UTC.
This timestamp indicates that the email was sent from the sending server at 08:55:22 UTC.

Task2: Please provide the download URL that was utilised to retrieve the file initially downloaded as part of this security event.

- To find the specific download link from Google Drive in the context of your investigation, you should start by accessing the SQLite database from Alonzo's Google Chrome profile. This database is typically located in the user's profile directory, such as C:\Users\<YourUsername>\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data\Default on Windows.
- Once you have the database, open it in a SQLite viewer and navigate to the History database. Within this database, go to the downloads_url_chains table.
- I identified the relevant Google Drive URL and noticed to an another HTTP request inside of the URL request, which is the download URL.



Task3: What is the name of the file suspected to have been initially downloaded as part of this security event?

- In the SQLite database, navigating to the 'Downloads' table reveals that Alonzo downloaded a ZIP file identified as 'Forela-Partnership.zip' at the same timestamp. Additionally, this ZIP file is mentioned as the subject of an email, providing further indication of its relevance.

id	guid	current_path	target_path	star
Filter	Filter	Filter	Filter	Filter
6	d2144ea2-67ef-4993-b58d-f1b802ae486	C:...	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\FileZilla_3.63.2.1_win64_sponsored2-setup.exe	13325655
7	dbee0b7b-8ebd-4c99-aab3-85c93a844ca	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\ps-remote-...	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\ps-remote-cleaner-master.zip	13325655
8	34f9c22-7144-4809-a814-dd0d8d94f66	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\SlackSetup.exe	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\SlackSetup.exe	13325676
9	1de91dc6-2ba7-498c-b848-633d99e542f4	C:...	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\hdsentinel_server_setup_demo.zip	13325677
10	45686ba7-f909-4354-808e-1e3ed528f328	C:...	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\GitHubDesktopSetup-x64.exe	13325678
11	f28b8a8f-2b86-40e1-9d68-288757d4017	C:...	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\GitHubDesktopSetup-x64 (1).exe	13325678
12	0a0a73ba-5f66-4fad-84cc-379cc0af939	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\Forela-...	C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\Forela-Partnership.zip	13325681

Task4: When was this file downloaded onto the system?

- On the same table, we are able to find the 'start_time' column which indicates when the file was downloaded to the system.
The timestamp format is 'Webkit' you can use the website:
<https://www.epochconverter.com/webkit> to convert it to UTC:

target_path	start_time
Filter	Filter
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\FileZilla_3.63.2.1_win64_sponsored2-setup.exe	13325655398448472
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\ps-remote-cleaner-master.zip	13325655758177162
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\SlackSetup.exe	13325676472724814
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\hdsentinel_server_setup_demo.zip	13325677565137062
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\GitHubDesktopSetup-x64.exe	13325678072014137
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\GitHubDesktopSetup-x64 (1).exe	13325678410939082
C:\Users\alanzo.spire\Downloads\Forela-Partnership.zip	13325681964931025

Task5: What is the name of the file that initiated malicious activity on the endpoint?

- To address this question, we need to identify process executions on the system.
I parsed the Prefetch directory using PECDM and searched for timestamps around '2023-04-11 10:19:24', as we know the ZIP file was downloaded during this timeframe. During this search, I found the suspicious process:

123-04-11 10:20:16	2024-08-17 13...	PARTNERSHIP.PDF.EXE	1	CCA24020	25148	Windows ...	2023-04-11 10:20:06	
123-04-11 10:19:48	2024-08-17 13...	WINRAR.EXE	15	BA8CDB31	295586	Windows ...	2023-04-11 10:19:40	2023-04-11 09:06:13

- We able to see the answer in the file name:
Partnership.pdf.exe

- Now, because we know it's not a PDF file it's an executable we should look for executions. I used 'RegistryExplorer' to export the 'Shimcache' to find the path:

- To address this question, I parsed the MFT using 'MFTecmd.exe' and filtered for files on Alonzo's desktop with the extension '.txt'.
I found only one '.txt' file, named 'reminder.txt'.
Using the entry number '4272727', I extracted its content with the '--de' flag via MFTecmd.

Task10: The malicious file dropped 2 files on the system which performed further actions on the endpoint. What's the name of these 2 files? (alphabetical order)

Task11: One of the files from Question 10 dropped two more files onto the system. What are the names of these files? (in alphabetical order)

214355	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		qu2705.exe	.exe	154875
214354	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		qu2705.exe	.exe	154875
214353	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		qu2705.exe	.exe	154875
214352	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		qu2705.exe	.exe	154875
214351	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		pro5093.exe	.exe	154873
214350	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		pro5093.exe	.exe	154873
214349	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		pro5093.exe	.exe	154873
214348	<input type="checkbox"/>	2023-04-11 10:20:06		pro5093.exe	.exe	154873

- To find the answer for this question, I filtered the PCAP file we received to the execution timestamp via the our internal source IP, we found a communication with external address via unusual port:

2023-04-11 10:20:09.91640994	172.17.79.131	54012	104.208.16.94	443	TCP	80	54012 + 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=6190 Ack=5294 Win=63349 Len=0
2023-04-11 10:20:10.176529093	172.17.79.131	54012	104.208.16.94	443	TCP	60	54012 + 443 [ACK] Seq=6191 Ack=5295 Win=63349 Len=0
2023-04-11 10:20:11.415192172	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	66	54013 + 4125 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM=1
2023-04-11 10:20:11.63773327	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	60	54013 + 4125 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64240 Len=1
2023-04-11 10:20:11.643262101	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	95	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=64240 Len=1
2023-04-11 10:20:11.956447500	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	260	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=2 Ack=2 Win=64239 Len=206
2023-04-11 10:20:12.238525127	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	60	54013 + 4125 [ACK] Seq=248 Ack=144 Win=64097 Len=0
2023-04-11 10:20:12.7080613402	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	288	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=248 Ack=144 Win=64097 Len=154
2023-04-11 10:20:12.424373680	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	60	54013 + 4125 [ACK] Seq=4802 Ack=3842 Win=64240 Len=0
2023-04-11 10:20:12.551378782	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	746	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=4802 Ack=3842 Win=64240 Len=692
2023-04-11 10:20:12.793534744	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	232	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1094 Ack=3967 Win=64115 Len=178
2023-04-11 10:20:18.026869774	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	233	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1272 Ack=4095 Win=63987 Len=179
2023-04-11 10:20:18.259478047	172.17.79.131	54013	176.113.115.145	4125	TCP	221	54013 + 4125 [PSH, ACK] Seq=1451 Ack=4223 Win=63859 Len=167

```
> Frame 110779: 260 bytes on wire (2080 bits), 260 bytes captured (2080 bits) on interface eth0, id 0
> Ethernet II, Src: VMware_E5:78:cb (08:0e:29:85:78:cb), Dst: VMware_eb:c1:a4 (08:50:56:eb:c1:a4)
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 172.17.9.131, Dst: 176.113.115.145
> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 54013, Dst Port: 4125, Seq: 42, Ack: 2, Len: 206
> Data (206 bytes)
  Data [truncated]: 06c01561d6874783a2f274656d787572692672672f456e746974792496431f6e65742e7463783a2f2f3137362e
    [Length: 206]
```

Task13: What's the malware family of the malicious file?

- I searched the C2 address and the port on 'Google' I found the malware in 'MalwareBazar' it's a Redline stealer which related to this type of C2:
<https://bazaar.abuse.ch/sample/b0d36e310b5f785789207b93096db37122915837679f20fd9bb591b8c003b73d/>

60

7%

Community Score

40/72 security vendors flagged this file as malicious

MD56433065787658207693096db3712293583767920f69b65910ac030b73d

WEXTRACT.EXE_MUI

Size

696.50 KB

Last Analysis Date

5 months ago

EXE

analyze

similar

more

DETECTION

DETAILS

RELATIONS

BEHAVIOR

COMMUNITY

Join our Community

and enjoy additional community insights and crowdsourced detections, plus an API key to automate checks.

Popular threat label

trojan.stealer:redline

Threat categories

trojan

dropper

Family labels

stealer

redline

msl

Task14:Which malicious file exfiltrated data from the endpoint?

[illegible]

Task15:What's the process ID of the malicious file used to exfiltrate data?

Found the PID in the previous question(3924):

```
name: Partnership.pdf.exe, Commandline: "C:\Users\alonzoi\Documents\Partnership.pdf.exe" EQ, kiID: 6060, Name: un598654.exe, Commandline: C:\Users\ALONZO-I.SPI\AppData\Local\Temp\IXP000.THP\un598654.exe EQ, kiID: 3924, Name: 702705.exe, Commandline: C:\Users\ALONZO-I.SPI\AppData\Local\Temp\IXP001.THP\702705.exe
```

12 client pids, 22 server pids, 41 turns.

Entity conversation (111 KB)	Show data as (ASCII)	Stream
		439

Task16: There was another alert after this incident of data exfiltration from another FTP server hosting critical files. Our TI team believe there may have been an internal credential leak. What's the IP address and the password of the FTP server which Alonzo had access to?

• This was a tough one, I initially thought we would find the answer in the TCP stream, so I searched for keywords like 'FTP', 'Alonzo', 'PASS', and 'USER'.
Eventually, I searched for '21' and successfully found the IP address, username, and password:
`Authorization: nsl. 9119886a3c24940038d9c2627e532520c0.....D.a..R.2D,0'.....V.B.
.B;.....I.ESE.....13.45.67.2321E.....a.alonzo.sp8rteE..TheAwesomeGrape.....?&http://tempuri.org/Entity/IId12Response.IId2Response`

Task17: What was the password of the YouTube channel which was hacked?

- To address this question, I searched on the 'TCP Stream' of the Redline stealer 'youtube.com' and found the email of Alonzo with his password:

https://youtube.com/E...Forela-MediaE%...youKnowNoThingJoNSNo...E.EUE...LOGIN_IDE...alonzo.spire@fore

Task18: Alonzo reported unauthorized use of his credit card and assumed his card details were stolen. Please confirm his credit card number.

- For this challenge, I reached out to a friend who had previously solved it. Given that we were dealing with stealer malware, I suspected that stolen media might be found in the TCP stream of the command-and-control server. To aid in the search, I asked ChatGPT for a regex pattern for credit card numbers and found the answer using the following regex: `\b4[0-9]{12}(?:[0-9]{3})?b`.

[illegible]

Task19: A migration plan document was also stolen in the attack which included some sensitive internal information. Who sent the document to Alonzo?

- I filtered in the TCP stream 'AWS' and found the document 'AWS-Migration assesment.docx'. I saved all the TCP-Stream as '.docx' file and opened the file and found the answer:

Sincerely,

Abdullah Yasin

Senior Devops @ Forela Pakistan

Task20: Forela is planning to upgrade its infrastructure as its expanding globally. What's the date when the infrastructure will be upgraded?

- I filtered via the parsed MFT, the documents folder of the compromised account and found the relevant files:

Partnership-Tesca.docx
Infra upgrade.docx
Confidential.docx
AWS-Migration assesment.docx

- We will focus on 'infra upgrade.docx'.
I saved the TCP-Stream in 'Raw' format and found the signature of 'docx' file in Garykessler.net website:

50 4B 03 04 14 00 06 00

DOCX, PPTX, XLSX

PK.....
Microsoft Office Open XML Format (OOXML) Document
NOTE: There is no subheader for MS OOXML files as there is with DOC, PPT, and XLS files. To better understand the format of these files, rename any OOXML file to have a .ZIP extension and then unzip the file; look at the resultant file named [Content_Types].xml to see the content types. In particular, look for the <Override PartName= tag, where you will find word, ppt, or xl, respectively.

Trailer: Look for 50 4B 05 06 (PK..) followed by 18 additional bytes at the end of the file.

- I opened the RAW format via 'HxD' and found when the file starts and when it ends.
I copy the data to a new file and saved it as 'docx' and found the answer:

51 20 75 70 67 72 61 64 65 2E 64 6F 63 78 45 0B a upgrade.docxE.
19 32 43 3A 5C 55 73 65 72 73 5C 61 6C 6F 6E 7A "2C:\Users\alonz
1F 2E 73 70 69 72 65 5C 44 6F 63 75 6D 65 6E 74 o.spire\Document
13 5C 49 6E 66 72 61 20 75 70 67 72 61 64 65 2E a\Infra upgrade.
14 6F 63 78 45 25 A0 F9 33 50 4B 03 04 14 00 06 docxE\$ u3[RK....
09 08 00 00 00 21 00 DF A4 D2 6C 5A 01 00 00 20B#01Z...
15 00 00 13 00 08 02 5B 43 6F 6E 74 65 6E 74 EF[Content
14 79 70 65 73 5D 2E 78 6D 6C 20 A2 04 02 28 A0 Types].xml c..(
00 03 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

Infrastructure upgrade by 17 january 2024

As an IT administrator, upgrading the infrastructure is a critical task that requires careful planning and execution. Upgrading the infrastructure can improve the organization's efficiency, security, and productivity. However, it can also be a complex and time-consuming process that requires a detailed plan.

Task21: How many bytes of data were sent by the malicious process found in question 14? Please note - the PCAP data does not provide the answer.

- Initially, I attempted to find the answer using firewall logs, but I was unsuccessful.
I always keep my 'CheatSheet' open for reference.
I noticed the 'SRUM DB' artifact, which tracks 30 to 60 days of system resource usage, including application resource usage, energy usage, Windows push notifications, network connectivity, and data usage.
I used 'SrumEcmd' to parse the database.

- I found the answer via the parsed 'NetworkUsages' CSV:

	Sid Type	Sid	User Name	Bytes Received	Bytes Sent	Interface Luid	Interfa
	LocalSystem	S-1-5-18		2322	4658	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
	LocalSystem	S-1-5-18		3259	20266	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
	UnknownOrUserSid			584187791	30640047	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
pp-4.31.155\slack.exe	UnknownOrUserSid	S-1-5-21-3239415629-1862073780-2394361899-1104		32555	13140	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
	UnknownOrUserSid	S-1-5-21-3239415629-1862073780-2394361899-1104		10471	6836	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
p000.tmp\si168290.exe	UnknownOrUserSid	S-1-5-21-3239415629-1862073780-2394361899-1104		4536	8796	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
	UnknownOrUserSid	S-1-5-21-3239415629-1862073780-2394361899-1104		11328	106903	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
	UnknownOrUserSid	S-1-5-21-3239415629-1862073780-2394361899-1104		12311	13451	1689399632855040	IF_TYP
p001.tmp\qu2705.exe	UnknownOrUserSid	S-1-5-21-3239415629-1862073780-2394361899-1104		12657	107059	1689399632855040	IF_TYP